

To: Renate Behrens, Chair, RDA Steering Committee
CC: Anne Welsh, RSC Secretary
From: Trina Soderquist, NARDAC representative
Subject: Formal response to RSC/TechnicalWG/2026/1 -- Soft-deprecated elements related to Manifestation: material

Introduction

The North American RDA Committee (NARDAC) thanks the Technical Working Group for their continued work on managing soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Toolkit. We appreciate how the Working Group is organizing the proposals, making it easier for us to fully consider them.

Recommendation 1: Remove the following elements from the alignment of soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Registry, and remove the prerecording instructions in the Toolkit recommending the cataloger to use manifestation: material:

- applied material
- base material
- emulsion on microfilm and microfiche
- mount

NARDAC approves of the recommendation to delete the sentence, “The following option is recommended,” at the Prerecording level. We also suggest deleting the Prerecording option, “Do not use this element; use Manifestation: material instead to record a value.” This option is only included for soft-deprecated elements and is no longer necessary since the element is no longer soft-deprecated. The option to use narrower or broader elements is explained in Guidance > Introduction to RDA > Data elements > Choice of elements, and it does not need to be included in every element that is an element subtype. The specific choice of element is addressed in application profiles or policy statements.

Recommendation 1.1: Manifestation: applied material

NARDAC approves of the recommendation.

Recommendation 1.2: Manifestation: base material

NARDAC approves of the recommendation.

Recommendation 1.3: Manifestation: emulsion on microfilm and microfiche

NARDAC approves of the recommendation.

Recommendation 1.4: Manifestation: mount

NARDAC approves of the recommendation.