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Information and documentation — The Dublin Core metadata element set —

Part 1: Core elements

Information et documentation — L'ensemble des éléments de métadonnées Dublin Core —

Partie 1: Éléments principaux

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by ISO/TC 46, *Information and documentation,* Subcommittee SC 4, *Technical interoperability*.

This first edition of ISO 15836-1 cancels and replaces ISO 15836:2009, of which it constitutes a minor revision.

— This document covers the same elements as ISO 15836:2009. Properties and classes in ISO 15836-2 were not included in the previous version of ISO 15836:2009.

— Core elements and their specifications are now located in Clause 3.

— Some definitions have been updated (e.g. resource and date).

— Introduction has been revised.

A list of all parts in the ISO 15836 series can be found on the ISO website.

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Introduction

The *Dublin Core Metadata Element Set* contains 15 core elements for use in resource description. The name "Dublin" comes from its original 1995 invitational workshop, which took place in Dublin, Ohio; "core" because these elements are broad and generic, usable for describing a wide range of resources.

The 15-element "core" specified in this document is part of a larger set of metadata vocabularies and technical specifications maintained by the Dublin Core Metadata Initiative (DCMI). The full set of vocabularies, *DCMI Metadata Terms* [DCMI-TERMS], will be specified in ISO 15836-2.

The core elements may be used in combination with metadata terms from other compatible vocabularies in the context of application profiles as specified in the *DCMI Abstract Model* [DCAM].

In the definitions for elements, the following conventions have been used and are explained in notes:

— each element has a descriptive label ("label") for human recognition;

— each element also has a unique token ("name") for use in machine processing.

In accordance with the *DCMI Namespace Policy* [DCMI-NAMESPACE] specified in ANSI/NISO Z39.85:2012, the "name" of an element is appended to a DCMI namespace URI [RFC 3986] to construct a Uniform Resource Identifier as a globally unique identifier for that element. The use of element names and URIs in the context of different implementation technologies is explained in *DCMI Encoding Guidelines* [DCMI-ENCODINGS].

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Information and documentation — The Dublin Core metadata element set —

Part 1: Core elements

1 Scope

This document establishes 15 core metadata elements for cross-domain resource description. These terms are part of a larger set of metadata vocabularies maintained by the Dublin Core Metadata Initiative. Properties in the /terms/ namespace are included in ISO 15836-2.

This document does not limit what might be a resource.

This document does not provide implementation guidelines. However, the elements are typically used in the context of an application profile which constrains or specifies their use in accordance with local or community-based requirements and policies.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

DCAM, *DCMI Abstract Model*[1)]

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in DCAM and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— IEC Electropedia: available at http://www.electropedia.org/

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at http://www.iso.org/obp

NOTE In the definitions for elements, the conventions in 3.2 have been used and are explained in notes.

3.1 General terms and definitions

3.1.1
resource
thing that might be identified

[SOURCE: RFC 3986, DCMI Abstract Model]

1) Available at http://dublincore.org/documents/abstract-model/.

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3.1.2
lifecycle of a resource
sequence of events that mark the development and use of a resource

EXAMPLE Conception of an invention, creation of a draft, revision of an article, publication of a book, acquisition by a library, transcription to magnetic disk, migration to optical storage, translation into English, and derivation of a new work (e.g. a movie).

3.2 Naming elements

3.2.1
name
token appended to the URI of a DCMI namespace to create the URI of the term

EXAMPLE "title" or "creator".

3.2.2
label
descriptive name given an element for human recognition

EXAMPLE "Title" or "Creator".

3.2.3
Uniform Resource Identifier
URI
compact sequence of *characters* that identifies an *abstract* or physical resource.

Note 1 to entry: URIs are used to identify terms.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 12785-1:2009, 3.23]

EXAMPLE http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/contributor

3.2.4
range
class of which a value described by the term is an instance

3.3 Core elements

3.3.1
title
name given to the resource

Label: Title

URI: http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/title

3.3.2
creator
entity primarily responsible for making the resource

Note 1 to entry: Examples of a Creator include a person, an organization, or a service.

Label: Creator

URI: http://purl.org/dc/ elements/1.1/creator

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