



R | D | A

RESOURCE DESCRIPTION & ACCESS



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The US RDA Test

For the European RDA Interest Group/JSC Seminar
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Background

- LC Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control
- *On the Record*
 - “Suspend work on *RDA*”
- LC worked with National Agricultural Library (NAL) and National Library of Medicine (NLM) to plan for U.S. testing

Test methodology

- Assumptions—
 - Test plans, training documentation, and results will be shared
 - Final version of *RDA* will be tested (*RDA Toolkit*)
 - *RDA* will be tested in existing systems
 - *RDA* data created during test will be made available for use, reuse, testing, research
 - Non-formal testers will be invited to share *RDA* created data

Test partners

- 27 formal test partners, including LC, NAL, NLM
- Partners include cross-section:
 - Types, sizes, formats, content, content codes used
 - Libraries, consortia, educators, vendors
 - Program for Cooperative Cataloging libraries
 - OCLC

Test timeline

- Test days 1-90 (July – September 2010)
 - Familiarization with *RDA* content & online functionality
- Test days 91-180 (October – December 2010)
 - Partners produce records using *RDA*
- Post-test days 181-270 (January – March 2011)
 - LC/NAL/NLM complete analyses
- Post-test days 271-360 (April – June 2011)
 - U.S. national libraries make decisions on whether to adopt *RDA*

Materials to be tested

- Common original set
- Common copy set
- Extra set

Common original set test materials

- 25 titles to be cataloged twice by all:
 - 1) using *RDA*
 - 2) using current content code
- Range of analog and digital:
 - Textual monographs (10)
 - AV materials (5)
 - Serials (5—print & other)
 - Integrating resources (5)

Common copy set test materials

- 5 resources to be copy cataloged
 - Printed text, in English:
 - Monograph
 - Serial
 - Translation
 - Compilation
 - Novel

Extra set test materials

- Test partners to catalog regular receipts using *RDA* (at least 25 items)
 - Foreign languages
 - Cartographic materials
 - Music scores
 - Law materials
- Authority data to be created if normally done for both common and regular titles

RDA choices & options

- *RDA* Core/core if
- Alternatives and options
- “or” instructions
- “agency preparing ...” instructions
- Decision on choices for *RDA* Test:
 - agency policy for all; agency policy for some, cataloger’s judgment, etc.
 - LC is sharing its decisions

RDA choices & options-- documentation

- LC worked with Program for Cooperative Cataloging to review former *LC Rule Interpretations (LCRIs)*
 - Almost 500 *LCRIs*
 - Reduced to less than 200
 - Some incorporated into *RDA Toolkit*
 - Now called *LC Policy Statements*

Feedback on creating *RDA* data—formal testers

- Mechanisms being set up for submission of test data by formal testers to LC
 - Records for both common set and extra set titles
 - Records will be made publicly accessible
 - Responses from testers using
 - Survey Monkey
 - Basecamp

Feedback on creating *RDA* data—informal testers

- Informal testers also invited to submit test data
- Invitation issued this past week
- Single survey being developed to elicit test data

Evaluative factors: What we want to learn

- Questions to be answered
 - 7 survey instruments to address:
 - Level of personnel
 - Source of answers
 - Type of answers/data, e.g.,
 - Objective
 - Subjective
 - Local management decision

Evaluative factors: What we want to learn

- Record creation
- Record use
- Training & documentation
- Using an online tool
- Systems & metadata
- Technical feasibility
- Workflows
- Costs & benefits

LC's internal plans

- Preparing training materials
- Preparing documentation
- Posting training materials & documentation to U.S. Test Site and LC Cataloging Policy Site
- Training/practice for staff who will participate
 - 50 staff to be involved

LC's internal plans (continued)

- System changes, e.g., for *RDA* associated *MARC 21* updates
- Distribution of LC *RDA* records
- Site to host *RDA* test records from all testers
- Help desk: for content questions
 - LChelp4rda@loc.gov

Contact/more information

- LC Policy Decisions
 - Email: policy@loc.gov
- *MARC 21* standards
 - <http://www.loc.gov/marc/>
- *RDA—Resource Description and Access*
 - <http://www.rda-jsc.org/rda.html>
- Joint Steering Committee for the Development of RDA
 - <http://www.rda-jsc.org/>

Contact/more information (continued)

- U.S. Testing Resource Description and Access (RDA)

<http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/rda/>

- Beacher Wiggins
 - Director for Acquisitions & Bibliographic Access
 - Library of Congress
 - bwig@loc.gov

LC Webcasts

- *Resource Description and Access: Background/Overview* (May 14, 2008. 67 minutes)
http://www.loc.gov/today/cyberlc/feature_wdesc.php?rec=4320
- *Cataloging Principles and RDA: Resource Description and Access.* (June 10, 2008. 49 minutes)
http://www.loc.gov/today/cyberlc/feature_wdesc.php?rec=4327
- *FRBR: Things You Should Know but Were Afraid to Ask.* (March 4, 2009. 57 minutes)
http://www.loc.gov/today/cyberlc/feature_wdesc.php?rec=4554

- Thank you!

- Questions/comments?