

Track Releases

The general rule is that a `NewReleaseMessage` must contain the main Release (such as an album) plus one Track Release for each of the primary Resources that make up the Main Release. Thus a ten-track album will lead to a `NewReleaseMessage` containing eleven Releases.

Track Releases are single-track Releases that are generated to allow "un-bundling". The inclusion of each Track Release does not define whether or not the Track Release is actually available to be un-bundled: that is subject to the Deal information (only those Track Releases for which a `ReleaseDeal` is provided may be made available to consumers in accordance with this `ReleaseDeal`).

Identifying Track Releases

ISRCs are used within a Track Release¹ to identify the primary Resource, i.e. the sound recording or music video it contains. ISRCs do *not* identify the Track Release itself. Track Release identifiers are conveyed using the `ReleaseId` composite, which provides a number of options, principally being either:

- `GRid`, which is a standard identifier and has, therefore, a specific tag, or
- The `ProprietaryID` composite.

Some other options are available due to historical practice, but the use of these is *not* encouraged.

UPC_ISRC as a ProprietaryID for Track Releases

One form of `ProprietaryID` that is used in practice is a concatenation of the UPC of the Main Release and the ISRC of the sound recording/music video that is contained within the main Release. The elements should be separated by, for instance, an underscore character.

Example

```
0004228118555_DEF067010480
```

Unique identification of multiple instances of the same sound recording/music video

In some circumstances a Main Release may contain multiple instances of the same recording identified by the same ISRC. For example this can occur if a lossy compressed and lossless recording are delivered, or in some cases where an original recording and a remastered version are supplied. These should be separately identified. Where `GRid` is used, each Track Release is a separate release and may be identified using a unique `GRid`.

Where the proprietary `UPC_ISRC` is used, and the Main Release contains versions of the same recording having the same ISRC, unique identification of the Track Release can be achieved by appending a `_ReleaseReference` to the `UPC_ISRC` identifier.

Example

```
0004228118555_DEF067010480_R1
```

Pointing from Track Release to Main Release

The `NewReleaseMessage` allows for a Release to "point" to another release using the `RelatedRelease` composite. In some cases this has been used to indicate that a Track Release has been 'un-bundled' from an album Release. This should, however, only be done if the album release is *not* the Main Release in the same `NewReleaseMessage`.

Therefore, the Track Release shall *not* point to the Main Release it comes from if they are both communicated in the same `NewReleaseMessage`.

¹ ISRCs are of course also used to identify the primary Resources in the album Release.