

DisplayArtist? DisplayArtistName? Contributor? IndirectContributor? What is this all about?

Artists play different roles in a recording. Artists also have different contractual entitlements when it comes to being named (and being paid^[1]). In addition, a label may wish to specifically promote certain artists. To support these aspects, DDEX's Release Notification standards support a variety of fields on Release and Resource level.

The main fields are:

- `DisplayArtistName` – this is a single string providing how the label wishes the artist name should be displayed. This field may well contain, in one string, multiple artists' names (e.g. *Coldplay vs. Swedish House Mafia*). Typically a DSP would be expected to use the string as provided when displaying the Release or Resource. However, there may be circumstances where a DSP wishes to not follow the label's lead (e.g. when preparing content for a device with limited display capabilities).
- `DisplayArtist` – For each sound recording^[2] it is possible that there are multiple artists the label wishes the DSP to display when showing the Release or Resource to a consumer. In the above example, there would be two such display artists: *Coldplay* and the *Swedish House Mafia*. The seven men that make up the two bands are *not* display artists, though. In case of the `DisplayArtistName` providing a single artist or band, the `DisplayArtist` composite would repeat the `DisplayArtistName` information. Some DSPs may wish to use the names of the individual display artists to make up their own display artist name. This is, however, not recommended as a normal course of action. DSPs who wish to create individual artist pages may also wish make use these display artists to create new artist pages or to augment existing artist pages. To aid DSPs in such endeavours, labels are encouraged to provide party identifiers for each display artist. This will help to ensure that a DSP does not confuse John Williams (the Australian-born classical guitarist) with John Williams (the Welsh musician and songwriter). The `DisplayArtist` field will also be used to communicate “featured artists” (with the role code set to `FeaturedArtist`). The same applies to `DisplayConductors`.
- `ResourceContributor` (in ERN-4: `Contributor`) – For each sound recording^[3] a label may wish to communicate direct contributors, i.e. *individuals* that were in the studio when the recording or mixing took place. In the above example there would have been seven individuals: *Chris Martin, Guy Berryman, Jonny Buckland, Will Champion* from *Coldplay*, and *Axwell, Steve Angello and Sebastian Ingrosso* from the *Swedish House Mafia*. Resource contributors are, however, not limited to the musicians. Studio engineers as well as other studio personnel can also be communicated in this manner. Metadata for the *Coldplay/Swedish House Mafia's* recording of “Every Teardrop Is a Waterfall” thus might include the producers (*Markus Dravs, Daniel Green and Rik Simpson*). Whether a label will provide such names is, however, up to them. Individual artists that are also listed as a `DisplayArtist` are typically not repeated in the `ResourceContributor` section, as all the information about their contribution would already have been provided through the `DisplayArtist` composite. While possible, it is normally not recommended that DSPs use `ResourceContributor` information to *create* individual artist pages. However, DSPs might want to consider linking to an existing artist page. Composers and arrangers are, however, no *direct* contributor roles. If an individual has contributed to writing the song, that person should be communicated as an indirect contributor.
- `IndirectResourceContributor` – For each sound recording^[4] a label may wish to also communicate *indirect* contributors, i.e. the writers of the song(s) that have been recorded. Looking at *Coldplay* and the *Swedish House Mafia's* song “Every Teardrop Is a Waterfall”, these would be *Guy Berryman, Jonny Buckland, Will Champion, Chris Martin, Peter Allen and Adrienne Anderson*. While possible, it is normally not recommended that DSPs use `IndirectResourceContributor` information to *create* individual artist pages. However, DSPs might want to consider linking to an existing artist page. Of course if it is a famous `IndirectResourceContributor` composer, this may not apply.
Note that `IndirectResourceContributors` only exist in ERN-3. In ERN-4 writers et al are communicated in the `ResourceContributor` tag.

Sample XML

Below please find an excerpt of a `NewReleaseMessage` displaying artist information for “Every Teardrop Is a Waterfall”. The snippet below provides an International Standard Name Identifier for each party that has been allocated an ISNI. Not all direct and indirect contributors are listed.

ERN-3

```
<SoundRecordingDetailsByTerritory>
  <TerritoryCode>Worldwide</TerritoryCode>
  <DisplayArtist>
    <PartyName>
      <FullName>Coldplay</FullName>
    </PartyName>
    <PartyId IsISNI="true">000000011551394X</PartyId>
    <ArtistRole>MainArtist</ArtistRole>
  </DisplayArtist>
  <DisplayArtist>
    <PartyName>
      <FullName>Swedish House Mafia</FullName>
    </PartyName>
    <ArtistRole>MainArtist</ArtistRole>
  </DisplayArtist>
  <ResourceContributor SequenceNumber="1">
    <PartyName>
      <FullName>Chris Martin</FullName>
    </PartyName>
    <PartyId IsISNI="true">0000000114707136</PartyId>
    <ResourceContributorRole>Member</ResourceContributorRole>
  </ResourceContributor>
  <ResourceContributor SequenceNumber="2">
    <PartyName>
      <FullName>Markus Dravs</FullName>
    </PartyName>
    <ResourceContributorRole>Producer</ResourceContributorRole>
  </ResourceContributor>
  <IndirectResourceContributor SequenceNumber="1">
    <PartyName>
      <FullName>Chris Martin</FullName>
    </PartyName>
    <PartyId IsISNI="true">0000000114707136</PartyId>
    <IndirectResourceContributorRole>ComposerLyricist</IndirectResourceContributorRole>
  </IndirectResourceContributor>
  <DisplayArtistName>Coldplay vs. Swedish House Mafia</DisplayArtistName>
</SoundRecordingDetailsByTerritory>
```

ERN-4 Sample

```

<DisplayArtistName>Coldplay vs. Swedish House Mafia</DisplayArtistName>
<DisplayArtist>
  <ArtistPartyReference>P1</ArtistPartyReference> <!-- Coldplay -->
  <DisplayArtistRole>MainArtist</DisplayArtistRole>
</DisplayArtist>
<DisplayArtist>
  <ArtistPartyReference>P2</ArtistPartyReference> <!-- Swedish House Mafia
-->
  <DisplayArtistRole>MainArtist</DisplayArtistRole>
<TitleDisplayInformation>
  <IsDisplayedInTitle>false</IsDisplayedInTitle>
  <Prefix>vs.</Prefix>
</TitleDisplayInformation>
</DisplayArtist>

<Contributor SequenceNumber="1">
  <ContributorPartyReference>P3</ContributorPartyReference> <!-- Chris
Martin -->
  <Role>GroupMember</Role>
  <Role>ComposerLyricist</Role>
</Contributor>
<Contributor SequenceNumber="2">
  <ContributorPartyReference>P4</ContributorPartyReference> <!-- Markus
Dravs -->
  <Role>StudioProducer</Role>
</Contributor>

```

Roles and Sequence Numbers

With the exception of the `DisplayArtistName`, which is just a string, all other artist and contributor composites need to provide a role code. For the `DisplayArtist` this is typically `MainArtist` whereas for the contributors the role can vary greatly.

Direct and indirect contributors are typically sequenced. DSPs are encouraged to honour this order as the artists (and labels) will have agreed to stick to that order when releasing material.

Examples (with role codes being omitted)

Display Artist Name	Display Artist (incl. featured artists)	Direct Contributors	Indirect Contributors	Note
Desaparecidos Vs. Lanfranchi & Farina And Marchesini	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desaparecidos, • Lanfranchi, • Farina • Marchesini • Farina • Marchesini • Desaparecidos, • Lanfranchi, 			Farina and Marchesini are legitimate compound featured artists

Coldplay vs. Swedish House Mafia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coldplay • Swedish House Mafia • Chris Martin • Guy Berryman • Jonny Buckland • Will Champion • Axwell • Steve Angello • Sebastian Ingrosso • Markus Dravs, • Daniel Green • Rik Simpson • Guy Berryman • Jonny Buckland • Will Champion • Chris Martin • Peter Allen • Adrienne Anderson 			
Simon & Garfunkel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simon & Garfunkel • Paul Simon • Art Garfunkel • Paul Simon 			Simon & Garfunkel is a real compound artist name
The Beatles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Beatles • Paul McCartney • Ringo Starr • John Lennon • George Harrison • John Lennon • Paul McCartney 			

[1] But artist royalties is *not* what this article is about!

[2] The same is true for Releases as well as other Resource types such as videos etc.

[3] The same is true for other Resource types such as videos etc.

[4] The same is true for other Resource types such as videos etc.