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Email of secretary: tcarpenter@niso.org
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Information and Documentation —Presentation of Rights Information in Digital Collections

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Warning for WDs and CDs

To help you, this guide on writing standards was produced by the ISO/TMB and is available at https://www.iso.org/iso/how-to-write-standards.pdf

A model manuscript of a draft International Standard (known as "The Rice Model") is available at https://www.iso.org/iso/model_document-rice_model.pdf

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Foreword

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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).

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 46, Information and documentation, Subcommittee SC 9, Identification and description.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

Many libraries, museums and archives are digitizing their collections to provide them for the public through the network. In addition, there are many services on the network that supply similar digital resources to the public. These digital collections are invaluable sources for cultural activities. But the digital resources provided by these collections may have some restriction for the usage. Intellectual rights and terms of use concerning the provided resource have to be respected.

Most of digital collections present such rights information somewhere in their services. In many cases, however, it is hard for ordinary users to find correct information. There are many ways to present rights information. This document provides a guideline to present rights information easy to access. It will ease the work involved in seeking proper rights information and promote usage of digital collections.

This document is intended to provide guidelines for digital collection service developers to design system that can effectively present rights information to the end-users. Digital collection providers (e.g. libraries or museums) can refer this document when they commission their service systems.

This document does not provide the guideline for whole service system design. Mention about e.g. search page or browsing page does not intend that they are recommended. Only the parts concerning the presentation of rights information are the recommendations of this document.

Information and Documentation —Presentation of Rights Information in Digital Collections

1 Scope

This document provides a guideline for digital collections to effectively present rights information to their end-users.

Note 1 *Digital collection* here refers to a service providing resources in digital form, especially resources in libraries, museums, archives or other organizations that offer similar resources to their patrons.

Note 2 *Rights information* here refers to the intellectual property rights and related access/usage rights concerning the resources.

This document deals with human-readable part of the presentation. Technical aspects of the storage of rights expressions, such as, metadata schemas, interoperability of machine-readable expressions and user interfaces, etc., are out of scope of this document.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

3.1
service page
A unit of information sent from a digital collection to a user.

Note 1 to entry   Usually, a service page is intended to be displayed on the screen at the same time, but it may comprise larger amounts of information that cannot fit a display device.

3.2
digital resource
A resource transmitted from the digital collection through the service.

3.3
rights information
Intellectual property rights and related access and/or usage rights information concerning resources

3.4
underlying work
An original resource that is behind a digital resource.

Note 1 to entry   A digital resource may have more than one underlying work.

EXAMPLE 1   When the digital resource is a digitized copy of a painting, the original painting is the underlying work.

EXAMPLE 2   When the digital resource is a digitized image of a book, both the book as the physical object and the contents as the abstract work are the underlying works.

EXAMPLE 3   In the case of a digital motion picture which presents a painting with its study in the text form and with some background music, the painting, the text and the music are underlying works.

4 Categorization of service pages

4.1 Purpose of this categorization

This categorization serves to list the types of service pages that might show rights information or might have links to rights information. This is neither exhaustive nor exclusive. A service may have pages not listed here, or an actual service page may be categorized as more than one type.

4.2 Collection top page

The collection top page is the page showing the title and general information about the digital collection. Generally, it provides entries to other pages. A collection may have sub-collections, and in that case, each sub-collection may have a separate top page.

4.3 Search page

A search page enables queries against resources in a digital collection.

4.4 Browsing page

A browsing page presents summary information about the digital resources and provides links to the resource information pages or the resource presentation pages. This summary information may include title, name, thumbnail images, and snippets of information.

4.5 Resource information page

A resource information page provides information (often called meta-data) about the underlying work and/or the digital resource. Usually it describes only one resource but may describe more than one resource.

4.6 Resource download page

A resource download page has function to start download the digital resource by the user action like clicking the download button. It is used, generally, when the digital resource type is not displayed directly, or when some additional options are available for the download of the digital resource.

4.7 Resource presentation page

A resource presentation page provides the digital resource itself. Usually, when the type of the digital resource is image or text (including images of a typeset text), the digital resource is directly presented to the user.

4.8 Information page

An information page provides a variety of information for users. Typically, it is used for the help messages for the system usage.

4.9 Authentication page

An authentication page is used for the user authentication by the service.

4.10 Permission form page

A permission form allows users to communicate with the system to gain access rights to the digital resource.

5 Rights information

5.1 General consideration

Rights information to be presented is rights concerning the access and/or usage of the digital resource by the users. Typically, copyrights under the appropriate jurisdiction, agreements between stakeholders and/or social customs are included.

Rights information should clearly state what users may do and may not do with the provided resource. There may be statements regarding the underlying works if necessary. Rights information may be included on the same page or may be a link to a separate information page.

5.2 Usage of community supported expression

When there is a widely used way to express rights information in the community of the digital collection, it should be adopted. If the expression has a logo for the expression, it is recommended to use that logo as well. Examples of community supported expressions are listed in the Annex A.

5.3 International consideration

Legal condition of the user differs depending on the country where they are. This must be in consideration when writing the rights information. Rights information statement should not premise a specific country's law.

5.4 Rights information elements

The following elements may be presented as the rights information.

a) Type of the rights;

b) Information to identify the rights holder:

- name;

- identifier;

- contact information;

- other details;

c) Legal basis for the rights:

- jurisdiction;

- title of the law;

d) Dates concerning the right:

- copyright year;

- other dates showing the effective term of the right;

e) Permissions or licenses:

- permissible actions;

- prohibited actions;

- conditions for the actions above;

    – patterned license name and/or link to the license;

        EXAMPLE   CC BY defined by Creative Commons (see Annex A.2.1).

f) Other elements:

    – applicable legal instrument.

6 Presentation of rights information in the service pages

6.1 General consideration

When the digital resources in the collection hold embedded rights information in machine readable form, presentation of rights information in the service pages should be synchronized with the rights statements digitally embedded in the resource. Providers of digital collections should install mechanisms to synchronize the embedded rights information to the human-readable presentation.

6.2 Collection top page

When all the digital resources in the collection share just one rights information, the collection top page may have the rights information on the page or may have the link to the rights information page.

6.3 Search page

Generally, a search page does not have rights information, but conditions on the rights may be included in search queries.

6.4 Browsing page

A browsing page may offer rights information in its summary information of the resource, if such inclusion is suitable for resource browsing purposes. The summary information may provide link to the rights information page, if applicable.

6.5 Resource information page

A resource information page may include the rights information or a link to the rights information page for each digital resource described as a part of the information on the digital resource.

6.6 Resource download page

A resource download page should provide the rights information or the link to the rights information page of the digital resource provided by its download function. When more than one digital resource is downloadable from that page and the rights information differs by the resources, the rights information should be provided separately for each digital resource. This includes the case that the provided resource has some options (such as choice of resolution for image data) and the rights information differs by the choice of the options.

If users need to interact with permissions part of the system to use the digital resource, the link to the permission form page should be provided. Similarly, if users need some account to download the resource, the service should lead to the authentication page.

6.7 Resource presentation page

A resource presentation page should present the rights information or link to the rights information page pertaining to the digital resource presented. When the page includes more than one digital resource with different rights information, they should be separately presented.

If users need to interact with the permissions part of the system to use the digital resource, the link to the permission form page should be provided.

Rights information on a resource presentation page may be omitted if the previous page in the sense of the user's operation already presents the rights information for the digital resource.

6.8 Rights information page

A rights information page is a separate page to present the rights information. It may be divided into two or more pages for the readability of end-users.

The whole part or some parts of the rights information page may be external (i.e. not provided from the digital collection provider).

Annex A
(Informative)
Community supported expressions

A.1 Rights expressions and human-readable presentations

There are many kinds of rights expression languages. It is necessary to use machine-readable form of rights information to manage substantial size of digital resources. In many cases, human-readable rights information is generated from these rights expressions. In addition, there are many vocabularies for rights information including patterned licenses. Some of them are associated with human-readable text representation and/or their specific logos.

This annex lists examples of such expressions concerning (to some extent) human-readable rights information.

NOTE   The following examples are not comprehensive.

A.2 Examples

A.2.1 Creative commons

Creative commons provides a patterned license for creators.

http://creativecommons.org/

A.2.2 Rightsstatements.org

RightsStatements.org provides a set of standardized rights statements mainly for cultural heritage institutions.

http://rightsstatements.org/

A.2.3 Opensource.org

Gnu general public license (GNU-GPL) is a widely used free software license. Several other patterned licenses are available for the software and related objects.

https://opensource.org/licenses

A.2.4 Traditional Knowledge (TK) Labels

Traditional Knowledge (TK) Labels are tools for indigenous communities to express community-specific restrictions regarding access and use.

https://localcontexts.org/tk-labels/

A.2.5 OEL Toolkit

OEL Toolkit is for Australian education community. The toolkit generates description of rights information for the applied resource.

http://www.oel.edu.au/

A.2.6 ONIX-PL

ONIX for Publications Licenses (ONIX-PL) is an XML based language for the communication of license terms. It does not provide specific tools for the human-readable rendition. But it is not difficult to create human-readable text representation from ONIX-PL expression.

https://www.editeur.org/21/ONIX-PL/

A.2.7 MPEG-21 Rights expression language

ISO/IEC 21000-5:2004, Information technology -- Multimedia framework (MPEG-21) -- Part 5: Rights Expression Language is a machine readable language to express intellectual property rights and provides wide range of semantics and syntax. It does not provide tools for the human-readable rendition. But it is possible to derive human-readable representation from the rights expression.