ONIX for Books codelists Issue 63

This is the consolidated list of additions and updates for Issue 63 of the ONIX for Books codelists, published in late October 2023. This set of changes was circulated for comment to the ONIX national groups, and any comments and issues raised by national groups resolved prior to the meeting of the ONIX International Steering Committee during the Frankfurt Book Fair. The steering committee ratified the changes at its meeting on 18th October.

Codelists Issue 63 additions and changes

Within the tables, additions are in red, changes and clarifications in blue and unchanged text is in black.

List 9 – Product classification type

Code	Label	Note
01	WCO Harmonized System	World Customs Organization Harmonized Commodity Coding and Description System, the basis of most other commodity code schemes. Use 6 ~~(or occasionally 8 or 10) digits~~, without punctuation. See https://www.wcoomd.org/en/topics/nomenclature/instrument-and-tools/hs-nomenclature-2022-edition.aspx and https://www.wcotradetools.org/en/harmonized-system
03	HMRC	UK Revenue and Customs classifications, based on the Harmonized System (8 or 10 digits, without punctuation, for exports from and imports into the UK respectively). See https://www.gov.uk/trade-tariff
05	TARIC	EU TARIC codes, an extended version of the Harmonized System primarily for imports into the EU. Use 10 digits, without punctuation. See https://taxation-customs.ec.europa.eu/customs-4/calculation-customs-duties/customs-tariff/eu-customs-tariff-taric_en
16	EU CN	EU Combined Nomenclature commodity codes, an extended version of the Harmonized System primarily for exports from the EU. Use 8 digits, without punctuation. Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later. See https://trade.ec.europa.eu/access-to-markets/en/content/combined-nomenclature-0

These updates stress the slightly different sets of codes used for imports and exports (codes for imports often contain a couple of extra digits). Sometimes these shorter and longer codes are part of the same scheme (*eg* HMRC) and sometimes there are effectively separate though often very similar codes for import and export (*eg* TARIC and CN, HTSUS and Schedule B)

List 17 – Contributor role code

Code	Label	Note
A48	Letterer	Creates comic book text balloons and other text elements (where this is a distinct role from script writer and/or illustrator), or calligraphy in non-comic products
D01	Producer	Of a film, of a theatrical or multimedia production, of dramatized audio *etc*
D02	Director	Of a film, of a theatrical or multimedia production, of dramatized audio *etc*

List 24 – Extent unit

Code	Label	Note
00	Physical pieces	Unbound sheets or leaves, where 'pages' is not appropriate, for example a count of the individual number of cards in a pack. Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later. For number of pieces in eg a jigsaw, kit, board game, see <ProductFormFeature> and code 22 from list 79

List 27 – Subject scheme identifier

Code	Label	Note
91	GND	(de: Gemeinsame Normdatei) Integrated Authority File used in the German-speaking countries. See https://www.dnb.de/EN/Professionell/Standardisierung/GND/gnd_node.html (English). Combines the PND, SWD and GKD into a single authority file, and should be used in preference to the older codes

List 44 – Name identifier type

Code	Label	Note
04	Börsenverein Verkehrsnummer	(de: Verkehrsnummer des Börsenverein des deutschen Buchhandels)
05	German ISBN Agency publisher identifier	(de: MVB-Kennnummer)
43	SIREN	French business identifier, issued by the National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (INSEE). 9-digits, without spaces. Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later
44	SIRET	French business and location identifier, issued by the National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (INSEE). 14 digits (the SIREN plus a further five digits), without spaces, or occasionally an alphanumeric code. Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later

List 66 – BISAC returnable indicator

Code	Label	Note
S	Yes, returnable, stripped cover	Note the product barcode should be repeated (with triangular 'strippable' indicator) on cover 2 (inside front cover) to facilitate scanning of returned stripped covers

List 71 – Sales restriction type

Code	Label	Note
20	Except to some subscription services	Sales rights (or market distribution rights) apply to all supplies through retailers, and to the designated subscription services, which must be identified or named in an instance of the <SalesOutlet> composite. Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later
21	Subscription service exclusive	Sales rights (or market distribution rights) apply to supplies to the designated subscription service(s), which must be identified or named in an instance of the <SalesOutlet> composite. Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later

The new code 21 is to specify sales are exclusively through a subset of subscription services, working in the same way as retailer-exclusives (existing code 04). Code 20 is to specify products that are for sale via all ordinary (digital) retailers and a selection of subscription services.

List 74 – Language code (based on ISO 639-2/B)

Code	Label	Note
aka	Akan	Macrolanguage. See also fat (Fanti), twi (Twi)
alq	Algonquin	Alginkin. ONIX local code, equivalent to alq in ISO 639-3. Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later
atj	Atikamekw	ONIX local code, equivalent to atj in ISO 639-3. Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later
cat	Catalan	See also qav (Valencian)
cay	Cayuga	ONIX local code, equivalent to cay in ISO 639-3. Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later
chi	Chinese	Macrolanguage. See also cmn (Mandarin), yue (Cantonese)
cre	Cree	Macrolanguage. See also crj (Southern East Cree), crk (plains Cree), crl (Northern East Cree), crm (Moose Cree), cse (Swampy Cree), cwd (Woods Cree)
mus	Creek	Seminole
ike	Eastern Canadian Inuktitut	ONIX local code, equivalent to ike in ISO 639-3. Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later
fro	French, Old (ca. 842-1400)	See also qgl (Gallo)
ful	Fulah	Macrolanguage
git	Gitxsan	ONIX local code, equivalent to git in ISO 639-3. Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later
moe	Innu, Montagnais	ONIX local code, equivalent to moe in ISO 639-3. Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later

iku	Inuktitut	Macrolanguage. See also ike (Eastern Canadian Inuktitut), ikt (Inuinnaqtun)
qiv	Inuvialuktun	ONIX local code, distinct dialect of Inuktitut (not distinguished from iku, ike, ikt by ISO 639-3). Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later
kur	Kurdish	Macrolanguage. See also ckb (Central Kurdish)
kwk	Kwakiutl	ONIX local code, equivalent to kwk in ISO 639-3. Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later
crg	Michif	ONIX local code, equivalent to crg in ISO 639-3. Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later
crm	Moose Cree	ONIX local code, equivalent to crm in ISO 639-3. Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later
nsk	Naskapi	ONIX local code, equivalent to nsk in ISO 639-3. Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later
crl	Northern East Cree	ONIX local code, equivalent to crl in ISO 639-3. Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later
nor	Norwegian	Macrolanguage. See also nob (Bokmål), nno (Nynorsk)
oci	Occitan (post-1500)	See also qar (Aranés)
oji	Ojibwa	Macrolanguage. See also ojs (Severn Ojibwa)
per	Persian	Macrolanguage. See also pes (Iranian Persian, Farsi), prs (Dari)
crk	Plains Cree	ONIX local code, equivalent to crk in ISO 639-3. Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later
rom	Romany, Romani	Macrolanguage
srd	Sardinian	Macrolanguage. See also sdc (Sassarese), sdn (Gallurese), sro (Campidanese)
ojs	Severn Ojibwa	ONIX local code, equivalent to ojs in ISO 639-3. Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later
shs	Shuswap	ONIX local code, equivalent to shs in ISO 639-3. Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later
crj	Southern East Cree	ONIX local code, equivalent to crj in ISO 639-3. Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later
sto	Stoney	Nakota. ONIX local code, equivalent to sto in ISO 639-3. Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later
csw	Swampy Cree	ONIX local code, equivalent to csw in ISO 639-3. Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later
thp	Thompson	Nla'kapamux. ONIX local code, equivalent to thp in ISO 639-3. Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later
cwd	Woods Cree	ONIX local code, equivalent to cwd in ISO 639-3. Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later

Most of the above additions are proposed to support description and discovery of books in indigenous languages in the North American market, and the modifications are to clarify the nature and use of the 'macrolanguages' in the list.

List 74 – your questions answered

Why is List 74 'based on' an ISO list of languages? Most codes in List 74 are taken from the ISO 639-2 language code list. But there are differences, as ONIX needs to be able to add new languages as necessary – and occasionally, these new languages are not present in ISO 639-2. New codes can be taken from other ISO language lists (*eg* ISO 639-3), or might be unique to ONIX. Finally, ONIX also needs to maintain policies on deprecation and retirement of old codes that are independent of ISO's rules.

A minor benefit of using the ISO 639-2 list as a basis for List 74 is that it provides standardized orthography for language names, though some alternative names or spellings can also be supplied in the notes for each code.

Why doesn't ONIX use the most comprehensive ISO list? Because ISO's long list – ISO 639-3 – is impractically long at nearly 8000 codes. That's twice the length of all other ONIX codelists added together. Some of those languages are extinct. Most are spoken by quite small groups (<100,000 people), and will likely never feature in the commercial book trade.

What are the criteria for additions to ONIX list 74? List 74 is not extended merely because a language 'exists' – otherwise List 74 would comprise well over 7000 codes. EDItEUR also looks for evidence of contemporary, commercially-traded books in a particular language, and a likelihood that any new code will be actively used. List 74 also includes macrolanguages and language families (collective names) so that there are codes that are reasonably appropriate for most individual languages that are not in the list.

Any why does the ISO list say that the code for German is 'deu', whereas List 74 says 'ger'? In fact, ISO 639-2 comes in two flavors – terminological and bibliographic – and some languages have two differently-flavored codes. ONIX list 74 uses the bibliographic flavor.

What is a 'macrolanguage'? In the context of the ISO language lists, it is a language entry in a less-detailed list such as ISO 639-2 (on which ONIX List 74 is based) which maps to and from multiple entries in a more detailed list ISO 639-3 (from which a few List 74 codes are drawn). It is not itself a distinct language. Akan (code aka), for example, is a macrolanguage group that is mapped from two individual languages Fanti (code fat) and Twi (code twi) spoken mostly in southern and central Ghana. For details of the mapping see https://iso639-3.sil.org/code_tables/macrolanguage_mappings/read.

The grouping of individual languages into macrolanguages is somewhat artificial – it does not necessarily imply mutual intelligibility among the individual languages grouped into a macrolanguage. It may or may not signify a close linguistic relationship through a common parent or antecedent language, or a dialect continuum between individual languages. There is little apparent consistency, although the macrolanguages are said to reflect similarities between written rather than spoken languages.

In fact, Akan, Norwegian and Persian are (currently) the only macrolanguage groups where the full lists of individual languages are also available in List 74. Arguably, this means these three macrolanguages are never required, and that they should be removed (or at least deprecated). That would make them like the Serbo-Croatian macrolanguage: all the individual languages in the group are present in List 74, but the macrolanguage never has been (it's in ISO 639-1 and 639-3 only). At the other extreme, the Arabic macrolanguage (ONIX code ara) maps to 30 closely-related entries for varieties of Arabic in ISO 639-3, none of which are available in List 74. Somewhere in between, the Chinese macrolanguage (ONIX code chi) maps to ONIX codes cmn (Mandarin) and yue (Cantonese), *and* more than a dozen other Chinese languages that are in general not mutually intelligible and are not present in ONIX list 74.

In the ONIX <Language> composite, use the most detailed appropriate code that's available, so that only books in Chinese languages *other than* Mandarin or Cantonese should use code chi.

What about IETF BCP 47? This is a standard way of combining the language, country variation and script (and potentially other parameters) into a composite code, commonly used in internet applications. For details, see https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/bcp47. ONIX keeps the various parts of a language specification in separate data fields within the <Language> composite – but if necessary, a

BCP 47 notation can be 'assembled' by combining <LanguageCode>, <CountryCode> or <RegionCode>, <ScriptCode> in the appropriate way. (For some common languages, the ONIX (3-letter) language code may need to be changed to the equivalent 2-letter code from ISO 639-1 to create the correct BCP 47 notation.)

List 79 – Product form feature type

Code	Label	Note
02	Color of page edge	Sprayed / gilded edges. For Product Form Feature values see code list 98
22	Game pieces	Number of pieces, eg for jigsaws, puzzles, kits, board games. <ProductFormFeatureValue> is an integer. Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later. For pieces like cards in a pack, see <Extent> and code 00 from List 24

List 80 – Product packaging type

Code	Label	Note
08	Shrink-wrapped (biodegradable)	Use for products or product bundles supplied for retail sale in shrink-wrapped packaging, where the shrink-wrap film is biodegradable. For non-degradable film, see code 21. Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later
21	Shrink-wrapped	Use for products or product bundles supplied for retail sale in shrink-wrapped packaging. For biodegradable shrink-wrap film, prefer code 08. For shrink-wrapped packs of multiple products for trade supply only, see code XL in List 7

List 139 – ONIX retail sales outlet ID

Code	Label	Note
DAU	Daunt Books	Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later
ELB	Publizon	Formerly Axiell Elib.se
SPO	Spotify	Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later

List 142 – Position on product

Code	Label	Note
01	Cover 4	The back cover of a book (or book jacket) – the recommended position

Note this code can be used for positioning of barcodes and prices.

List 145 – Usage type

Code	Label	Note
11	Text and data mining	Make use of the content of the product (text, images *etc*) for extraction of useful (and possibly new) information through automated computer analysis. By convention, use 01 or 03 in <EpubUsageStatus>. Note 03 should be regarded as 'prohibited to the full extent allowed by law', or otherwise expressly reserved by the rightsholder, as in some jurisdictions, TDM may be subject to copyright exception (*eg* for not-for-profit purposes), subject to optional reservation (*eg* within the EU), or allowed under 'fair use' doctrine

This addition is intended to allow publishers to reserve the text and data mining (TDM) right, where this is possible and to the full extent allowable in law. A value of 'not allowed' (code 03) may for example prohibit for-profit TDM while allowing not-for-profit TDM, in a jurisdiction such as the EU where rightsholders may 'opt out' from the former but not from the latter.

List 158 – Resource content type

Code	Label	Note
50	Supplementary learning resources	*Eg* downloadable worksheets, home learning materials

List 150 – Product form

Code	Label	Note
AA	Audio	Audio recording – detail unspecified. Use only when the form is unknown or no other A* code applies

Similar clarifications are applied to other *A codes (BA, CA and so on).

List 164 – Work relation

Code	Label	Note
98	Manifestation of LRM work	Product A is or includes a manifestation of an expression of LRM work X. Do not use, except as a workaround for differences between LRM works and expressions, and ONIX works in LRM library practice, and always also include a relationship to an ONIX work using code 01
99	Manifestation of LRM expression	Product A is or includes a manifestation of an LRM expression with the same content, same agents and in the same modality (text, audio, video *etc*) as work X. Do not use, except as a workaround for differences between LRM expressions and ONIX works in LRM library practice, and always also include a relationship to an ONIX work using code 01

These new codes above are intended only to support use of ONIX in LRM-based library practice. LRM 'works' are quite different from 'works' as defined in ONIX (and the underlying <indecs> model on which it is partially based). ONIX 'works' are in fact closer in meaning to LRM 'expressions'.

List 175 – Product form detail

Code	Label	Note
B139	Comic book size (US)	Standard 10.25 x 6.625in size approx (260 x 170mm)
B140	Comic album size (Euro)	Standard 240 x 320mm size approx
B407	Head and tail bands	Decorative or functional
B408	Decorated endpapers	Illustrated or abstract printed endpapers, but not those solely of colored paper
P106	Wall calendar	Large calendar usually intended for hanging from the spine, typically one page per view and one month per view, with illustrations. See also P134. Use with Product Form code PC
P134	Square calendar	(de: Broschurkalender) Wall calendar, usually intended for hanging from a page edge, typically two pages per view and one month per view, with illustrations. See also P106. Use with Product Form code PC

List 204 – ONIX returns conditions

Code	Label	Note
06	Sale or return of stripped covers	Contact supplier for applicable cover returns authorization process. As for code 03, but only returns of stripped covers will be accepted. An additional barcode will likely be required on cover 2 (inside front cover) to facilitate scanning of returned covers. Only for use in ONIX 3.0 or later

List 219 – Rights type

A range of proposed codes for this list – covering granular aspects of copyright that are additional to the 'right to reproduce' and 'right to distribute' that the publisher necessarily holds – are postponed in order to allow further time for discussion of the associated notes with rights specialists.

List 262 – Carbon/GHG emissions certification scheme

Code	Label	Note
104	ClimatePartner	See https://www.climatepartner.com/en/take-action/measure-carbon-footprints/product-carbon-footprint-pcf

The name of this Product Carbon Footprint scheme has been changed (to de-emphasise the terms 'climate neutral' and 'carbon neutral'.

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