

Implementing Recording Data and Rights Standards (formerly MLC Standards)

This part of the DDEX Knowledge Base describes the DDEX RDR Message Suite Standards.

The MLC Standard is now called RDR

This suite of standards was previously known as the Music Licensing Company Message Suite and Choreography Standard or MLC Standard. With the creation of the Mechanical Licensing Collective in the US as a result of the Music Modernization Act which was signed into law in 2018, DDEX has now changed the name of the standard to avoid confusion between the two. However, **the name is only being applied by DDEX from April 2020 onwards**. This means that existing documentation about the standard will continue to refer to the Music Licensing Company Message Suite and Choreography Standard. It is recognised that this causes some inconsistencies in some of the text but for the purposes of implementation, the Music Licensing Company Message Suite and Choreography Standard and the Recording Data and Rights Message Suite Standards should be considered to be the same.

The suite of standards defines messages and a choreography that provide a uniform mechanism for the exchange of data for use in the collective management of neighbouring rights (these rights are sometimes also called "related rights"). The main aim of this knowledge base article is to aid developers in properly implementing the RDR Message Suite Standards. The document may also be of interest to anyone seeking to understand data exchange processes in the field of collective management of neighbouring rights.

This section addresses:

Download

Standard

[Music Licensing Company Message Suite and Choreography Standard \(Version 1.4\)](#)

[Automated Message Exchange Protocol](#)

Older versions of the MLC standard can be accessed [here](#).

Before starting an implementation, DDEX recommends to read [Starting an Implementation and Licensing DDEX Standards](#).

Essential Reading

▼ The DDEX Data

Dictionary ...

... for the Electronic Release Notification Message Suite Standard (ERN, Version 4.2): [Message Structure and AVSs](#)

... for the Musical Work Right Share Notification Choreography Standard (MWN, Version 1.2): [Message Structure and AVSs](#)

... for the US Musical Work Licensing Choreography Standard (MWL, Version 1.0): [Message Structure and AVSs](#)

... for the Standard for the Communication of Media Enrichment and Description Information (MEAD): [Message Structure and AVSs](#)

... for the Standard for communicating links between Resources and Musical Works (Version 1.1)

... for the Recording Data and Rights Standard (Version 1.4)

... for Release Deliveries using SFTP or Web Service (Version 1.7)

... for the Recording Information Notification (Version 1.1)

... for Work and Share Notifications

... for Works Licensing

Why are there multiple data dictionaries?

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.