

EIDR PUBLICATION STATUS

This document details proposed changes to the EIDR Publication Status validation rules and de-duplication.

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1 Introduction

The current (as of 2.0.5) behavior of the In Development Publication Status is such that it will often (and, as EIDR is adopted more widely, will usually) result in duplicate record registrations since In Development records are not subject to the same scrutiny as Valid records. At the same time, there are legitimate use cases for confidential registrations, which In Development attempts to satisfy. Following are proposed changes to address the current limitations of In Development while still meeting the members' needs.

2 Publication Status Controlled Vocabulary

A record's Publication Status can take on one of three defined values:

- valid
- in development
- alias

2.1 Valid

A Registry record that has passed all validation and de-duplication checks and may be viewed by any Registry user, including the general public. This is the typical value for released works and the most common Publication Status in the Registry.

NOTE: While anyone can read a “valid” record, users must still be on the record’s ACL (Access Control List) to modify, alias, or delete the record.

2.2 In Development

A temporarily confidential Registry record that is visible only to the record’s registrant and authorized Parties on the record’s ACL. Such records should be promoted to “valid” as soon as possible. This Status must not be used to identify an item that has been made public. This is the least common Publication Status in the Registry.

NOTE: The “in development” status may give the false impression that it should be applied to all works that are not yet ready for release. This is not true. Records should be published at the earliest point that complete and reliable metadata are available. With the provisional data practices outlined in *EIDR: Interim Best Practice – Provisional Data*, this boundary can be pushed even earlier by using the best data available at the time, which is then updated as more accurate or more complete data become available. All of this will increase the likelihood that a record’s registrant will be the work’s creator, and therefore the entity with the most interest in seeing the record correctly registered.

2.3 Alias

A once valid record that has since been identified as a duplicate entry and now points to its successor EIDR ID. Both the aliased ID and its successor ID exist in the EIDR registry and ultimately resolve to the same metadata record.

NOTE: Deleted records are aliased to the EIDR Tombstone (10.5240/ 0000-0000-0000-0000-0000-X).

3 Special De-Duplication Processing

At present, “in development” records are excluded from de-duplication review. The EIDR best practices and de-duplication process would be changed so that:

1. We encourage people to register records early (using the provisional data options, if necessary), then update the records if the descriptive data change. If the existence of an item is not strictly confidential, the record is registered as “valid.”
2. For truly confidential projects (where a studio does not even want to admit that they are working on a project until they have made a public announcement), we replace the current “in development” behavior as follows:
 - a. Search (Query and Resolve):
 - i. Such records do not appear in un-authenticated search results (the public can never see them).
 - ii. We do not include them in the flat file dumps we post on the Members Web site.
 - iii. They only appear if an authenticated user is on the record’s modify, view, or promote ACL; is the superparty, or is a de-dupe console operator.

- iv. There is a search option that authenticated users may access to include/exclude “in development” works – the default is for “all.”
- b. Create/Modify:
 - i. All “in development” records must have a Metadata Authority.
 - ii. They all follow the normal de-duplication process with “provisional” record rules and weights.
 - iii. For Match operations (where the candidate lists are returned to the submitting party), “in development” candidates are only returned if the submitting party is on the modify, view, or promote ACL. Otherwise, the submitting party is unaware that a similar “in development” record exists.
 - iv. For Register operations:
 - 1. An asynchronous request with a de-dupe candidate list that contains an “in development” record is automatically referred for manual review and a standard Token is returned to the submitting party.
 - 2. A synchronous request with a de-dupe candidate list that contains an “in development” record is treated like a Match operation (the “in development” record is excluded from the results reported to the submitting Registrant). If this results in an empty candidate list, then the registration is rejected and Operations is notified so they can coordinate with the submitting Registrant and the original Metadata Authority.
 - v. If manual review determines that there is a match to an “in development” record, the Metadata Authority of the “in development” record is notified and the submission is placed on hold for one business day to formulate a response.¹ The Metadata Authority can request that:
 - 1. The new registration be processed as a simple match. (A match result with the existing ERID ID is returned, but the “in development” status of the record remains. EIDR Operations may update the “in development” record with new or corrected data as necessary.)
 - 2. The “in development” record be promoted to “valid” (published) status. (The new registrant would receive a match result with no indication that the record was previously in “in development” status.)

¹ This allows us to keep to our one business day SLA for record reviews. If the “in development” registrants would like more time to respond – say up to 3 business days – then there will need to be a general acknowledgement of this exception to our committed SLA.

4 Inheritance

Publication Status cannot be inherited. It is always self-defined for every record.

Further, a “valid” (published) record can have “in development” children, but a “valid” record can never have an “in development” ancestor.

5 Data Migration

None of the proposed changes affect the Registry data store, so data migration is not necessary.

6 Backward Compatibility

There are no backward compatibility issues to address.

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