Information and Documentation —Presentation of Rights Information in Digital Collections

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Contents

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 of 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 www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

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. Standardization of the way will ease the work involved in seeking proper rights information and promote usage of digital collections.

Information and Documentation —Presentation of Rights Information in Digital Collections

1 Scope

This document provides ways for digital collections to effectively present rights information to their end-users. *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. *Rights information* here refers to the intellectual property rights and related access/usage rights concerning the resources.

This document deals with the human-readable part of the presentation. The metadata or machine-readable part of the presentation is out of scope of this standard.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

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

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

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

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

3.1
service page
A unit of information sent from a digital collection to a user. 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
underlying work
An original resource that is behind a digital resource.

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

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.

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 options are available for the digital resource download.

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 some bunch 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 service system to gain access to the digital resource.

5 Rights information

5.1 General consideration

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

Rights information shall clearly state what users may do and may not do on the provided resource. It may add statements on the underlying works if necessary. Rights information may be written in a part of some page or may be form a separate information page.

5.2 Usage of community standard expression

When there is community supported standard way to express rights information, it should be adapted. If the standard expression has logo for the expression, it is recommended to use that logo as well. Examples of such standards are listed in the **Annex A**.

5.3 International consideration

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

6 Presentation of rights information in the service pages

6.1 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.

6.2 Search page

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

6.3 Browsing page

A browsing page may offer rights information in its snippets of the resource information, if such inclusion is suitable for resource browsing purposes.

6.4 Resource information page

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

6.5 Resource download page

A resource download page shall provide the rights information or the link to the rights information 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.

6.6 Resource presentation page

A resource presentation page shall present the rights information or link to the rights information 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 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.

Annex A
(Informative)
Community standard 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 standard expressions concerning 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 tool 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/