

ISBN Update

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ISBN – mature standard

- ISO standard since 1970
- Recognised in over 200 countries and territories
- >150 agencies

- New agencies – Oman, Myanmar
- Interest from Somalia, Rwanda, Liberia



Publishers' International ISBN Directory (PIID)

- Published by DeGruyter
- Uses national ISBN agency data (prefixes and publisher details)
- >1 million prefixes included
- Data from 110 agencies
- New online edition in late 2010 (replaced CD-ROM)



Identifying Digital publications

- Continues to be a challenging area
- Inconsistency of publisher behaviour
- Supply chain “picking up pieces”
- IIA issued guidelines in November 2010
 - feedback generally positive
- US problems “endemic”



Identifying Digital publications

- IIA participating in BISG working group on identification of e-books
 - Hoping for broad consistency with IIA guidelines
 - BISG policy statement expected in September 2011



ISBN Users' Manual

- New draft of Manual released early September
 - Written for public consumption (but for agencies too!)
 - Shorter, assumes 13 digits now fully implemented
 - Better guidance on digital publications
 - *Separate policy guidelines (FAQs) for agencies only*
 - E.g. to help with decisions on borderline cases
 - Circulated to all ISBN agencies for comment
- Discussion topic at AGM

