

**TO:** Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA

**FROM:** Alan Danskin, British Library representative to JSC

**SUBJECT:** Discussion paper: Hidden relationships in attributes (examples: RDA 9.4.1.4.2, 9.13,10.6, 11.3, 16.2.2)

The British Library thanks DNB for its clear analysis of this issue. We strongly agree with the suggestions in this paper. In particular, that where Group 2 or Group 3 entities are being recorded as an attribute of another entity this clearly denotes a relationship between those entities.

In answer to the questions posed by the German cataloguing community :

- a) Does the JSC agree that the examples mentioned in 2.1 and 2.2 are cases of "hidden" relationships?

Yes.

- b) Does the JSC agree that it would also be possible to model these and similar cases by making use of relationship elements and relationship designators?

Yes

- c) Does the JSC agree that modelling these and similar cases as relationships might have a number of advantages?

Yes; although there is a concern that relationships are more costly to manage than attributes, because they need to be controlled to be effective.

- d) Should this question be explored in more depth?

Yes