016 INTERNATIONAL STANDARD RECORDING CODE (ISRC)

Field Definition and Scope

This field contains an International Standard Recording Code and a qualification which distinguishes between ISRCs when more than one is contained in a record.

The ISRC identifies sound recordings and music video recordings and not physical products. There is no conflict with existing product catalogue numbering systems (EAN, publisher's number) with which it coexists.

Repeatable when more than one valid ISRC is to be recorded.

Subfields & Occurrence

Field/Subfield	Field/Subfield Name	Repeatability	Occurrence
016	INTERNATIONAL STANDARD RECORDING CODE (ISRC)	R	O
a	Number (ISRC)	NR	MA
b	Qualification	NR	O
d	$d Terms of Availability and/or Price [Obsolete]	-	-
z	Erroneous ISRC	R	O

Indicators

Indicator	Value	Description
1	#	blank (not defined)
2	#	blank (not defined)

Subfields Description

$a Number (ISRC)

A correctly applied ISRC including hyphens. The ISRCs are assigned by the designated agency in each country. Mandatory unless $z is present. Not repeatable.

$b Qualification

An indication of the scope of the ISRC in subfield $a (if present), usually an indication of the relationship of an ISRC to a particular expression. Not repeatable.

$d Terms of Availability and/or Price [Obsolete]

The ISRC does not identify a manifestation.

$z Erroneous ISRC

An ISRC that has been identified as being erroneously applied to a recording or is otherwise invalid. It may have been allocated to two different recordings and in this instance cancelled, or it may have been incorrectly printed. Repeatable.

Notes on Field Contents

ISRC Structure

The ISRC is used to identify an audio, video or audio-visual recording, according to the provisions of ISO 3901.

Each separately available constituent part of a publication must receive its own ISRC.

An ISRC consists of twelve digits. Whenever it is printed or written, the number is preceded by the letters ISRC. In countries where the Latin alphabet is not used, an abbreviation in the local script may be used in addition to the Latin letters ISRC.

The ISRC is now divided into four elements, each of which is separated by a hyphen. The former fourth and fifth elements are now one element without hyphen.

Country code: A two-letter country code assigned from ISO 3166-1.

Registrant code: An alphanumeric 3 character code assigned by nominated agencies.

Year of reference: The last two digits of the year in which the ISRC was allocated to the recording.

Designation code: This consists of five digits, assigned by the registrant.

Data Format

The letters "ISRC", which are usually found printed with an ISRC on the resource, should not be entered in field 016.

Any ISRC which is found to be wrongly printed on the resource can be entered in subfield $z, which is provided to give access to records that may have been requested by an erroneous number appearing on the resource.

Hyphens are inserted to separate the four parts of the number in the $a or $z subfield. No other punctuation is permitted. The purpose of the hyphens in the ISRC is to separate the distinct parts. When an ISRC is displayed in a catalogue entry the inclusion of the hyphens is mandatory. Many national agencies do not store the hyphens in the machine-readable record since they can be generated by algorithm.

In order to distinguish between ISRCs when there is more than one in a record, qualifications may be added to one or more of them, according to the practice of the agency preparing the record.

Terms of availability and price are not related to ISRC. This information is recorded in another field of the identification block (010, 071, etc.).

The field should be repeated for each valid ISRC. It should be repeated for an invalid ISRC unless that invalid ISRC clearly relates to a known valid equivalent entered in the record, in which case the invalid ISRC will be entered in the same field as its corresponding valid ISRC.

Unlike the ISBN the ISRC cannot be used as record identifier and entered in field 001.

Related Fields

010 INTERNATIONAL STANDARD BOOK NUMBER (ISBN)
011 ISSN
071 PUBLISHER'S NUMBER
073 INTERNATIONAL ARTICLE NUMBER (EAN)

Examples

EX 1
016 ##$aFR-Z03-91-01231
An ISRC for Phonogram France allocated in 1991, now written in four elements.

History

2000	New field.
2008	Subfield $d made obsolete.