

C1

Identifying Authentication Records: Procedures and Instructions

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Revision history

Revised in February 2025

C1. Identifying Authenticated Records

Not all authentication is performed at the same level or for the same purposes. As special projects have been developed and varying levels of cataloging have been defined, authentication has come to mean different things. The following synopsis gives the various groups performing authentication, the meaning of this authentication, and the identifying features in the records. See Part II for definitions of the fields and subfields referred to below.

C1.1 CONSER Authenticated Records

When contributing continuing resource records to the CONSER database, CONSER members may catalog titles at the CONSER standard or minimal level.

Descriptive elements in all records have been reviewed. Name headings are made per Original RDA, the NACO Participants Manual, and DCM Z1. Identifying features of CONSER records are a control number in field 010, the symbol of the CONSER member in field 040, and one or more authentication code(s) in field 042.

C1.2 Library of Congress

In addition to the identifying features mentioned in C1.1., LC records also contain institutional specific data such as the LC assigned call number in field 050 00 and the NUC symbol "DLC" in field 850 to indicate that a title is held at LC. Since May 2009, LC uses the authentication code "pcc" in records newly authenticated and distributed as part of the CONSER Program. Code "lc" was used until 2009 and has been programmatically replaced in OCLC records by code "pcc." LC assigns code "lccopycat" to a non-CONSER record when these types of records are used as the basis for its cataloging.

Some LC records begin as partial or "in process" records (encoding level = 5; 050 = IN PROCESS) and remain as such until subject headings and an LC call number are supplied, whereupon the encoding level is changed to blank.

C1.2.1 LC Minimal level cataloging

Descriptive elements for original and adapted records have been reviewed. Name headings have been searched against the LC Name Authority and bibliographic files. Authoritative Original RDA forms have been used when available. If not found in the name authority file, it should be made per Original RDA, the NACO Participants Manual, and DCM Z1 and, preferably, added to the LC Name Authority File. Subject headings should be valid and constructed correctly per the Subject Heading Manual.

Identifying features are a "DLC" in field 040, an authentication code in field 042, a control number beginning with the letters "WMLC" or Microform control number in field 050. Before May 2009, LC used authentication codes "msc" and "lcd" in field 042. Currently, LC uses codes "msc" and "pcc" in newly authenticated minimal level records. Code "lcd" has been programmatically replaced with code "pcc" in OCLC. The encoding level for minimal records is "7."

Example 1

```
040 $a DLC $b eng $c DLC
042 $a pcc
050 $a WMLC 2003/01901
```

C1.2.3. U.S. ISSN Assignments

The U.S. ISSN Center assigns International Standard Serial Numbers to publishers (pre-pub and post-pub requests), the U.S. Postal Service, the ISSN International Centre and other ISSN centers around the world, and to CONSER libraries. The ISSN Center also handles all queries related to ISSN and the ISSN application process submitted from sources such as publishers, libraries, subscription agents and the Library of Congress.

All ISSN and related elements have been verified according to the ISSN Manual or its predecessors, ISDS Manual and Guidelines for ISDS. The ISSN and related elements include the:

MARC fields related to ISSN

```
008/33 [Original Alphabet of Title Code/Alph]
022 [ISSN]$2 [ISSN Center Code]
210 [Abbreviated title]
222 [Key title]
```

Example 1

```
008/33 a [Basic Roman]
022 $a 0115-6454 $1 0115-6454 $2 1
210 $a Res. j.- West. Mindanao State Univ., Univ. Res. Cent.
222 $a Research journal - Western Mindanao State University, University
    Research Center
```

Other descriptive elements are supplied according to the ISSN Guidelines and RDA (and AACR2). Name headings have been searched against the LC/NACO Authority File and bibliographic files for records authenticated after January 1981, authoritative Original RDA forms have been used when available. If not found in the name authority file, it should be made per Original RDA, the NACO Participants Manual, and DCM Z1 and, preferably, added to the LC Name Authority File. Subject headings should be valid and constructed correctly per the Subject Heading Manual.

Identifying features are code "DLC" or "NSD" for records created before May 2009, code "nsdp" in field 042. From 1988 to 2009, codes "msc" or "lcd" were also assigned to "nsdp" records to reflect the authoritativeness of headings in the records. Since 2009, codes "msc" or "pcc" are used in addition to "nsdp." The encoding level for minimal records is "7". The encoding level for prepublication records is "8."

Example 1

```
Ldr/17 7 [Minimal level]
008/33 a [Basic Roman]
022 $a 0115-6454 $1 0115-6454
042 $a nsdp $a msc
210 $a Res. j.- West. Mindanao State Univ., Univ. Res. Cent.
222 $a Research journal - Western Mindanao State University, University
    Research Center
```

C1.2.4 New Serials Titles

In March 1993 the New Serial Titles Section was dissolved. Its publication was discontinued at the end of 1999. The following information applies to records authenticated by the section prior to March 1993.

Holdings information in field 850 was verified. Descriptive elements were accepted as found on existing records, or based on information supplied by a reporting institution when no online record was available.

Name headings were searched against the LC Name Authority and bibliographic files, and, for records authenticated after Jan. 1981, authoritative AACR2 forms were used when available. If not found in the LC/NACO Authority File, a name was made per AACR2 and the LC Rule Interpretations (LCRI)

Identifying features are an "sn"-prefixed LCCN in field 010, code "msc" or "pcc" in field 042, the symbol "NST" in field 040, and the presence of an 850 field. Older records carry code "nst" in field 042; the code "nst" is no longer used.

C1.3. Library and Archives Canada

As the authority for Canadian imprints, LAC authenticates its own records as well as those of others. LAC authenticates titles that have a Canadian imprint as well as certain serials that are of Canadian interest. ISSN Canada is the authority for the ISSN and related elements in records with Canadian imprints.

Descriptive elements are reviewed; name/series headings are authoritative. Subject headings, LC class number, and Dewey number are assigned.

Identifying features are "ce", "cf", or "cn" prefixed LCCN in field 010 and code "nlc" in field 042.

C1.3.1 LAC Minimal level cataloging

Descriptive elements have been reviewed but subject headings are not assigned. LC class numbers are assigned to non-government serials. LC class numbers are assigned to serials other than periodicals. Abridged Dewey numbers are assigned.

C1.3.2 LAC Abbreviated level cataloging

Descriptive elements have been reviewed but subject headings and classification numbers are not assigned. Series added entries are not provided. Name headings have been established according to AACR2 or Original RDA. LAC abbreviated records are identified by encoding level "7."

C3.3 ISSN Canada

The ISSN and all related elements have been verified according to the ISSN Manual or its predecessors ISDS Manual and Guidelines for ISDS. These elements include the 022 (ISSN), 022 \$2 (ISSN Center Code), 210 (Abbreviated Title), and 222 (Key Title). Most records authenticated by ISSN Canada are also LAC-authenticated. Encoding level "7" signifies that only the ISSN and related elements have been reviewed. The identifying feature is code "isds/c" in field 042.

MARC fields related to ISSN Canada

Ldr/17 7 [Minimal level]
022 [ISSN]\$2 [ISSN Center Code]
042 [Authentication code]
210 [Abbreviated title]
222 [Key title]

Example 1

```
Ldr/17 7 [Minimal level]  
022 $a 0705-3002 $1 0705-3002 #2 4  
042 $a isds  
  
210 $a Can. j. Ital. stud.  
222 $a Canadian journal of Italian studies
```

C1.4 U.S. Newspaper Program

U.S. Newspaper Program (USNP) participants contributed records to the CONSER database between 1992 and 2011. USNP records are similar to CONSER minimal level records. Descriptive elements have been reviewed. Name headings are in authoritative form per the LC/NACO Authority File or constructed according to AACR2 or Original RDA instructions. Identifying features are an "sn"-prefixed LCCN in field 010 (USNP institutions are the only CONSER participants to use sn-prefixed LCCNs for records created after 2000), code "msc" in field 042, encoding level "7", the symbol of the USNP institution in field 040, and field 752.

MARC fields related to U.S. Newspaper Program

```
Ldr/17 7 [Minimal level]  
010 [LCCN sn-XXXXXX]  
040 [USNP cataloging source]  
042 [Authentication code msc]  
022 [ISSN]$2 [ISSN Center Code]  
210 [Abbreviated title]  
222 [Key title]  
752 [Added entry-hierarchical place name]
```

C1.5. CONSER Abstracting and Indexing Coverage Project

The A&I Project conversion staff did not authenticate records; however, many of the records updated have been previously or are subsequently authenticated by one of the institutions above.

The purposes of the A&I Project include adding indexing and abstracting information to records via field 510, as well as adding ISSN and related elements (fields 022, 210, 222). On records to which project staff added complete verified ISSN and related elements, the National Serials Data Program authentication code "nsdp" was used in conjunction with field 012 \$j to authenticate the ISSN and related elements while flagging the fact that additional bibliographic maintenance done by NSDP has not been done for these records.

In November 2002, the Policy Committee of the Program for Cooperative Cataloging voted to remove most of the abstracting and indexing coverage fields (field 510) from CONSER records. OCLC began the systematic removal of 510 fields from CONSER records at the end of February 2003. By spring 2003, most of the abstracting and indexing coverage fields were removed from CONSER records.