

# How many DPIDs Do I need?

## Purpose of DPIDs

In order to use any DDEX standard, a company needs to have taken out an [implementation licence](#). The licence is free (as in free beer) and can be applied for on the [DDEX website](#). In reply, typically within 2 working days, companies are issued with a DDEX Party ID (DPID). These IDs are issued in by the DDEX Secretariat in accordance with the [DDEX Party ID Standard](#).

Each DDEX message sent contains a `MessageHeader` element which, in turn identifies who sent the message (`MessageSender`) and to whom the message was sent (`MessageRecipient`). The `MessageHeader` element can also be used to identify if a message was sent by the `MessageSender` on behalf of a third party (`SentOnBehalfOf`). This information allows the `MessageRecipient`'s IT system to autonomously determine whether - and how - to process the message.

Licensees have access to a complete register of DPIDs from [DDEX's Document Repository](#) (password required).

### Contact DDEX

If you have a question or suggestion or if you are experiencing problems with your implementation, please feel free to [contact the DDEX Secretariat](#); we may be able to help.

## One Company One DPID

In most circumstances each company in the music industry supply chain only needs one DPID.

This also applies to cases where a company operates different business models as the combination of DPID of the Partner and information of the product type (e.g. Releases being available as Pay-As-You-Go Downloads or as a Ringtone) will be sufficient to determine how to process the information.

## Cases for Assigning multiple DPIDs to a Company

There are, however, a few reasons for a single company requiring multiple DPIDs. These include:

- If different business units operate independent supply chains;
- If a company serves multiple clients, then the company may require a DPID for each of its clients (examples include aggregators who provide services to many, typically small, labels to allow them access to the market);
- If a company operates several distribution channels (examples include companies that provide "white label" services).

To apply to additional DPIDs, please go to the [DDEX website](#). But please note you do need to have been assigned a DPID to apply for an additional DPID.