PRESSEMITTEILUNG

October 1, 2015

Start of cataloguing based on new Resource Description and Access (RDA) standard

The German National Library generated the catalogue entry for Jonathan Franzen's novel "Purity" today - the first data record to be generated based on the Resource Description and Access (RDA) standard. As project leader, the library is responsible for overseeing the transition to the international standard in the German-speaking countries.

The plot of the novel stretches across six decades and three continents; the scope of the RDA project itself was not quite as broad, nevertheless it required almost three years of work in three countries. The long road to cataloguing the first records based on the new code has been taken along with colleagues from Germany, Austria and German-speaking Switzerland. All the relevant institutions will effect the transition by the end of the year, completing an important step towards achieving a modern, forward-looking cataloguing system.

The novel by Jonathan Franzen ends with the words "... did she believe that she might." Of the initial implementation of RDA in the German-speaking countries it can now be said: "It is done".

Further information:
RDA cataloguing: https://wiki.dnb.de/display/RDAINFO/RDA-Info

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Background
The German National Library collects, documents, archives and makes publicly available all written, graphic and sound recording publications issued in Germany, or in German, since 1913. As part of the internationalisation of the German standards, the Office for Bibliographic Standards was appointed by the Committee for Library Standards to play an active role in developing the new international "Resource Description and Access (RDA)" standard.
The RDA is based on the Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records (FRBR), the Functional Requirements for Authority Data (FRAD), the Statement of International Cataloguing Principles (ICP) and, in future also, the Functional Requirements for Subject Authority Data (FRSAD) of the IFLA. Metadata communities are also involved in developing the RDA.

The German National Library provides a comprehensive range of digital services: the Deutsche Nationalbibliografie, New Releases, Data Service, Data Shop, SRU Interface, OAI Interface, Linked Data Service, URN Service and Catalogue Enrichment.