

To: Renate Behrens, RSC Chair
CC: Anne Welsh, RSC Secretary
From: Chris Holden, Technical Team Liaison Officer
Subject: Soft-deprecated elements specific to content and carrier types

For the theory and background on the soft-deprecated elements, please see [RSC/TechnicalWG/2026/1](#).

RDA contains the following elements¹:

filmed with item
on disc with item
filmed with manifestation
on disc with manifestation
scale of still image or three-dimensional form

Four of these elements are manifestation-to-manifestation elements or item-to-item elements, but they only apply to specific types of carriers.

Item: **filmed with item** and Manifestation: **filmed with manifestation** describe a manifestation or item “on the same microform” with another manifestation or item. Item: **on disc with item** and Manifestation: **on disc with manifestation** describe a manifestation or item “on the same disc” as another manifestation or item.

These carrier-specific elements are unnecessary.

Item: **filmed with item** and Item: **on disc with item** are synonymous for when Item: **on manifestation with** has a range of item that exemplifies a manifestation with a carrier type that is a microform or disc, respectively.

Manifestation: **filmed with manifestation** or Manifestation: **on disc with manifestation** are synonymous for when Manifestation: **on carrier unit with** has a range of a manifestation with a carrier type that is a microform or disc, respectively. This makes these elements redundant, as the same information can be ascertained from the Item: **on manifestation with** and Manifestation: **on carrier unit with** elements and the RDA Carrier Type.

¹ Direct links to each is provided at [Recommendation 1](#), below.

Likewise, Expression: **scale of still image or three-dimensional form** only applies to specific content types. In Original RDA, this element was used as a subtype to distinguish scales of non-cartographic content from scales of cartographic content.

In Official RDA, Expression: **scale** is explicitly labeled as having a domain of “expression,” which means Expression: **scale of still image or three-dimensional form** is redundant; any expression with a scale can also have a content type that is still image, three-dimensional form, or a cartographic content type. Because this information can be ascertained without subtyping Expression: **scale**, we propose fully deprecating Expression: **scale of still image or three-dimensional form**.

Impact:

Fully deprecating these elements would have a relatively minor impact on cataloguing practice and policy statement writers, although this impact will differ by cataloguing agency, and is dependent on whether that agency followed RDA’s recommendations to use other elements instead of the soft-deprecated ones. Because each of these elements is aligned with a broader element of similar definition, cataloging agencies could move policy statements and cataloging practices to the broader element with little disruption to current practice.

Recommendation 1:

Fully deprecate the following elements in the RDA Registry and remove them from the Toolkit. Remove these elements from the alignment of soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Registry, and add them to a new alignment of fully-deprecated elements to RDA elements, to be included in the Registry.

- [filmed with item](#)
- [on disc with item](#)
- [filmed with manifestation](#)
- [on disc with manifestation](#)
- [scale of still image or three-dimensional form](#)

Recommendation 1.1

Item: filmed with item

Fully deprecate this element in the RDA Registry and remove it from the Toolkit.

Remove the element from the alignment of soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Registry and add it to a new alignment of fully-deprecated elements to RDA elements.

Remove Item: **filmed with item** as a narrower element of [Item: held with](#) in the Toolkit and the RDA Registry.

Recommendation 1.2

[Item: on disc with item](#)

Fully deprecate this element in the RDA Registry and remove it from the Toolkit.

Remove the element from the alignment of soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Registry and add it to a new alignment of fully-deprecated elements to RDA elements.

Remove Item: **on disc with item** as a narrower element of [Item: held with](#) in the Toolkit and the RDA Registry.

Recommendation 1.3

[Manifestation: filmed with manifestation](#)

Fully deprecate this element in the RDA Registry and remove it from the Toolkit.

Remove the element from the alignment of soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Registry and add it to a new alignment of fully-deprecated elements to RDA elements.

Remove Manifestation: **filmed with manifestation** as a narrower element of [Manifestation: on carrier unit with](#) in the Toolkit and the RDA Registry.

Recommendation 1.4

[Manifestation: on disc with manifestation](#)

Fully deprecate this element in the RDA Registry and remove it from the Toolkit.

Remove the element from the alignment of soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Registry and add it to a new alignment of fully-deprecated elements to RDA elements.

Remove Manifestation: **on disc with manifestation** as a narrower element of [Manifestation: on carrier unit with](#) in the Toolkit and the RDA Registry.

Recommendation 1.5

[Expression: scale of still image or three-dimensional form](#)

Fully deprecate this element in the RDA Registry and remove it from the Toolkit.

Remove the element from the alignment of soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Registry and add it to a new alignment of fully-deprecated elements to RDA elements.

Remove Expression: **scale of still image or three-dimensional form** as a narrower element of [Expression: scale](#) in the Toolkit and the RDA Registry.