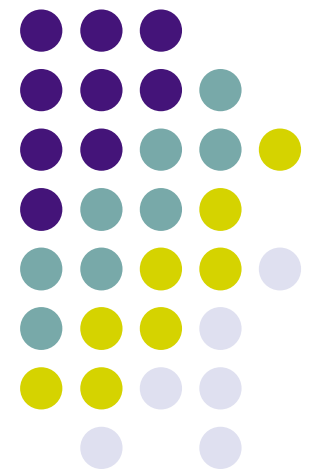


What makes a good identifier?

Brian Green
ISO TC46 SC9

EDI*T*EUR





My community of interest

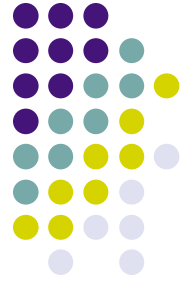
- EDItEUR's community of interest is all those involved in the book and serials supply chains
- ISO TC46 SC9's community of interest also includes other content industries including music and audio-visual
 - **TC 46** is ISO's Technical Committee (TC) for information and documentation standards.
 - **SC 9** is the TC 46 Subcommittee (SC) that develops and maintains ISO standards on the identification and description of information resources.



Major “products”

- EDItEUR’s major product is ONIX – for books, for serials, for licensing terms
- ISO TC46 SC9’s main products are the ISO international standard identifiers such as ISBN, ISSN, ISRC, ISAN, ISWC, ISTC

Single most important property of a successful identifier



- Usefulness – the ability to satisfy an urgent “business” need in a flexible and versatile way, that anticipates changing technologies and business models
 - ISBN has been quite successful in this respect over more than 30 years
 - Designed for book trade supply chain use, yet valuable for libraries
 - Clearly defined scope. Identifies monographic manifestations and nothing else (in principle!)
 - Attempting to cope with issues of granularity. Separate ISBNs for separately available products

Most single pressing problem



- Interoperability - both horizontal and vertical
 - In a multimedia environment, resources increasingly include items in different media
 - Metadata will need to be interoperable for discovery, resource management and rights/royalty purposes
 - Metadata should not need to be created anew at each level (works, expressions and manifestations)



Towards a solution

- New ISO TC46 SC9 Interoperability ad-hoc group of identifier registration authorities
 - ISTC, ISBN, ISSN, ISWC, ISMN, ISRC, ISAN, DOI RAs agreed to meet quarterly
 - Metadata interoperability use cases available from TC46 SC9 website
<http://www.lac-bac.gc.ca/iso/tc46sc9/docs/sc9n417.pdf>
 - Collaboration on development of International Standard Party Identifier (ISPI) to manage interoperability party identification (natural and corporate names) across media domains