

## RFID for Libraries

### Standards Australia Working Group IT-019-01-02

Thursday May 25th 2006, 1000 - 1300

RMIT - City Campus - 360 Swanston Street, Building 8, Level 5

Library Seminar Room 1

#### **Attendees:**

*Alan Butters, Sybis (Chair)*

*Craig Anderson, RMIT*

*Leona Jennings, GCCC*

*Peter Dart, Pearson Australia Group*

*Christine Mackenzie YPRL*

#### **Apologies:**

*Jan Wild, DA Library Technologies*

*Lynn Regan, BHSC*

*Brian Dunne, 3M Australia*

*Janifer Gatenby, OCLC PICA*

#### **1. Welcome and meeting objectives**

AB welcomed the members to the sixth meeting of the IT-019-01-02 working group and outlined the objectives of the meeting which were:

- Generally consider the first draft of the formal proposal document and suggest improvements or changes for accuracy and readability.
- Specifically consider the proposed list of data elements for accuracy, appropriateness and completeness.

#### **2. Working Group - formal proposal**

AB stepped the working group through the first draft of the formal proposal, noting that it was incomplete and particular areas lacked significant information. One of the goals of the document is to articulate the technical recommendations in a way that may be readily understood by non-specialists in RFID. To engender broad support, professional library staff should be able to understand the general thrust of the recommendations and thus be in a position to endorse or otherwise comment on the principles underpinning the proposal. *The aim of the group is to have a draft suitable*

*for release following the next meeting tentatively scheduled for the first half of July.*

The working group began consideration of the data elements proposed in the draft and made the following recommended changes which AB will incorporate into the document:

- For the Primary Item ID data element, the group recommended that the Lock parameter be changed from mandatory to optional with a note suggesting the appropriateness of locking this element to guard against various forms of digital vandalism.
- Similarly, for the Owner Institution data element, the group recommended that the Lock parameter be changed from mandatory to optional. A note in the proposal would indicate that leaving the element unlocked allowed for library mergers etc requiring a change in ownership data to be accommodated without re-tagging the affected items. Alternatively, libraries may choose to lock this data for added security during the inter-library loans process.
- Significant discussion took place on the topic of the Type of Usage data element. Several options were canvassed regarding the use and flexibility of this element. A new structure was determined for the element which served to make the individual values less specific and left more room for individual assignment. Also, an entirely new and complimentary data element (Usage Qualifier) was proposed. The Usage Qualifier element has the potential to permit extended functionality when combined with the Type of Usage element. The specific detail of this functionality extension and how it might be coded required careful thought and was not decided at the meeting.
- The most appropriate source of data for the Media Format data element was discussed. Several alternatives were considered including MARC-based data etc. PD recommended that the group consider the ONIX media codes for suitability and agreed to forward the required information. AB to incorporate into the proposal document.

Another area of the document that requires work is the section on implementation guidelines for RFID vendors. There must be no ambiguity here regarding the detail of the two step process suggested by the working group. BD to supply technical input to this section. Data elements not mentioned were considered to be adequate as presented.

### **3. Other business**

A question regarding the progress of the new NISO group was raised. **BD** to follow up with his contacts and report back to the group.

### **4. Next meeting**

The group will attempt to meet again during the first half of July. AB to canvas possible options.

**5. Meeting closed**

The meeting concluded at 1300