

To: RDA Steering Committee

From: Thomas Brenndorfer, Extent Working Group Chair

Subject: Proposal for container and storage subelements of Manifestation: **extent of manifestation**

Abstract

As subelements of Manifestation: **extent of manifestation**, the proposed elements Manifestation: **number of containers** and Manifestation: **dimensions of container** are used to record quantifications and measurements of containers in a manifestation. An RDA vocabulary encoding scheme for Containers is established, with some terms pulled from the **RDA Carrier Extent Unit** vocabulary encoding scheme. The proposed subelement Manifestation: **extent of storage space** is used for a measurement of the storage space occupied by a collection manifestation. The term *container* appears twice in the RDA Glossary appears twice and the definitions can be consolidated into the term in **RDA Recording Source**.

Recommendation #1. Retain and update the glossary entry for *container* from the **RDA Recording Source** vocabulary encoding scheme.

Recommendation #1: Two definitions for *container* appear in the Glossary. Retain and update the definition for the term in the **RDA Recording Source** vocabulary encoding scheme and deprecate the other term.

container

A housing that is physically separable from the carrier being housed.

A container includes a box for a disc or videocassette, a sleeve for a videodisc, etc.; an insert visible through the housing is part of the container.

See also: carrier

See also: media

container

A source of information in a manifestation that is a housing that is physically separable from the manifestation.

The first definition appears to come from RDA Terms vocabulary and should be deprecated, as similar terms that have moved to the RDA Recording Source vocabulary have been deprecated. The scope note should be added to the second definition, and the references from the first term not used. Updated definition:

container

A source of information in a manifestation that is a housing that is physically separable from the manifestation.

A container includes a box for a disc or videocassette, a sleeve for a videodisc, etc.; an insert visible through the housing is part of the container.

Recommendation #2. Manifestation: number of containers

Recommendation 2: Create the element Manifestation: number of containers. Associate the new vocabulary encoding scheme **RDA Containers** with this element.

Proposed definition: A number of containers in a manifestation.

In the Prerecording section include the language establishing this element as a subelement of Manifestation: extent of manifestation and providing the option of using a value of Manifestation: manifestation extent statement:

This element is a *subelement* of the *superelement* Manifestation: extent of manifestation.

For general guidance and instructions on recording a statement from a manifestation that reproduces another manifestation, see Guidance: Manifestation statements.

Manifestation statements of facsimiles and reproductions.

OPTION

Record an unstructured description within a value of Manifestation: manifestation extent statement.

Current instructions for recording the number of containers are at https://access.rdatoolkit.org/en-US_ala-8754c7a9-c38c-3735-9cf9-865df717f81b/p_evs_3cz_xdb but it is entangled with recording the number of items and volumes in a collection. These instructions will need to move to Community Resources given the string encoding schemes needed to construct values.

Recommendation #3. Manifestation: dimensions of container

Recommendation 3: Create the element Manifestation: dimensions of container.

Proposed definition: A measurement of a container in a manifestation. Dimensions include measurements of height, width, depth, length, and diameter.

In the Prerecording section include the language establishing this element as a subelement of Manifestation: extent of manifestation and providing the option of using a value of Manifestation: manifestation extent statement:

This element is a *subelement* of the *superelement* Manifestation: extent of manifestation.

For general guidance and instructions on recording a statement from a manifestation that reproduces another manifestation, see Guidance: Manifestation statements.

Manifestation statements of facsimiles and reproductions.

OPTION

Record an unstructured description within a value of Manifestation: manifestation extent statement.

The current instructions for recording the dimensions of containers are at https://access.rdatoolkit.org/en-US_ala-cc95f0fd-c059-334d-b240-c7379e396c7d/p_blc_bd4_b2b and https://access.rdatoolkit.org/en-US_ala-cc95f0fd-c059-334d-b240-c7379e396c7d/p_c5p_dd4_b2b. As some instructions entail combining values these instructions will need to be moved to Community Resources, given the string encoding schemes needed to construct the values.

Dimensions of container

CONDITION

A manifestation is issued in two or more units in a container.

CONDITION OPTION

Name the container.

CONDITION OPTION

Record the dimensions of the container (height × width × depth) in addition to the dimensions of the carrier or carriers.

CONDITION OPTION

Record the dimensions of the container (height × width × depth) as the only dimensions.

Manifestations in two or more containers

CONDITION

A manifestation is issued in two or more containers.

The containers are all of the same size.

CONDITION OPTION

Record the dimensions of a single container (see [Dimensions of container](#)).

CONDITION

A manifestation is issued in two or more containers.

The containers differ in size.

CONDITION OPTION

Record the dimensions of the smallest and the largest size.

The three options under **Recording** in Manifestation: **dimensions** will need to be repeated for this element.

Recording

OPTION

Record dimensions in centimetres to the next whole centimetre up and use the metric symbol *cm* (e.g., if the height measures 17.2 centimetres, record *18 cm*) unless instructed otherwise.

OPTION

Record dimensions in a system of measurement preferred by an agent who creates the metadata.

OPTION

Use abbreviations or symbols from the list at [Abbreviations for units](#) for units of measurement. Symbols for metric units of measurement are not abbreviations and are not followed by a full stop.

In addition to the option for an unstructured description, the element page for Manifestation: **dimensions of container** should include a basic option for a structured description, which resembles the instructions for a structured description in Manifestation: **dimensions**. The purpose for stipulated orders is to better enable machine parsing and comparing of dimensions values. Containers come in different forms, such as boxes or cylinders, and some containers may resemble volumes.

Recording a structured description

CONDITION

A container resembles a volume and is used for storage of separable units of a manifestation or items in a collection manifestation.

CONDITION OPTION

Record dimensions in the order of height x width.

Use the same unit of measurement for each value.

CONDITION

A container is a three-dimensional object for storage of units of a manifestation or items in a collection manifestation.

CONDITION OPTION

Record dimensions in the order of height x width x depth.

Use the same unit of measurement for each value.

CONDITION

A container is in the form of a cylinder.

CONDITION OPTION

Record dimensions in the order of diameter x length.

Use the same unit of measurement for each value.

Recommendation #4. Manifestation: extent of storage space

Recommendation 4: Create the element Manifestation: extent of storage space.

Proposed definition: A measurement of the amount of storage space occupied by a collection manifestation.

A part of this recommendation is for the RDA Steering Committee to develop the guidance for collection manifestations, taking into account that “storage” may also entail storage containers, not just shelving. The distinction then needs to be made between containers for manifestations that are not collection manifestations and storage containers for collection manifestations.

In the Prerecording section include the language establishing this element as a subelement of Manifestation: extent of manifestation and providing the option of using a value of Manifestation: manifestation extent statement:

This element is a *subelement* of the *superelement* Manifestation: extent of manifestation.

For general guidance and instructions on recording a statement from a manifestation that reproduces another manifestation, see Guidance: Manifestation statements.

Manifestation statements of facsimiles and reproductions.

OPTION

Record an unstructured description within a value of Manifestation: **manifestation extent statement**.

Under **Recording** incorporate the existing instructions from Manifestation: **extent of manifestation** (current instructions for recording extent of storage space at https://access.rdatoolkit.org/en-US_ala-8754c7a9-c38c-3735-9cf9-865df717f81b/p_gqw_jcz_xdb):

OPTION

Record a value in metric measurements and use the metric symbol *cm* or *m*, as appropriate.

OPTION

Record a value in a system of measurement preferred by an agent who creates the metadata.

OPTION

Use abbreviations or symbols from the list at **Abbreviations for units** for units of measurement. Symbols for metric units of measurement are not abbreviations and are not followed by a full stop.

OPTION

Specify the number or approximate number of containers, volumes, or items.

Recommendation #5. RDA Containers Vocabulary Encoding Scheme

Recommendation 5: Create a new vocabulary encoding scheme **RDA Containers**. From the current **RDA Carrier Extent Unit** vocabulary, move the terms *case* and *portfolio*, and update their definitions to reflect the new context. Add the terms *album*, *box*, *bradded folder*, *folder*, and *sleeve*. This vocabulary encoding scheme will have incomplete coverage of scope, and additional values may be included in the future. Further vocabulary terms related to binders as containers may be developed from overlapping terms in **RDA Type of Binding**.

Terms moved from **RDA Carrier Extent Unit**:

Recommendation 5.1

case

Current definition: A unit of extent that consists of a box containing bound or unbound resources.

Proposed definition: A container consisting of a rigid enclosure for holding bound or unbound units of a manifestation or items in a collection manifestation.

Recommendation 5.2

portfolio

Current definition: A unit of extent that is a container for holding loose materials, that usually consists of two covers joined together at the back.

Proposed definition: A container that consists of two covers joined together along one edge for holding loose units of a manifestation or items in a collection manifestation.

Additional terms with their definitions:

Recommendation 5.3

album

Proposed definition: A container that consists of bound sheets with components to secure separable units of a manifestation or items in a collection manifestation.

Recommendation 5.4

box

Proposed definition: A container that is a rigid enclosure, usually rectangular or square, for holding physical units of a manifestation or items in a collection manifestation.

Recommendation 5.5

bradded folder

Proposed definition: A container that is a folder equipped with fasteners to secure hole-punched units of a manifestation or items in a collection manifestation.

Recommendation 5.6**folder**

Proposed definition: A container that consists of two flaps that hold loose units of a manifestation or items in a collection manifestation.

Recommendation 5.7**sleeve**

Proposed definition: A container that is a protective enclosure with an open side for insertion or removal of physical units of a manifestation or items in a collection manifestation.

Summary of recommendations

Recommendation 1: Retain and update the glossary entry for container from the RDA Recording Source vocabulary encoding scheme.

Recommendation 2: Create the element Manifestation: number of containers.

Recommendation 3: Create the element Manifestation: dimensions of containers.

Recommendation 4: Create the element Manifestation: extent of storage space.

Recommendation 5: Create a new vocabulary encoding scheme **RDA Containers**.

Recommendation 5.1: case

Recommendation 5.2: portfolio

Recommendation 5.3: album

Recommendation 5.4: box

Recommendation 5.5: bradded folder

Recommendation 5.6: folder

Recommendation 5.7: sleeve