ISTC and the British Library

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2nd July 2010
The British Library is the main Legal Deposit Library in the UK.

Under the terms of the Legal Deposit Libraries Act 2003 we are entitled to receive 1 copy of every item published and/or distributed in the UK.

We are responsible for building and maintaining the national published archive of the British Isles.

In 2007/08 the Legal Deposit intake was 111,567.

In 2008/09 that had risen to 141,755.
The Current Story

- We produced just under 68,000 new claims last year

- Claims are currently ISBN-based

- Reliance upon ISBN prefix matching

- Automated process with manual intervention

- 60% claims produced electronically
ISTC – International Standard Textual Code

- The ISTC is a global identification for textual works
- Intended to bring together manifestations of a title

- Primarily intended for use by
  - Publishers
  - Bibliographic Services
  - Retailers
  - Libraries
  - Rights Management Agencies
What would ISTC Claiming Look Like at the BL?

- ISTC embedded in metadata
- Coverage
- Back catalogue of works
- Consistent approach to application
- To what extent can it be relied on?
Next Steps…

- Proof of concept
- Potential project?
- Three-way partnership
The benefits

- Resource discovery
- Accurate claiming processes
- Reduction of manual intervention
- Link to all alternative editions and manifestations
- Easy to eliminate same-title works from others
- Comply with territorial rights
- Sales analysis at work level
The End…

Thank you for your time!