



Tab Delimited Format for Contribution of Data of Persons in Bulk for ISNI Assignment

This simple data format is made available for submission of data in bulk for ISNI assignment. It is designed to facilitate the easy extraction of data from databases.

The data must be in text format with Unicode UTF-8 encoding. All elements are technically optional, but those that are particularly important and should be included if available, are **shaded** in the list below.

It is recommended to submit as many titles of associated works as are known for a name (person) to maximise the effectiveness of the matching.

Examples can be found on page 5-7.

Conformant to ISNI-IA policy, there is no guarantee that an ISNI will be assigned for every name that is submitted in bulk. On the contrary, ISNIs will only be definitely assigned where there is a high level of confidence in the data itself, in the completeness of the metadata and contingent on matching with existing database data. The ISNI Data Policy can be found [here](#) on the ISNI website.

Field 00: Local name Identifier

The identifier used in the contributing database to identify the name. The file should be sorted by this element such that multiple lines for the same name are grouped together.

Contact OCLC if you can not supply a unique identifier from a contributing database. Example E is for a supplier without local name identifier.

Field 01: Other name ID

Other identifier of the same name. If you have an identifier such as an IPI or an ORCID or an identifier from a library authority file in your country, then it can be helpful for matching your data with data from other sources already in ISNI. The identifier itself goes in this field and the type in the following field.

Example C is for a supplier with ORCID.

Field 02: Other name ID type, e.g. IPI, ORCID.

Field 03: Name Prefix

- e.g. Sir

Field 04: Forename

- This contains the forename or initials of the name, and may include multiple forenames. Personal names without forenames can lead to matching errors.

Field 05: Middle name

- This contains second and subsequent forenames.

Field 06: Surname

- If the name has two or more parts, include them here in the form commonly used, e.g. Van Meegeren. If you wish to include more name forms, use Alternative name.

Field 07: Name Suffix

- e.g. Esq.

Field 08: Alternative name

- Include in the format Surname, Forename, e.g. Smith, John; Lyght, Muriel Vanderbilt. Include other names of the person such as maiden names, where all names are associated with the creative output of the person. Do not include names of separate creating identities of the same person such as pseudonyms. Names of separate

identities should be included in field 22 with the type of relationship in field 23. Include up to 3 alternative names, separate by a semi colon.

See examples A, C, D and E.

Field 09: Date of Birth,

Use ISO 8601, YYYYMMDD preferred (see data element values)

Field 10: Date of Death (as above)

Field 11: Title identifier

Field 12: Title identifier type, e.g. ISBN, ISRC, ISMN.

Field 13: Title

- If you wish to convey multiple titles, then multiple **complete** lines should be included for a name. It is preferable to supply 3 or even more titles to maximize matching. Do not include series or serial titles as they have the potential to cause false matching. Please include initial articles at the front of titles, e.g. “The wind in the willows” “Les misérables”

Field 14: Subtitle

- If your database separates sub title and title, then include subtitle in this field, otherwise, it is also acceptable to include the subtitle with the title and to ignore this field

Field 15: Contributed to

- Include here titles of journals and collected works to which the person has contributed

Field 16: Year of Publication

Field 17: Creation Class, e.g. text (books, novels, textbooks, published articles), music, audio-visual (films, videos, plays), maps, art works, database or computer system,

- The list of values is not yet completed. It is intended to indicate the field of creation in which the identity creates and is used in combination with role.

Field 18: Creation role, (see table in the document Data element Values on [ISNI website](#) for valid values)

Field 19: Publisher

Field 20: Dewey classification number

Field 21: Affiliated institution

- Include the name of bands, universities, clubs, etc. here.

Field 22: Related persons

- Include the names of co-authors, co-performers here in the format **Surname, Forename** , e.g. Smith, John; Meegeren, van, Han.
- Include pseudonyms without forenames with a comma in the format **Name**, e.g. Mister Ron, The Knitting Genius,
- Include up to 3 related names, separate by a semi colon
- Or include the local identifier of the related person

Field 23: Relationship type,

- Refer to data element values, e.g. “pseud” or “real name”, see table in the document Data element Values on the [ISNI website](#) for valid values)

Field 24-26 leave blank (Used for organisations, not for persons)

Field 27 URL

Field 28 Instrument, see table in the document Data element Values on the [ISNI website](#) for valid values.

Do not omit a field. Each line must have 28 TABs. Make sure you have the right number of tabs before each data field.

Example A: two persons, the contributor created the file with the data **Local ID, Name, Title, Creation class, Creation Role and Related Name.**

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
CA12334			John	Peterson									How to throw pots				text	aut				Potter, Elizabeth	co-author; co-au					
CC13321			Irene	Flower									How to grow tulips				text	aut				Jones, Margarita	co-author					

The first name –John Peterson- has two related names. In field 22 are both related names separated by semi colons (Potter, Elizabeth; John Smith). The relationship type is in field 23, the types are also separated by semi colons (co-author; co-author). Creation Role and Relationship type are validated : see table in the document Data element Values on the [ISNI website](#) for valid values.

Example B: two persons, the contributor created a file with the data : **Local ID, Name, Date of Birth, Title(s)** and **Year(s)** of publication, and **URL**.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
BA-1001			Pete	Anderson					12-17-1966				A year in my life			2009	text	aut										www.mywebsiteforever.org
BA-1001			Pete	Anderson					12-17-1966				My life as a rapper			2015	text	aut										www.mywebsiteforever.org
CD-1010			Judith	Patterson					1-2-1999				My life as a working mom			2000	drawings	ill										

For the first name two lines were supplied, one for the title **A year in my life** and a second line for **My life as a rapper**. All data for Anderson are repeated in both lines.

Example C: two persons, the contributor created a file with data **Local ID, an ORCID, Name, ISBN, Publisher and Related Person**.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
123455	1234567	ORCID	Jane	Miller						ISBN	908-111-12345-0						text	aut	Penguin Publishers	University of Amsterdam	Muller, Beate	colleague / collaborator						
123455	1234567	ORCID	Jane	Miller						ISBN	908-111-65675-0						text	aut	Penguin Publishers	University of Amsterdam	Muller, Beate	colleague / collaborator						
223311	1223333	ORCID	Henry James	Katz						ISBN	908-222-33333-0						text	aut	Kluuwer Publishers	University of Tilburg								

Please include blanks in the relationship type 'colleague / collaborator', 'colleague/collaborator' does not pass validation, see table in the document Data element Values on the [ISNI website](#) for valid values.

For Jane Miller a separate line was supplied for each ISBN. All data are repeated in each line.

Example D: two persons, the contributor supplied data **Local ID, Name, Alternative Name, Title and Related Name.**

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
B ID -191-1			Juna		Handrix		Handrix-Ohlson, Juna					Norwegian knitting patterns				text	aut				Knitting genius,	pseud						
B ID -123-7					Jim the Blondie							Music for adventurers				notes	cmp				Bond, Jim	real name						

The first name is the real name of the author (Juna Hendrix-Ohlson) and her pseudonym (Knitting genius).

The second name is the pseudonym (Jim the Blondie) of Jim Bond.

Example E: file for two persons, the contributor supplied **Name, Variant name, Title(s), Related organisation, instrument, but no Local ID.**

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
			Fred		Hummer							The day after yesterday				lyrics	cre											pd
			Johnny		Hopper		Hopper, J.J.					Raving in the sun				music	mus				The Hopper Band							pd
							Hopper, J.J.					Raving at nite				music	mus				The Hopper band							pd
							Hopper, J.J.					I will never rave again				music	mus				The Hopper band							ka

Without the local ID, the follow up lines for the same person are grouped by omitting the name.

see table in the document Data element Values on the [ISNI website](#) for valid values for instruments.