CrossRef Guidelines: DOIs in Citation Export Services Version 1.0

CrossRef strongly recommends that publishers should include DOIs in their “Download Citation”/“Export References” services. DOIs should be included as an identifier and as the URL link using the “http://dx.doi.org” resolver address. This will ensure that end users have a persistent link to the authoritative copy of the cited content in the bibliographies in their reference manager software. Journals may change owners and URLs are likely to break but a DOI is a persistent link. Consistent use of DOIs by CrossRef members will enhance the end user experience and improve the scholarly communications process.

In addition, the DOI should also be included as a key article identifier when such a field exists. If publishers add DOIs to their exports, then this will encourage more use of the DOI by reference manager software. CrossRef has been in touch with ResearchSoft concerning EndNote and RIS, with RefWorks and also with the BibTeX community but input from publishers is also very important.

Below are specific guidelines for Endnote, RIS, RefWorks and LaTeX/BibTeX. Other formats will be added based on feedback from CrossRef member publishers.

**EndNote**

CrossRef recommends that the DOI be included as a link in the URL field (%U) in the form “http://dx.doi.org/10.nn/nnn” and as an identifier in the Electronic Resource Number (%R) field in the form “doi:10.nn/nn”. The Electronic Resource Number field was developed by EndNote to be used for the DOI.

Instructions on using the Direct Export function to EndNote are available from the EndNote website – http://www.endnote.com/support/endownloadinstruct.asp.

**Example**

%A Metsola, Katja
%A Kataja, Vesa
%D 2005
%J Breast Cancer Research
%N 6
%P R987 - R997
%T XRCC1 and XPD genetic polymorphisms, smoking and breast cancer risk in a Finnish case-control study
%R doi:10.1186/bcr1333
%U http://dx.doi.org/10.1186/bcr1333
%V 7
%O Journal Article
%@ 1465-5411

**RIS Format**

RIS is a generic format used by many reference management software programs for importing data. DOI as URL should be mapped to the “UR” field for the URL. The DOI as identifier should be mapped to M3
which is Miscellaneous 3. This field can contain alphanumeric characters. There is no practical length limit to this field.

Example

TY - JOUR
AU - Dönmez-, H.
AU - Akalin, H.
AU - Karaman, Y.
AU - Demirtas, H.
AU - Imamoglu, N.
AU - Özkul, Y.
TI - Evaluation of the Nucleolar Organizer Regions in Alzheimer's Disease
PY - 2005
VL - 51
IS - 5
SP - 297
EP - 301
AB -
UR - http://dx.doi.org/10.1159/000086365
JO - Gerontology
JA - Gerontology
SN - 0304-324X
M3 - doi:10.1159/000086365

* The "M3" field is defined as "Miscellaneous 3. This is an alphanumeric field and there is no practical limit to the length of this field." The use of this field for the DOI is not ideal as its possible users have custom information in this field. Regular use of this field for DOIs by CrossRef publishers will help establish this as a de facto field for the DOI.

RefWorks Format

The RefWorks format is outlined at http://www.refworks.com/refworks/help/RefWorks_Tagged_Format.htm. RefWorks has a dedicated DOI field ("DO") that should be used. Since there is a dedicated DOI field it is not necessary to list the DOI as "doi:10.nn/nn" but it can be included as "10.nn/nn".

Example

RT Journal
ID 271
A1 Allan, Steven
A1 Gilbert, Paul
T1 Anger and anger expression in relation to perceptions of social rank, entrapment and depressive symptoms
JF Personality & Individual Differences
YR 2002
FD Feb
VO 32
IS 3
SP 551
OP 565
FE: References; Peer Reviewed;
UD: 20020227;
F1: 0191-8869,32,3,551-565,2002;
Natbib (http://www.mps.mpg.de/software/latex/localtex/localitx.html#natbib), a commonly used reimplementation of the LaTeX cite command includes support for DOIs and includes a number of BibTeX style files (plainnat, abbrvnat, unsrtnat) that contain support for DOIs.

The guidelines for BibTeX styles generated with custom-bib are: use the fields doi, eid, url for the DOI, sequence number (electronic ID), and URL as

Example

> doi = {10.1063/1.1830015},
> url = {http://dx.doi.org/10.1063/1.1830015},

The “doi” entry does not include the doi: prefix which is added by the BibTeX styles.

CrossRef has contacted Oren Patashnik, the author of BibTeX, about including DOI support in the next version of BibTeX.