

## **ISBD and DCRM into RDA: An Opportunity for Convergence?**

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The paper examines how a common international standard for rare materials cataloging might take form. It begins with a brief survey of the development of rules for descriptive cataloging of rare materials, with a focus on parallel developments in the IFLA community, with ISBD(A) and related standards, and the Anglo-American community, with DCRM and related standards. It documents the constant interplay between ISBD and DCRM development. The second half of the paper examines what a common international standard for rare materials cataloging might look like going forward. It focuses on the possibility that such a standard could be developed as an extension of RDA for special collections. An evaluation of this approach is provided while articulating, in the abstract, the requirements of a standard for rare materials. The requirements include: a relationship with a standard for general cataloging; a foundation in the prevailing bibliographic models; open and reusable accessibility; an appropriate treatment of transcription; compatibility with the prevailing data landscape; and responsiveness to the needs of rare materials users.