

CrossRef Member Update

Ed Pentz, Executive Director
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Members, Affiliates and Agents

Members: 198 (<http://www.crossref.org/01company/06publishers.html>)

Affiliates: 23 (<http://www.crossref.org/01company/08intermediaries.html>)

Agents: 9 (<http://www.crossref.org/01company/08intermediaries.html>)

Library Affiliates: 76 (<http://www.crossref.org/01company/07libraries.html>)

Statistics

Journals: 7600 (7041 in January)

Total Records in System: 7,458,490 (6,644,724 in January)

DOI resolutions: 2,596,759 - February 2003

New! The Depositor Report (<http://www.crossref.org/06members/51depositor.html>) provides the total number of DOIs and journals for each member and a breakdown of DOIs by journal title. The Go Live Report (<http://www.crossref.org/06members/50go-live.html>) provides the date of the last deposit and last query for each member and a list of those publishers who have started reference linking – please check the list and let us know if you are linking and not listed. Also, check the list and make sure your deposits are up-to-date. The Status Page (<http://www.crossref.org/06members/53status.html>) provides a summary of all deposit and query stats by month.

There was a healthy level of depositing and a high rate of querying in the first quarter. There were over 33 million queries and CrossRef provided over 8 million DOIs in return. Importantly, there were over 2.5 million DOI resolutions in February, a 3-fold increase from the previous year.

Examples of DOIs in Use

The DOI Guidelines (http://www.crossref.org/02publishers/15doi_guidelines.html) provide important information on how DOIs should be used in journals. Good examples are provided by a number of publishers. Elsevier displays DOIs well and has a button where users can get more information - [doi:10.1006/anbe.2003.2066](http://dx.doi.org/10.1006/anbe.2003.2066) (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1006/anbe.2003.2066>). Nature uses DOIs effectively for its Advanced Online Publication (AOP) articles - [doi:10.1038/nature01534](http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/nature01534) (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/nature01534>). Publishers should encourage all incoming full text links from third parties to use DOIs.

General Items

OpenURL - CrossRef has published an information page on OpenURL and CrossRef (<http://www.crossref.org/02publishers/16openurl.html>). We have noticed a misperception among libraries that OpenURL and CrossRef/DOIs are competing standards – they are not. The information page describes how CrossRef, DOI and OpenURL work together to enhance the end user experience at institutions with local link resolvers.

ISI and DOIs – some publishers have expressed concern that ISI does not pick up DOIs for citation counts of journals. This is particularly important when DOIs are used to identify articles published online ahead-of-print without volume, issue or page numbers. CrossRef is going to approach ISI about having a meeting with a small group of publishers to review best practices and see how ISI can use DOIs effectively. Please let Ed Pentz (epentz@crossref.org) if you are interested in this meeting.

Invoices – invoices for activity in the first quarter will be sent out this week. As always, prompt payment is welcomed. CrossRef is experimenting with accepting payment by credit card for overseas members for amounts under \$1,000. Information will be sent with invoices that are eligible for credit card payment - or please contact Lisa Hart (lhart@crossref.org).

Non-linking Fee – those publishers affected by the non-linking fee have been contacted. This fee applies to those members not linking a majority of current journal content after 18 months of membership. An annual charge of 22 cents per article deposited in the system will be made. If a member is not yet depositing, the charge will be based on the number of articles published the previous year. The fee will be payable in quarterly installments and is non-refundable. If a member begins to link after the non-linking fee has been charged, no further payments will be due (for example: a publisher is charged the non-linking fee in April 2003 and pays the first quarterly installment. If the publisher then goes live with reference linking in June 2003, no further payments of the non-linking fee would be necessary).

CrossRef's goal is to have all members implement reference links and it would be preferable not to have to charge a non-linking fee. However, it isn't fair that some publishers link their references to other publishers (sending users to other publishers' sites) but those publishers being linked to do not in turn link back. CrossRef staff would be happy to discuss any linking issues with publishers and provide help or direct members to resources for implementing linking.

Journal DOIs – the first draft of policies for assigning DOIs to journals at the title level was distributed to the TWG. A substantially revised version of the document will be released this week. ISSN identify manifestations of journals (e.g. electronic and print versions of a journal have separate ISSN) whereas DOIs for journals will identify a serial work (e.g. one DOI will cover the electronic and print version of a journal). One practical benefit of journal DOIs is that libraries will be able to link to journal homepages without worrying about URLs breaking.

Free Single DOI Lookup – A public form is now available to lookup individual DOIs - http://www.crossref.org/02publishers/37guest_query.html.

CrossRef Search Survey Results

Thanks to all members who contributed survey responses, and who helped in gathering end-user surveys. We are now analyzing data from about 130 surveys and will circulate a report next month.

Business Development Update

Growth in publisher, library, and vendor adoption of CrossRef's collaborative DOI technologies continues apace, on an international and multi-disciplinary scale. During the months of February and March, over 35 organizations joined. New publishers include: the American Medical Association, Dartmouth College, Prous Science, the British Psychological Society, the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, ASM International, Science in China Press, the Optical Society of America, the Association for Mental Retardation, and Johns Hopkins University Press. Among the newest libraries are: Harvard University Library, American University Beirut, Novartis Pharma, Sandia National Laboratories, the University of Granada, Genentech, and NgeeAnn Polytechnic.

CrossRef recently announced a Vendor Alliance program for e-publishing service firms and consultants who wish to promote CrossRef-related services to their clients. Among the first to sign are Apex ePublishing, Inera Inc., and Parity Computing. Look for more information on the CrossRef website soon.

The deposit of books is now underway. If your company publishes books, please pass the attached information on DOIs for books onto the appropriate division head.

CrossRef Presentations, Ads, Articles

Look for presentations on CrossRef this spring at STM, SSP, CSE, ALA, and LIBER; ads in Serials (UKSG), Library Journal, Academic Newswire, Information Today, Against the Grain, and Information Outlook (SLA); and articles in the AAUP Exchange and Research Information.

If you have available advertising space in your journals or on your websites, please be sure to use our house ads and banners, available for download in the members-only area of www.crossref.org.

CrossRef System

How to Get Started/How to Deposit/How to Query – documentation on the CrossRef website has been updated. A new “How to Get Started” page that gives an overview of the CrossRef process has been created. In the “Info for Publishers” section, the old “Upload Specification” and “Query Specification” have been substantially updated and are now “How to Deposit” and “How to Query”.

XML Schema- members should be switching over to the new XML schema during April. If you are having difficulties or need help to get started please contact CrossRef. Information on the schema is available - <http://mddb2.crossref.org/doc/userdoc.html>. CrossRef will be setting a date shortly, after which the existing DTD will not be accepted for deposits.

DOI Metadata Check – During a deposit the system now performs a comparison of the metadata being deposited with all the other metadata records in the system. This is done to help maintain unique records for each DOI, which dramatically improves the hit rate on queries. The fields checked are: journal identifier, author, volume, issue, page and article title. Deposits that do not have unique metadata will be accepted by the CrossRef system but will be flagged as being in conflict. A CrossRef system administrator may resolve conflicts by assigning one of the DOIs to be the primary or 'real' DOI while the other becomes an alias (effectively replaced by the primary).

Forward Linking – this project is moving forward and a high-level requirements document has been completed. The Forward Linking group will be meeting April 8th in New York with Atypon to review the details of the specification.

NISO

CrossRef has joined NISO (<http://www.niso.org/>) and is a voting member. A number of important standards are in development or under review. The ISSN, ISO 3297 (1998), is now up for its 5-year review. The deadline for comments is April 25, 2003. CrossRef members are welcome to send comments on ISSN to Ed Pentz (epentz@crossref.org) to be included in the CrossRef response. Some of the questions being asked for the review are:

- Should the ISSN remain an eight-digit string, consisting of the numbers 0 to 9 or (as the check digit only) X?
- Would it be useful to include the media format associated with the ISSN in display?
- ELECTRONIC VERSIONS - The current standard says that serials "published in different media ...shall [have ISSNs] assigned to the different editions"
- What would be a better term than "editions" - versions? formats? Manifestations?
- Should the current practice of assigning different ISSNs to online, CD-ROM and print versions only be continued?
- Should it remain the right of any interested party to apply for an ISSN, or should this be limited to the publisher only?

DOI Resolution History

DOI Resolutions are DOI clicks – when a user clicks a DOI link the central DOI proxy server (<http://dx.doi.org/>) records it (but no other information). This gives a good indication of the actual use of DOIs.

February 2002 –	953,280
March 2002 -	1,007,923
April 2002 -	1,262,454
May 2002 -	1,448,041
June 2002 -	2,260,487
July 2002-	1,737,167
August 2002 –	1,467,414

September 2002 -	1,881,459
October 2002 -	2,561,699
November 2002 -	2,479,369
December 2002 -	2,064,029
January 2003 -	2,867,798
February 2003 -	2,596,759