RDA: Resource Description and Access

A New Cataloging Standard for a Digital Future

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to the Joint Steering Committee

Outline

- RDA goals
- Re-introducing RDA
- Content Development: report on the April 2007 JSC meeting in Ottawa

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RDA goals

- A new standard for resource description and access
- Designed for the digital environment
  - Developed as a web-based product
  - Description and access of all digital resources (and analog)
  - Resulting records usable in the digital environment (Internet, Web OPACs, etc.)

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Re-introducing RDA

RDA is
- A metadata schema
- An application profile
- A content standard

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RDA as metadata schema

- RDA contains a set of data elements
- Based on FRBR (Part A) and FRAD (Part B)
- Structured
  - Elements
  - Element sub-types
  - Sub-elements

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RDA as application profile

- Metadata elements and terminology
- Customized and adapted for use within a particular community
- RDA application profile:
  - Interpretation of FRBR/FRAD models
  - High-level application guidelines
  - Principles governing RDA content

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RDA as content standard

- Designed primarily for use in libraries
- Based on AACR, FRBR/FRAD models
- Applicable to a variety of media and formats collected by libraries today
- Developed for use in English language environment; it can be adapted for other language communities
- Independent of the format (e.g., MARC 21) used to communicate information

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RDA scope

- Guidelines and instructions on …
- Descriptive data and access points …
- Supporting resource discovery

"RDA Scope and Structure"

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RDA structure

- Two main parts
- Part A: Description and Access
  - Bibliographic Records
- Part B: Access Point Control
  - Authority Records

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Part A (i)

0. Introduction to Part A
1. General guidelines on resource description
2. Resource identification – FRBR "Identify"
3. Carrier - FRBR "Select"
4. Content - FRBR "Select"
5. Acquisition and access – FRBR "Obtain"

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Part A(i): Current work

- Chapter 3: revised draft out for comment
- Comments received on earlier draft
- Proposals from constituencies

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Part A(i): Current work

- Internationalization: languages and scripts; representation of numbers and dates
- Persistent identifiers
- Numbering for serials
- Mode of issuance
- Provenance
- Alternative title
- Publisher, etc. "not identified"

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RDA — Part A(ii)

6. Persons, families, and corporate bodies associated with a resource – FRBR FIND
7. Related resources – FRBR FIND [RELATE?]

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RDA — Chapter 6

- Creators and contributors of content {work or expression} [required]
- Other persons, etc., associated with the content of the resource {work or expression}
- Producers, publishers, etc. {manifestation}
- Owners, custodians, etc. {item}
- New element: Designation of role

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RDA — Chapter 7

- Primary (or inherent) relationships {between FRBR Type 1 entities} [required]
- Equivalence relationships
- Derivative relationships
- Descriptive relationships
- Whole-part relationships
- Accompanying relationships
- Sequential relationships
- New element: Designation of relationship

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RDA — Part B

Access point control
   Introduction to Part B
 8. General guidelines on access point control
 9. Persons
10. Families
11. Corporate bodies
12. Places
13. Works, expressions, manifestations, items

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RDA — Part B: Current work

- Treaties: title as primary access point
- Family names: new chapter
- Preferred titles for the Bible: removing Christian bias
  - Abbreviation of Old & New Testament
  - Name of book directly following "Bible"
  - "Bible. New Testament" etc. used only for those parts of the Bible as aggregate works
- Further revisions after 2009

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RDA — Chapter 13

- Rules for "primary access point" moved to Chapter 13 as part of the access point for a work, expression, manifestation or item
- Radical simplification rejected, but …
  - "Rule of three" abandoned; primary access under first-named creator
  - Compiler as primary creator of an aggregate work

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RDA — Chapter 13

- Uniform titles: the IFLA IME-ICC *Statement of International Cataloguing Principles*
    - Access point for work an indispensable element: including the uniform title?
    - Uniform title based first on title "commonly known in the language and script of the catalogue"

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RDA — Part B: General issue

- How much change to existing data should RDA require?
- Access points
    - Choice of primary access points
    - Basis for preferred titles
    - Use of abbreviations

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RDA — RDA draft reviews

- March-July 2007	Chapter 3
- June–Sept 2007	Chapters 6-7
- Dec 2007-Mar 2008	Part B Access Point Control
- July-Sept 2008	Complete draft
- Early 2009	First release of RDA

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RDA — Commenting on RDA drafts

- RDA drafts available at:
  www.collectionscanada.ca/jsc/rda.html
- Informal discussion: subscribe to RDA-L (link on page above)
- Formal comments: within the U.S., use the CC:DA web form:
  https://cs.ala.org/alcts/rda_form/rda_form.cfm

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RDA — *RDAOnline* Prototype

- View/listen to a 3-minute demo. of RDA Online
- Complete a brief survey – we want your feedback!

www.rdaonline.org

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RDA

…Questions?