Definitions

“BIC2.0” means BIC Standard Subject Categories & Qualifiers, Version 2 Rev 01 (July 2006)

“BIC2.1” means BIC Standard Subject Categories & Qualifiers, Version 2.1 (November 2010)

Documents

BIC2.1 is available as a Word document manual for users, or as Excel spreadsheets (one for Subject Categories, one for Qualifiers) containing codes and headings only (no formatting or notes), suitable for loading as authority files. See www.bic.org.uk.

A summary of all changes introduced in BIC2.1 is provided in the document BIC2.1 Final List of Changes, also available on the BIC site.

Updated User Guidelines will follow shortly.

Scope

BIC2.1 is an interim release, strictly limited to
   a) the addition of new categories where required;
   b) the modification of existing headings to reflect current terminology or clarify usage; and
   c) the correction of errors in the previous Version.

Critically, it was resolved that no existing categories would be deleted, and that there would be no wholesale relocations, no new sections and no restructuring.

Because of this limited scope, the migration from BIC2.0 is relatively trivial. There were only three errors to be corrected (ie under item (c) above), which effectively resulted in partial relocations, whereby a term that formed part of an existing heading was removed from that heading and added to another category. Titles classified under the affected headings must therefore be assessed manually and relocated where necessary in order to be correctly classified under BIC2.1. Instructions for amending titles classified under the categories concerned are listed below.

To this extent then, it is expected that the limited scope of BIC2.1 will make the new release as easy as possible to implement and will minimise disruption to bibliographic databases and information supply chains.
Migration procedures

1. Relocation of items required to resolve errors in BIC2.0

In BIC2.0, in the JH Anthropology section, the topic of ethnography (the branch of anthropology that deals with the scientific description of specific human cultures) was erroneously listed at JHMP “Physical anthropology & ethnography”. The term has now been removed from JHMP and added to JHMC which now reads “Social & cultural anthropology, ethnography”.

Similarly, it was pointed out that in ELT the topic of pronunciation is more closely linked to vocabulary than to speaking skills. Thus the term “pronunciation” has been removed from ELXD “ELT: speaking / pronunciation skills” and added to ELG which now reads “ELT grammar, vocabulary & pronunciation”; also a new precise code has been added at ELGP “ELT pronunciation”.

Further, the term “limnology” had been erroneously included in the heading at both PSPF and RBKF. On consideration, it was resolved that the term is not limited to biological aspects and so is better retained only at RBKF within Earth Sciences as a subset of Hydrology. PSPF is now simply “Freshwater biology”.

Although ostensibly listed as modifications, these are partial relocations that will require the re-classification of items, either manually or automatically (based on words in title or other rules as appropriate) as follows:

- All items classed under JHMP in BIC2.0 that are solely or significantly on the topic of ethnography must be reclassified under JHMC in BIC2.1. (JHMP may be retained if appropriate)

- All items classed under ELXD in BIC2.0 that are solely or significantly on the topic of pronunciation must be reclassified under ELGP in BIC2.1 (ELXD may be retained if appropriate)

- All items classed under PSPF in BIC2.0 that are solely or significantly on the topic of limnology must be reclassified under RBKF in BIC2.1. (PSPF may be retained if appropriate)

2. Optional reclassification of other items

With regard to all other changes (additions and modifications), the restricted scope means that any further re-classification of existing items is optional, and is not essential in order to be BIC2.1 compliant. Aside from those affected by Table 1 below, every item that is correctly classified in accordance with BIC2.0 remains acceptably classified under BIC2.1 even where a better more precise sub-category now exists. The extent of re-classification of existing titles undertaken by each user depends entirely on the importance and value of such effort to that user. Users should consult the document *BIC2.1 Final List of Changes November 2010* and take appropriate action.