



*representing the
recording industry
worldwide*

ISRC Report to ISO - 2006

January 2006

Since the last Plenary of ISO TC46, the International ISRC Agency (IFPI Secretariat) has continued to meet its obligations under ISO 3901:2001.

AGENCIES

The International Agency has not appointed new National Agencies since the last report made in October 2004. A couple of applications by private sector entities have been received but these have not been judged appropriate and the International Agency continues to allocate Registrant Codes in these territories and in others where no National Agency has been appointed.

MI3P AND ISRC

The focus of the recording industry has continued to be on the application of ISRC in new systems under the umbrella of the Music Industry Integrated Identifiers Project (MI3P). This focus has brought a new exposure to ISRC in major label users and elsewhere, which has highlighted some issues on both conformance of current practice to the standard and guidance, and on the relevance of some parts of the standard, especially the rules for when a new ISRC needs to be allocated to a changed recording. These may ultimately justify changes to the standard, perhaps at its next review.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

- Checksum – the proposal to develop a version of ISRC with a checksum has not found favour from ISRC's user community and it is "on hold".
- Allocation of ISRCs by third party agents – The process previously reported as being successfully trialled in the US has not been required in other territories yet but will soon be rolled out.
- Spoken Word Recordings – No work on creating rules for allocation of ISRC to spoken word recordings has been done but it is hoped that the current focus on metadata interoperability between TC46 identifiers will enable this.

IFPI Secretariat is the ISO appointed International Registration Authority for the ISO International Standard ISO 3901: International Standard Recording Code

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