

To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA
From: Alan Danskin, British Library Representative
Subject: Full name as addition to Initialism or Acronym in Access Points for Corporate Bodies (Revision of RDA 11.13.1.2)

Abstract

This proposal will allow the fullest variant name of a corporate body to be used as an addition to an initialism or acronym used in an Authorized or Variant Access Point.

Introduction

In LC/NAF, the fullest variant name of a corporate body has often been added to an initialism or acronym, with the justification that the full name was used in this context as an Other Designation (11.7.1.4). However, the name of Other Designation was changed in 2014 to Type of Corporate Body, so explicit justification is now needed for the use of the fullest name as an addition in these cases.

The fullest name can be the Preferred Name or a Variant Name of the body, depending on whether the initialism or acronym to be qualified is itself the Variant Name or the Preferred Name. The proposed changes are to the instructions for Authorized Access Points, but apply also to Variant Access Points by virtue of 11.13.2.1.

Justification

There appears to be a broad consensus, in recent discussions in professional forums, that the fullest variant name of a corporate body is a more useful addition to an initialism or acronym, than Type of Corporate Body, especially when an initialism or acronym is not unique. For example, “IBM (Instituto de Biología Marítima)” enables the user to identify the entity better than “IBM (Institute)”, especially as there are four institutes in LC/NAF with “IBM” as a name.

The change would incorporate practice permitted by LC-PCC-PS for 11.13.1.2.

Impact

The impact on RDA users is anticipated to be positive, and not problematic. This practice has already been extensively followed, so it is a clarification.

Summary of Changes

The following changes are proposed

1. Add an exception and an example to 11.13.1.2

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11.13.1.2 Type of Corporate Body LC-PCC PS 2014/04

Add a term designating the type of corporate body (see [11.7.1.4 RDA](#)), if needed to distinguish one access point from another (i.e., when two or more bodies have the same name or names so similar that they may be confused). Also add such a term if the preferred name for the body does not convey the idea of a corporate body.

EXAMPLE

Apollo 11 (Spacecraft)

Beanpot (Hockey tournament)

Gingerbread (Organisation)

Designation added by an agency following British spelling conventions

Health of the Public (Program)

Designation added by an agency following American spelling conventions

Johann Traeg (Firm)

KBS Kyōto (Radio station)

Merced de Quito (Monastery)

Niagara (Passenger ship)

Niagara (Whaling ship)

Rachel Ann (Sloop)

Red Hot Chili Peppers (Musical group)

Exception

If the preferred name is an initialism or acronym written in all capital letters (with or without periods between them), add the fullest variant name of the corporate body. Prefer this addition instead of the type of corporate body.

EXAMPLE

IBM (Instituto de Biología Marítima)

not IBM (Institute)

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