Start of RDA-based (Resource Description and Access) cataloguing at the German National Library

Providing RDA-based bibliographic records at the end of 2015 will represent the conclusion of the RDA implementation project in the German-speaking countries. Since the beginning of the project, a transition period of three months (1 October to 31 December 2015) was agreed during which all participating partners were to complete the changeover.

The German National Library (DNB) will begin RDA-based cataloguing of bibliographic records from 1 October 2015. The MARC 21 format modifications required for conveying bibliographic records which have been entered and labelled using RDA will also be effected at this time.

The RDA changeover results in the following changes for export releases:

- The 02.2105 export release planned for May 2015 will not contain any MARC-21 modifications.
- The publication date of the 03.2015 export release planned for September 2015 will be put back to 1 October 2015 and will only contain RDA-related modifications in MARC 21 format.
- MARC-21 test data for the 03.2015 export release will be made available on 17 June 2015. An updated format description will also have been released by this time.

Most existing bibliographic records will not be transferred to the new structure because only basic automatic migration of existing bibliographic records is being considered.

An initial overview of the changes can be found in the RDA-Info-Wiki.

Please mail us at “rda-info@dnb.de” if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,
on behalf of Deutsche Nationalbibliothek (German National Library)

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