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Back Talk-Kafka Meets Tasini

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and EDIfEUR took the same approach originally for ONIX. However, there is concern in the U.S. ONIX International Policy Committee that this is the wrong approach; that an e-book is simply another version of the text, comparable to the paperback version of a hardback. That concern was supported at the ONIX International Steering Committee and the analytic paper authorized.

It is our hope that the analysis will be carefully reviewed by all of the countries implementing ONIX that the e-publication additions to ONIX can be published by the end of May 2001, and that Release (1.3) will contain all of the fields necessary to describe an e-publication, including its format, length, and the digital rights management software it contains. Controversy still exists within the publishing supply chain about the need to identify each different version of an e-publication with a unique ISBN to enable current systems to handle the item or whether the approach some publishers have taken to go directly to one Digital Object Identifier for ALL formats is currently viable. Release 1.3 will accommodate both approaches.

Other areas undergoing analysis at the moment include ONIX for video products and for serial issue information, including tables of contents and article descriptions. At the urging of the organizers of the Frankfurt Book Fair, the development of an ONIX version for expressing subsidiary rights information should be developed soon. There has also been interest in ONIX from the music industry. ONIX International forms the basis for the metadata associated with the emerging International Standard Textual Work Code and will be recommended for the metadata to accompany an ISBN when that standard is revised to include the conversion from 10 to 13-digits.

For more information about ONIX International, check out BASIC at www.bisg.org or EDIfEUR at www.EDIfEUR.org.