



**Musical Work Right Share
Notification Choreography
Standard
(Version 1.0)**

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1 Introduction

This standard was developed by the member organisations of the Digital Data Exchange, LLC (DDEX) and provides a suite of messages that give a uniform mechanism for companies such as Record Companies, Digital and Mobile Service Providers (DSPs) and others to request information about a Musical Work and its Right Shares from owners (or agents of owners) of such Right Shares and for the owners (or agents) to provide such information back.

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2 Scope

2.1 Introduction

The messages and the choreography defined in this standard provides a mechanism for Musical Works Licensors (usually music publishers or collective rights organisations or their agents) to:

- Provide to Record Companies, DSPs and other companies information about ownership of Right Shares in one or more Musical Works in a standardised information flow;
- Exchange with DSPs offering “user-generated content” to consumers information about ownership of Rights Shares in one or more Musical Works.

As user-generated content is often based on musical works, it is essential for the owners of rights in the Musical Work as well as the DSP that the DSP has an accurate picture of the ownership of a Musical Work they want to exploit and monetise. This is particularly important for territories such as the US where licensing is typically de-centralised or on a Work-by-Work basis;

The Choreography can also be used for information exchanges regarding Musical Works and/or Right Shares as part of the US Musical Work Licensing Choreography as well as the US Letter of Directions Choreography.

Furthermore it allows DSPs, record companies and other companies to solicit such information from Works Licensors. Such requests may often include information about the Release(s) and Resource(s) such Works are used in.

Other applications include the provision of Lyrics to a Lyrics DSP, the provision of information on print rights, cases where a DSP might want to augment writer data they hold in order to improve consumer experience and supplying data to intermediaries who are doing administration on a DSP's behalf.

2.2 Organisation of the Document

This DDEX Standard has seven clauses. [Clause 1](#) and [2](#) provide a general introduction and the scope of this standard. [Clauses 3](#) and [4](#) give a set of normative references as well as terms, definitions and abbreviations that are used in this Standard.

[Clauses 5](#) and [6](#) then provide the Musical Work and RightShare Notification Choreography and Message Exchange Protocol. Finally, [Clause 7](#) defines the messages for the Musical Work and RightShare Notification Choreography.

3 Normative References

The following normative documents contain provisions, which through reference in this text constitute provisions of this Standard. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. For undated references, the latest version applies.

- DDEX Data Dictionary Standard. Latest Version
- DDEX Party Identifier (DPID) Standard. Latest Version
- IFPI: Global Release Identifier (GRid) Standard. Latest Version
- IETF. RfC 2026. SSH File Transfer Protocol. October 2001.
- IETF RfC 5646, Tags for Identifying Languages. Latest Version.
- ISO 639-1988, Code for the representation of the names of languages
- ISO 3166-1:1997 Codes for the representation of names of countries and their sub-divisions – Part 1: Country codes
- ISO 3901:2001, Information and documentation – International Standard Recording Code (ISRC)
- ISO 8601:2004, Data elements and interchange formats – Information interchange – Representation of dates and times^[1]
- W3C. XML Schema Part 1: Structures. Second Edition. 2004
- W3C. XML Schema Part 2: Datatypes. Second Edition. 2004

[1] Information on ISO 8601 can be found in Annex D of Part 2 (Datatypes Second Edition) of the XML Schema standard (<http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema-2/#isoformats>).

4 Terms and Abbreviations

4.1 Terms and Definitions

Administrator

A Party administrating Rights on behalf of one or more RightsControllers (in the context of this standard a Collecting Publisher).

Batch

A grouping of one or more DDEX Messages to be processed by a Recipient together.

Collecting Publisher

A RightsController who is, at the time of assertion, controlling the right to collect royalties for a specific RightsType in a specific Territory for a specific MusicalWork. Collecting Publishers may ask Administrators to administer some of their rights. Note that a MusicalWork may have zero, one or many Collecting publishers.

Collective Rights Organisation

A Party that is an Administrator on behalf of many Rights Controllers usually in respect of one territory. A Collective Rights Organisation may also be a Rights Controller.

Distribution Share

The proportion of the overall Musical Work that has been assigned to a Collecting Publisher or Administrator. Note that a Writer can have zero, one or many Original Publishers, and hence zero, one or many Distribution Shares.

Manuscript Share

The proportion of a Musical Work written by a Writer, as agreed between the Writers. Typically represented as a percentage or a fraction. Manuscript Shares may occasionally vary by territory and/or rights type.

Musical Work

A Musical Work is a Work whose expression is a combination of sounds, with or without accompanying words.

Original Publisher

A RightsController who is assigned rights directly by the Writer. Note that a writer may have zero, one or many Original Publishers.

Original Publisher Share

The proportion of the overall Musical Work that a writer has assigned to an Original Publisher. Note that each Writer can have zero, one or many Original Publishers, and hence zero, one or many Original Publisher Shares.

Release

A Release is an abstract entity representing a bundle of one or more Resources compiled by an Issuer for the purpose of distribution to individual consumers, directly or through intermediaries. The Resources in Releases are normally primarily sound recordings or music audio-visual recordings, but this is not invariably the case. The Release is not itself the item of trade (or "Product"). Products have more extensive attributes than Releases; one Release may be disseminated in many different Products.

Resource

The individual assets that make up a Release. Typical Resources are sound recordings, video clips and cover art images.

Right Share

A percentage or fraction of a right for a Musical Work for a particular time and place in which a party claims a controlling interest. Note: controlling interest includes ownership and/or administration.

Rights Controller

A Party who owns and/or controls rights in a Musical Work or other Creation.

In the context of this standard a Rights Controller is normally a Collecting Publisher or a Collective Rights Organisation.

Creations include Musical Works, Sound Recordings and other Resources as well as Releases. Rights Controllers are, in the context of a licence agreement, often referred to as Licensors.

Note: In many cases a RightsController is also the Licensor.

Rights Type

The type of right covered by a RightShare as defined by relevant law. Rights Types vary between territories. Typical rights types include mechanical rights, performing rights and synchronisation rights.

Writer

A creative creator of the musical or lyrical elements of a Musical Work. Writers include Adapters, Arrangers, Authors, Composers, ComposerLyricists, Librettists, Lyricists, NonLyricAuthors and Translators.

WriterShare

See Manuscript Share.

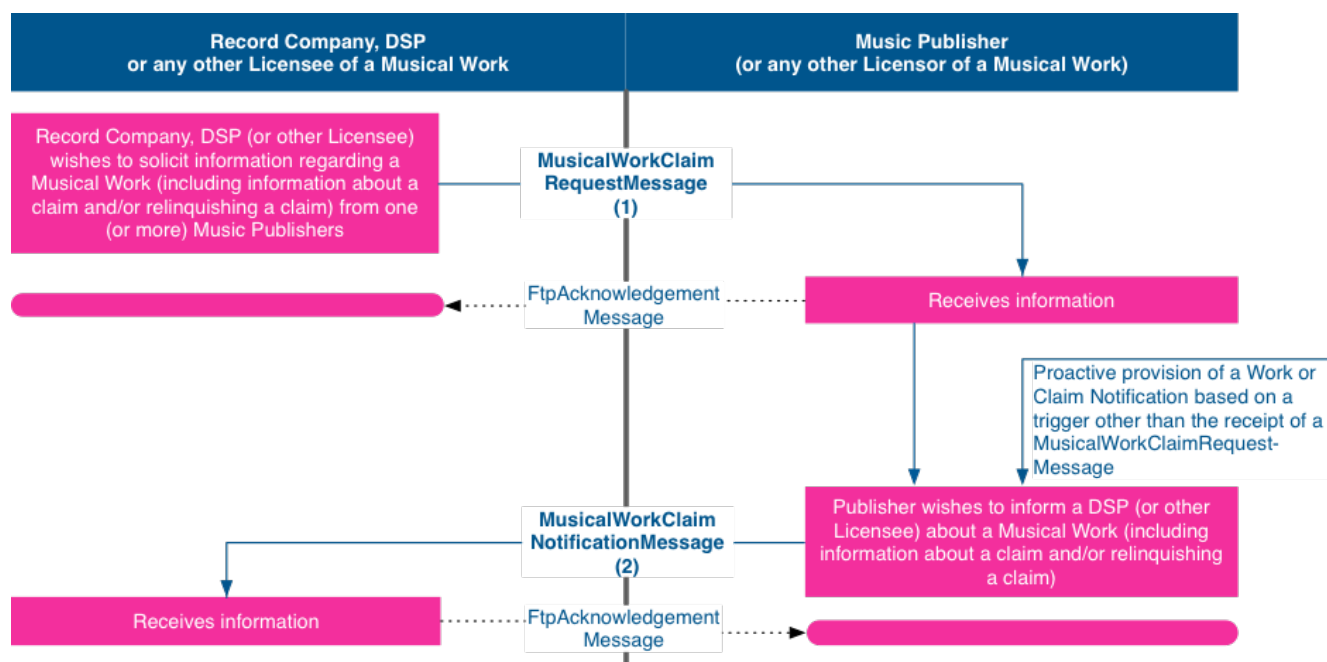
4.2 Abbreviations

AMEP	Automated Message Exchange Protocol
ACA	Appointed Certification Agency
AVS	Allowed Value Set
BP	Business Profile
CA	Certification Agency
CT	Conformance Tester
DAW	Digital Audio Workstation
DDEX	Digital Data Exchange
DSIG	Digital Signature
DSP	Digital Service Provider (includes Mobile Service Providers)
DSR	Digital Sales Reporting
ERN	Electronic Release Notification
FTP	File Transfer Protocol (FTP specifically includes Secure FTP, or SFTP)
GRid	Global Release Identifier
HTTP	Hypertext Transport Protocol
IEC	International Electrotechnical Commission
ISO	International Organisation for Standardisation
MIME	Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions
MLC	Music Licensing Company
MWL	Musical Works Licensing
MWN	Musical Works Notification
PCA	Private Certification Agency

PDF	Portable Document Format
REST	REpresentational State Transfer
RIN	Recording Information Notification
SFTP	Secure FTP
SHTTP	Secure Hypertext Transport Protocol
TIS	Territory Information System, a CISAC Standard
TLS	Transport Layer Security
UGC	User-generated content
URL	Uniform Resource Locator
XML	eXtensible Markup Language
XSD	XML Schema Definition
W3C	World Wide Web Consortium
WS	Web Service

5 Musical Work and Right Share Notification Choreography

The figure below depicts the choreography defined by this standard.



The tables below summarises the points in the Musical Work and Right Share Notification Choreography that a message is sent.

Message Name	Initiating Event
1 MusicalWorkClaim RequestMessage	If a Record Company, DSP or other Company wishes to receive information about a Musical Work and/or its ownership (e.g. for the purposes of obtaining a licence or to make available or monetise a Release containing a Musical Work) but has no, or insufficient, claims or Right Share information.
2 MusicalWorkClaim NotificationMessage	<p>If a Works Licensor wishes to inform a DSP about its claims or Right Share information with respect to Works embodied in a Release ^[1] in response to a MusicalWorkClaimRequestMessage</p> <p>If a Works Licensor wishes to provide Right Share information, or inform a business partner about its claims based on a trigger <i>other</i> than the receipt of a MusicalWorkClaimRequestMessage.</p> <p>Such triggers may include the case where the Licensor has previously provided a Right Claim for a Musical Work and subsequently loses the rights to that Right Share or Musical Work, or the resolution of a Right Share ownership conflict (possibly triggered by a message from DDEX's Work Right Share Conflict Notification Choreography Standard).</p>
3 ManifestMessage	A party has finished collating MusicalWorkClaimRequestMessages and/or MusicalWorkClaimNotificationMessages in accordance with this standard into a Batch and wishes its business partner to commence ingesting it.
4 FtpAcknowledgementMessage	A party receives a Batch of messages in accordance with this standard. The party then acknowledges receipt of each message (not agreement with its content).

[1] The message can also be used to communicate ownership information regarding a Musical Work not owned or controlled by the sender of the message. In that case, the recipient may use the information not as authoritative but solely as "helpful information".

6 Message Definition

6.1 Introduction

The exchange of messages defined in this standard shall use the SFTP using the naming convention defined in this Clause.

The arrival of the Batch on the SFTP server shall be signified by placing a Manifest file at the appropriate location. The Manifest shall refer, indirectly or indirectly to all files that are part of the Batch. The Manifest may only be placed on the SFTP server, once all other files have been completely uploaded.

6.2 Folder Naming Convention

To ensure sequential processing, a Batch is identified by the date and time of its creation in the form `YYYYMMDDhhmmssnnn` with

- `YYYY` being the year of Batch creation;
- `MM` being the month of Batch creation;
- `DD` being the day of Batch creation;
- `hh` being the hour of Batch creation;
- `mm` being the minute of Batch creation;
- `ss` being the second of Batch creation; and
- `nnn` being the millisecond of Batch creation.

6.3 XML File Naming Convention

Each message sent in the Batch shall be named as follows: `RRRR_SSSS.xml` with

- `RRRR` being the role of the message as follows:
 - "Claim_Request" for the `MusicalWorkClaimRequestMessage`;
 - "Claim_Notification" for the `MusicalWorkClaimNotificationMessage`;
- `SSSS` being a zero padded serial number within that Batch.

6.4 Supporting File Naming Convention

Any document supporting a DDEX message in a Batch shall be placed into the same folder as the XML message and be named as follows: `FFFF_NNNN.ext` with

1. `FFFF` being the file name (without extension) of the file to which supporting information is provided;
2. `NNNN` being a serial number; and
3. `ext` being an extension suitable to the data type (e.g. `xml` for an XML file or `csv` for a comma-separated value flat file).

6.5 Manifest

Once the message sender has uploaded all files of the Batch, the sender shall upload a manifest file. The manifest file shall be called `manifest.xml` and shall be placed into the same folder as all other files.

Its syntax is defined in [Clause 7](#).

6.6 Acknowledgement

Once the Message recipient has downloaded a file from within the Batch, the recipient shall upload an acknowledgement file. The acknowledgement file shall be called `ACK_FFFF.xml` with `FFFF` being the file name (without extension) of the Message acknowledged.

The Acknowledgement shall be placed into the same folder as the acknowledged file. Its syntax is defined in [Clause 7](#).

6.7 Size of Batch

Each file within a Batch should contain up to 500 Musical Works. Sender and Recipient may agree other limits.

The maximum number of files to be part of a Batch is not limited but may be agreed by Sender and Recipient.

6.8 Hybrid Batches

It is possible to place messages defined in other DDEX Choreography Standards relating to Musical Works in the same Batch as messages defined in accordance with this standard.

7 Syntax & Semantics of Messages

7.1 Introduction

This Clause contains an overview for each of the two messages in the Musical Work and Share Notification Choreography Standard in a tabular form. The full technical specification includes the XML Schema files accompanying this standard.

The hierarchical structure of the messages is provided through indentation. On the Message Header for example, the `PartyName` is a child of `Sender`. Thus, a `Sender` contains a `PartyName` (plus a `PartyId`). A second example from the Message Header is the `MessageAuditTrail` that contains `MessageAuditTrailEvents` which, in turn, contains a `MessagingPartyDescriptor` and a `DateTime` element. All elements that have subelements are printed in bold. The `MessageAuditTrailEvents` element also shows a second structural feature of the Message Summary: the cardinality. In the case of `MessageAuditTrailEvents` the entry "1-n" means that each `MessageAuditTrail` contains one or more `MessageAuditTrailEvents`.

Other possible cardinality entries are: "1" (for: exactly one), "0-1" (for none or one) or "0-n" (for none to multiple). Elements shown in italics are represented in the XML Schema as XML Attributes. In several places within the messages, the Message Sender may need to make a choice between using two or more XML elements. These instances are marked in the tabular representation of the messages below with the keyword `xmlChoice`. This keyword is not part of the messages; instead exactly one of the "branches" below the `xmlChoice` keyword has to be used.

In addition to the tabular description of the message, which should always be read in conjunction with the XML Schema files, additional conformance rules, which go beyond XML Schema validation, are provided where necessary. The general conformance rules for all messages within this Standard are provided in [Clause 7.2](#).

Specific business processes between sender and recipient may require even further conformance rules. These are, however, not part of the Standard and will need to be agreed between business partners. Rules relating to the authority of business partners to unilaterally change the Message Standard in this way are set out in the current version of the Procedures for the Development and Maintenance of DDEX Standards which forms part of the overall governance of the DDEX Standards.

The syntax as well as the semantics of the various elements in the messages is provided in this Clause. They are taken from the current version of the DDEX Data Dictionary as defined through, and maintained in accordance with, the DDEX Data Dictionary Standard.

7.2 General Conformance Rules

7.2.1 Schema Validation

A message is conformant to this specification only when it validates against the set of XML Schema files provided.

7.2.2 Namespace

The full namespace for the XML Schema document for this Standard is

```
http://ddex.net/xml/mc-notif/10
```

All messages developed within DDEX are based upon a common set of elements and their definitions. These are contained in the DDEX Data Dictionary available from ddex.net.

7.2.3 Allowed Value Lists

All messages defined in this standard make intensive use of allowed-value sets. These allowed value sets are shared between all DDEX standards and DDEX provides an XML Schema Definition file for all of these allowed values. These values are also contained in the DDEX Data Dictionary available from kb.ddex.net.

The full namespace for the XML Schema document for the allowed-value sets is:

```
http://ddex.net/xml/avs/avs
```

DDEX may regularly extend this list of allowed-value sets. Any such extensions to this list issued on a date later than the date on which this Standard is issued form part of this Standard. This Clause contains the list of allowed-value sets valid on the date of issuance of this Standard.

7.2.4 Contractually Mandatory

The messages defined in this standard contain fields with cardinality "0-1" or "0-n". Therefore these fields are from the standard's point of view, optional. Such fields may, however, be mandatory when a DDEX message is sent in a specific commercial context.

In such circumstances, a message is deemed conformant only if and when it contains all the “contractually mandatory” fields as agreed by `MessageSender` and `MessageRecipient`.

7.3 Definition of Messages

The tabular rendering of the messages is provided in a separate document. See the blue box [here](#).

7.4 Allowed Value Sets

The table below lists all allowed value sets with their allowed values and definitions that are valid within this standard. Note, the allowed-value sets are maintained outside of this Standard and DDEX may add to the list below.

The Table of AVSs is provided in a separate document. See the blue box [here](#).