



Library of Congress

CDS Announcement

Changes to Copyright Records

The Copyright Office will change its cataloging system in early 2007. Implementation of the new system will result in format changes to the copyright cataloging records distributed by the Cataloging Distribution Service.

Copyright cataloging records are currently distributed in a quasi-MARC format. The new system will provide records in the MARC 21 standard format. Current copyright records contain mnemonic variable field tags, no indicators or subfield codes. Copyright records created under the new system will be distributed with standard MARC 21 numeric tags as well as indicators and subfield codes. Records from the new system will be encoded using the MARC UTF8 character set repertoire instead of the ASCII characters (ANSI X3.4) currently used.

Under the new system there will no longer be a separate service for copyright serial records. All newly created and updated serial records will be included in the weekly monograph and document record distribution files.

CDS realizes this record format change will impact subscriber's existing processing of copyright cataloging records. We hope to have sample records, test files, and documentation on the new format soon and will alert you when they are available.

Questions re the Copyright distribution service can be directed to:

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For more information about LC's MARC Distribution Services, contact:
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