**Using Media Manifest,   
File Manifest and Avails   
for file Delivery**

**(Best Practices)**

**Contents**

[1 Introduction 6](#_Toc394650798)

[1.1 Background 6](#_Toc394650799)

[1.2 Document Organization 6](#_Toc394650800)

[1.3 Document Naming and Conventions 6](#_Toc394650801)

[1.4 Normative References 7](#_Toc394650802)

[1.5 Informative References 7](#_Toc394650803)

[2 Delivery Model 8](#_Toc394650804)

[2.1 Roles and Data Objects 8](#_Toc394650805)

[2.2 Distribution Workflow 9](#_Toc394650806)

[2.2.1 Standard Delivery 9](#_Toc394650807)

[2.2.2 Update flow 10](#_Toc394650808)

[2.2.3 Issue Resolution Delivery 11](#_Toc394650809)

[2.2.4 Updates 12](#_Toc394650810)

[2.2.5 Special Delivery Conditions 15](#_Toc394650811)

[3 Identifiers 16](#_Toc394650812)

[3.1 Understand IDs of different Types 16](#_Toc394650813)

[3.1.1 Simplifying Identifiers 17](#_Toc394650814)

[3.1.2 Content ID 18](#_Toc394650815)

[3.1.3 Experience ID 18](#_Toc394650816)

[3.1.4 Logical Asset ID (ALID) 18](#_Toc394650817)

[3.1.5 AvailID 19](#_Toc394650818)

[3.1.6 Track, Image and Interactive IDs 19](#_Toc394650819)

[3.1.7 ID Format 20](#_Toc394650820)

[3.2 Using EIDR 21](#_Toc394650821)

[3.2.1 EIDR Format (EIDR-s and EIDR-x) 21](#_Toc394650822)

[3.3 EIDR Object Type 21](#_Toc394650823)

[3.3.1 EIDR in Avails 22](#_Toc394650824)

[3.4 Practice for Constructing Asset Identifiers from top-level IDs 22](#_Toc394650825)

[3.4.1 Derived Experience IDs 23](#_Toc394650826)

[3.4.2 Derived Presentation IDs 24](#_Toc394650827)

[3.4.3 Derived Component IDs 25](#_Toc394650828)

[3.5 IDs, Computer-readability and Human-readability 25](#_Toc394650829)

[3.6 ID Summary 26](#_Toc394650830)

[4 Connecting Objects 27](#_Toc394650831)

[4.1 Mapping Avail to Experience 27](#_Toc394650832)

[4.2 Mapping Avail file references to Media Manifest asset references 27](#_Toc394650833)

[4.2.1 Referencing assets by identifier 28](#_Toc394650834)

[4.2.2 Referencing assets by location 28](#_Toc394650835)

[4.2.3 Images 29](#_Toc394650836)

[5 Avails 31](#_Toc394650837)

[5.1 Avails Model 31](#_Toc394650838)

[5.2 Constructing an AvailID 32](#_Toc394650839)

[5.3 Avails of various Experiences 32](#_Toc394650840)

[5.3.1 Availing a single Movie or TV Episode 32](#_Toc394650841)

[5.3.2 Television Season without episodes listed 33](#_Toc394650842)

[5.3.3 Movie with Extras and Season with episodes listed 33](#_Toc394650843)

[5.3.4 Avail with Multiple Experiences 34](#_Toc394650844)

[5.4 Holdbacks 36](#_Toc394650845)

[5.4.1 Holdback terms 36](#_Toc394650846)

[5.4.2 Holdback examples 37](#_Toc394650847)

[6 Manifest Construction 38](#_Toc394650848)

[6.1 References within Manifest 38](#_Toc394650849)

[6.2 Region and Language 39](#_Toc394650850)

[6.3 Metadata 39](#_Toc394650851)

[6.3.1 Metadata by reference or inclusions 39](#_Toc394650852)

[6.3.2 Metadata requirements for Experience and Audiovisual 39](#_Toc394650853)

[6.4 Director’s Commentary and other track combinations 40](#_Toc394650854)

[7 File Delivery 42](#_Toc394650855)

[7.1 File Manifest 42](#_Toc394650856)

[7.2 Package Concept and Identifier 42](#_Toc394650857)

[7.2.1 What an Package Identifier Identifies 42](#_Toc394650858)

[7.2.2 Constructing an PackageID 42](#_Toc394650859)

[7.2.3 EIDR and PackageIDs 42](#_Toc394650860)

[7.3 File Identification and Versioning 43](#_Toc394650861)

[7.3.1 Identifying Files 43](#_Toc394650862)

[7.3.2 Versioning 43](#_Toc394650863)

[7.4 File Delivery 44](#_Toc394650864)

[7.4.1 Delivery Methods 44](#_Toc394650865)

[7.4.2 Delivering Sets of Files 44](#_Toc394650866)

[7.4.3 Incremental Delivery 45](#_Toc394650867)

[7.5 Verifying File Correctness 48](#_Toc394650868)

[8 Other element Encoding Rules 49](#_Toc394650869)

[8.1 Use of Region 49](#_Toc394650870)

[8.1.1 Avail Territories 49](#_Toc394650871)

[8.1.2 Experience Regions 50](#_Toc394650872)

[8.2 Audiovisual Type/SubType 52](#_Toc394650873)

[8.2.1 Main Type 53](#_Toc394650874)

[8.2.2 Promotion Type 54](#_Toc394650875)

[8.2.3 Bonus Type 55](#_Toc394650876)

[8.2.4 Other Type 57](#_Toc394650877)

[8.2.5 Studio-specific Types 57](#_Toc394650878)

[Annex A Ordering Files (DRAFT) 58](#_Toc394650879)

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**Revision History**

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| **Version** | **Date** | **Description** |
|  |  |  |

# Introduction

This document describes how to use Avails, Common Media Manifest and Common File Manifest when delivering files from a studio (or service provider) to a party that will use that media (retailer, streaming service, etc.)

This is designed to be an explanatory document rather than a formal specification, however practices are defined so they can be adopted.

This document assumes familiarity with the referenced specifications, particular *Common Media Manifest Metadata*.

## Background

The MovieLabs Common Manifest allows complex user experiences to be assembled from individual assets, e.g. a video track, audio track, etc.

## Document Organization

This document is organized as follows:

1. Introduction—Provides background, scope and conventions
2. Delivery Model – Describes the assumed models for delivering content
3. Identifiers – Describes the identifiers used, how they are formatted and the use of EIDR in this model
4. Connecting Objects – Following the discussion of identifiers, this section describes how Avails, Experiences and other objects are related
5. Avails – Provides information on how to encode Avails
6. Manifest Construction – Describes how to build and use a Media Manifest
7. File Delivery – Describes how to build and use a File Manifest
8. Other Encoding Rules – Provides additional guidance on using other objects (e.g., Regions and Territories).

## Document Naming and Conventions

This document uses conventions as defined in [CM]. This is a less formal document, so strict conventions may not expressly apply in all cases.

## Normative References

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| [CM] | Common Metadata, [www.movielabs.com/md/md](http://www.movielabs.com/md/md) |
| [Manifest] | MovieLabs (March 11, 2014), Common Media Manifest Metadata v0.8c, [www.movielabs.com/md/manifest](http://www.movielabs.com/md/manifest) |
| [Avail] | Avails, [www.movielabs.com/md/avails](http://www.movielabs.com/md/avails) |
| [MEC] | Media Entertainment Core, [www.movielabs.com/md/mec](http://www.movielabs.com/md/mec) |
| [EIDR-UG] | EIDR 2.0 Registry User’s Guide, [eidr.org/technology/](http://eidr.org/technology/) |
| [EIDR-ID] | EIDR ID Format, [eidr.org/technology/](http://eidr.org/technology/) |

## Informative References

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| [DOI] | Digital Object Identifier (DOI), [www.doi.org](http://www.doi.org) |
| [XML-C] | Canonical XML, Version 1.0. <http://www.w3.org/TR/xml-c14n> |
| [ISO26324] | ISO 26324:2012, *Information and documentation -- Digital object identifier system* |
| [EIDR-V] | How to Use EIDR to Identify Versions for Distribution Purposes: Edits, Languages and Regional Releases (FAQ), [eidr.org/technology](http://eidr.org/technology) |

# Delivery Model

The delivery model assumed by this document is as follows:



## Roles and Data Objects

This model has the following roles. Note that these are roles and do not necessarily align exactly with corporate entities.

* Studio – Entity that defines the product and the business rules around the product.
* Distribution Entity – generating media files, Media Manifest and File Manifest. This function is often provided by a post-production organization.
* Retailer – Consumes the various pieces as part of offering an experience to the consumer. Although the term Retailer is used, it does not necessarily imply selling the product.

The model also addresses various data objects and messages. Many of these are described in referenced specifications:

* Product Asset Definition – This is the definition of the various components (abstractly) that together create an offering. In this document the collection of assets is referred to as a Logical Asset
* Avail – Data defining assets (abstractly) and business terms; such as, when and where the assets can play, and what pricing tier is used. [Avail]
* Order – A Retailer will order an Avail indicating it wishes to offer the Assets in accordance with the Terms.
* Asset Request – A Retailer will request assets from the Distribution Entity.
* File Manifest – Data describing a set of files that are part of a delivery. Defined in [Manifest].
* Media Manifest – Definition of how various media assets are connected to provide an experience to a user. Defined in [Manifest].
* Metadata – Consumer-facing description of media assets. This is preferably based on the Media Entertainment Core (MEC) [MEC].

## Distribution Workflow

This section describes the workflow between the Studio/Post-Production and the Retailer.

The Studio in conjunction with Post-Production determines which assets are available. The Retailer requests delivery of assets. Post-Production then delivers the assets. There are various variations on this model. The model supports partial deliveries, issue handling, and updates.

The Media Manifest serves as a bill of materials (BOM), describing the various pieces that need be assembled into the final product.

While the Studio and Post-Production determine the set of assets it wishes to create for a title, Retailers do not necessarily want everything. For example, a Retailer may not want a 2-channel audio track if a 5.1 track is available. The process of culling a delivery is currently outside the scope of this document, and is handled bilaterally between Post-Production and the Retailer. Generally, the Retailer will know what assets it needs because of standard templates for regions based on business terms and technical capabilities. The bilaterally agreed upon deliveries would likely be based on these templates.

Exact usage is determined jointly by some combination of Studio, Retailer and Post-Production.

### Standard Delivery

In a Standard Delivery, the studio and post-production facility determine what must be built and prepare everything needed for fulfill an Avail.

Whether the materials are pushed to the Retailer or requested by the Retailer depends upon agreements outside the scope of this document.

The Standard Delivery process is as follows:

* Asset Preparation (not necessarily sequenced with Ordering)
  + The studio provides instructions for the post-production facility needed to construct the appropriate deliverables to the Retailer
  + Post-production generates
    - Media files
    - Media Manifest
* Ordering
  + The Studio provides an Avail to the Retailer
  + The Retailer receives that Avail and opts to offer that title
  + The Retailer informs the Studio in accordance with their business agreements.
* Fulfillment
  + The Retailer orders material based on the AvailID. This step could be skipped if the Distribution Entity is otherwise aware that the Retailer is licensed to distribute the assets covered by the Avail.
  + The Distribution Entity delivers a File Manifest and a collection of files including the Media Manifest, metadata and media.

In practice the Retailer would have specific delivery requirements that might require additional ordering information. For example, a Retailer might want to use adaptive streaming streams or Common File Format (CFF) files.

The intent is to create and ordering specification. See Annex A for draft ordering requirements.

#### Retailer Criteria

The Retailer may bilaterally establish delivery rules with the Distribution Entity. These may include preferred track types and minimum requirements per region/language.

The Distribution Entity will filter materials that are not required by the Retailer. The Distribution Entity may prioritize asset production based on these criteria. The Distribution Entity will flag deliveries that do not comply with these criteria.

### Update flow

This section describes the models for update.

The first model is “Push”, where the Distribution Entity sends updates as it deems appropriate. This could happen when a component has been improved or corrected, or when the Distribution Entity knows the Retailer is waiting for something (e.g., a new track). The other model is “Pull” where the Retailer orders updates. These processes are described below.

* Push Model
  + The Distribution Entity generates a File Manifest and updates the Manifest (at least the Inventory)
  + The Distribution Entity sends this manifest and files via normal channels.
  + The Retailer receives the files
* Pull Model
  + Retailer becomes aware that new material is available. For example,
    - Studio informs Retailer that a new component (e.g., next generation video) or revised component is available.
    - The Distribution Entity informs Retailer that a new or revised track is available.
  + Retailer decides to obtain that material
  + Retailer either requests or receives an update Manifest (based on same ordering criteria as original order)
  + The Retailer uses the Media Manifest to determine which files are to obtain the new track.
  + Retailer requests files (order)
  + (time might pass if files not ready)
  + The Distribution Entity generates a File Manifest and delivers files through normal channels.

See Inventory-only Media Manifest Updates below for a description of how to delivery only the Inventory portions of a Media Manifest.

### Issue Resolution Delivery

In case issues are found with a delivery, it will be necessary for a Retailer to notify the Distribution Entity that new information needs to be issued. Some examples of these problems include:

* A file is referenced in Media Manifest, but was not in the File Manifest
* A file is referenced in the File Manifest but is not available
* Content is referenced in an Avail, but does not have an associated Experience
* Material is implied in the terms of the Avail (e.g., Russian subs and dubs will be provided), but it is not in the Experience.
* Corrupted or badly formed files are delivered.

The resolution process is as follows:

* Retailer informs the Distribution Entity that one or more files is problematic
  + There is likely human intervention. There needs to be human-readable text indicating problem.
* The Distribution Entity responds, possibly delivering updated files via one of the delivery processes above.

See Inventory-only Media Manifest Updates below for a description of how to deliver only the Inventory portions of a Media Manifest.

### Updates

#### Inventory-only Media Manifest update

In updates and issue resolution, it is possible that only the Inventory changes. To facilitate delivering the Inventory alone, there is a MediaInventory element. The essential criteria are that all references to the Inventory are the same.

For example, consider an update where a defective track is replaced. The only change is some combination of TrackIdentifier and ContainerReference. The track reference (TrackID) from a Presentation is not affected.

#### Localization Update including tracks (Localization 1)

The most frequent update is the addition of a language. This section describes the rules for performing a localization update. We expect other models may be required, so we are calling this set of rules Localization 1.

There are the following variations on this model:

* Localization 1 – Localization including any language and region information (i.e., metadata, subs and dubs, etc.)
* Localization 1a – Localization including only metadata (e.g., add artwork for a region)

It is important that the entity sending the update can construct identifiers for objects being updated. This requires either prior knowledge of the identifiers, such as having a current version of the manifest, or having the ability to construct identifiers. The ID naming conventions in this document can help in many cases, but may require additional naming convention agreements between parties.

##### Localization 1

The following rules apply to updating Media Manifest with Localization 1:

* @updateNum must reflect an update. That is, it must be greater than all previous @updateNum values. If by prior agreement, the sequence of updates is understood, this can be waived.
* @updateDeliveryType=‘Localization1’
* MediaManifest/Inventory is present.
  + For each language added
    - At least one Audio or Subtitle element must be present. In this model, there is no such thing as a language update without audio or subtitle.
    - All audio and subtitle tracks for the language that are included in a Presentation must be in included in the Inventory
    - All track identifiers must be unique. That is, they must be distinct from each other and must not exist in any previous version of the manifest.
  + Other Audio, Video and Subtitle tracks are included as appropriate. For example, localized ratings or anti-piracy pre-roll video might be required as part of a localization.
  + Image and Interactive are included as appropriate
* MediaManifest/Presentations/Presentation must be present
  + A Presentation must be included for all Presentations that include new tracks.
  + To add tracks to an existing Presentation
    - Presentation/@PresentationID must match the Presentation to be updated
    - TrackMetadata/TrackSelectionNumber must match existing Track Metadata
    - VideoTrackReference, AudioTrackReference and SubtitleTrackReference are only included for new tracks.
    - LanguagePair may be added
    - Chapters may not be modified in any way
    - If an object (e.g., a track reference in a Presentation) in the update already exists in the original object, it is ignored.
    - Note: There is currently no way to delete a track
* MediaManifest/PlayableSequences may be added.
* MediaManifest/Experience can be added. It must have a unique ExperienceID
* MediaManifest/Experience can be modified as follows:
  + @ExperienceID must match the Experience being updated
  + @version must reflect an update
  + If Language or Region are included, these are assumed to be in addition to existing Languages or Regions covered. This might require the removal of the language or region from ExcludedLanguage or ExcludedRegion respectively.
  + If there are new Playable Sequences or Presentations, Audiovisual must be modified or created as follows
    - If @ContentID matches @ContentID in an earlier version of the Experience, this Audiovisual replaces the earlier version
    - If @ContentID does not match @ContentID in an earlier version, Audiovisual is added.
* If an update cannot be accomplished within these rules, a complete Media Manifest must be provided.

Media Entertainment Core (MEC) does not have a means to signal that this delivery is an update. So, the parties must determine this from context. The following rules apply to updating metadata via MEC in Localization 1:

* BasicMetadata should include all new localizations.
  + @ContentID is required
  + WorkType is required
  + UpdateNum should be included and reflect and update. However, it is expected that updates are provided by uncoordinated parties so it may not be practical to enforce proper UpdateNum usage.
  + LocalizedInfo must exist for each language
  + RatingSet/Rating should be included for covered regions, as applicable
  + People should be updated if localized information is included, such as Job/JobDisplay and Name/DisplayName
  + Other elements and attributes need not be included.
* If DigitalAsset is included in metadata delivery it must include new track definitions. Note that DigitalAsset is redundant with Inventory and will likely not be included.
* TitleInternalAlias should be included
* TrackingID must be included as appropriate
* Source should be included
* CompanyDisplayCredit and GroupingEntity should be included if localized data differs from what was previously delivered (of if there is any doubt).

##### Localization 1a

Localization 1a is designed to add only metadata to an existing Experience, such as adding region-specific artwork. This will typically result in an updated Experience that includes the new regions. If metadata is included in the Experience, it is necessary to update the Experience and add Inventory for the images. If the Experience references metadata through ContentID (i.e., metadata delivered separately), it is only necessary to include the image. A Localization 1a update can be as simple as an Inventory with an image.

Localization 1a has the same rules as Localization 1, with the following exceptions in Media Manifest:

* @updateDeliveryType=‘Localization1a’
* MediaManifest/Inventory is present if necessary.
  + Image is included as appropriate
* MediaManifest/Presentations/Presentation is not present
* MediaManifest/PlayableSequences is not present

### Special Delivery Conditions

This section describes signaling of special cases. It is essential that both parties be aware of these conventions. Otherwise, unexpected behavior will likely result.

#### Explicit non-delivery

In some cases, the sender needs to signal that a particular (expected) component will not be delivered. For example, a particular subtitle track that would typically be included might be omitted if it were not available.

This is done by including the component, while encoding for the component in question: Inventory/[Audio|Video|Subtitle|Image|Interactive]/TrackReference=‘NotSupplied’. All component types have TrackReference so any component can be annotated in this manner.

‘NotSupplied’ is not resolvable as an actual track reference and therefore indicates this condition.

#### Track-level Delivery Exceptions

Additional delivery exceptions can be noted in the Inventory. Each media type (video, audio, etc.) element contains a Private element that contains a sequence of any##other elements. Essentially, you can include anything you want (as long as it’s not defined the manifest namespace).

For example, if a track is of substandard quality but is the best track available, one might include:

<Private>

<DeliveryNotice>Track did not pass QC, but this is the best we have available.</DeliveryNotice>

</Private>

# Identifiers

There are multiple identifiers associated with these objects. These are necessary to sustain the information model, but unfortunately they are confusing. In this section, we provide an informal description of these identifiers to provide a better intuitive understanding of what they are.

Most identifiers are specific to what they identify so it is important to use them correctly. Using them correctly will avoid confusion about what is covered by the identified object and will avoid much confusion and many errors.

## Understand IDs of different Types

The identifiers are named somewhat abstractly because when we tried more meaningful names everyone got confused. You’ll note that terms like ‘product’ are rigorously avoided because they are not precise and people have preconceived notions of what they mean. The fact that nobody has a preconceived definition of “logical asset” allows us to define it precisely.

The following diagram shows the relationship between identifiers:



“Content” is at the center. Avails avail Content and Experiences fulfill Content. Logical Asset IDs (ALIDs) and Content IDs identify Content. Although ContentID and ALID are similar they represent distinct concepts and are sometimes different. To understand the distinctions, a careful reading of the sections below is strongly recommended.

Avails reference Content and Business terms. The important concept is that although there may be multiple assets and transactions, *each Avail corresponds with exactly one set of Content*.

Experiences reference Content via ContentID. But, more important to Avails, the ALIDExperienceMap allows one to determine which Experiences can fulfill an Avail.

From the Experiences, one can map the Physical Assets that are used to deliver the experience to the consumer.

### Simplifying Identifiers

The identifier structure is designed to handle all cases, but there are simplifications that will simplify identifier creation and interpretation.

Avail ID, ContentID, ALID and Experience ID are generally rooted in the same Content so the same base identifier can be used for all. In some cases, not discussed in this document, ExperienceIDs would have their own EIDR ID and therefore have a different base. So, it is important to not make assumptions about base identifiers. It is always possible to tell identifiers apart (e.g., ContentID from ALID) because they are structured differently (e.g., md:cid… vs. md:alid…).

Let’s take the following example for a title with the EIDR identifier md:avail:eidr-x:1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H:craigsmovies.com\_july\_NorthAmerica. In this example, the AvailID, ContentID and ALID are all based on this EIDR.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ID** | **General Example** | **Specialized example** |
| AvailID | In general, there will be multiple Avails for Content | md:avail:eidr-x:1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H:craigsmovies.com\_july\_NorthAmerica |
| ContentID | md:cid:eidr-s:1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H | In general, a specialized for is not required. |
| ALID | md:alid:eidr-s:1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H | md:alid:eidr-x:1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H:craigsmovies.com |

As there are many Avails for a given title, the EIDR-x form is used with the extension distinguishing the Avail.

As the Avails cover the same Content, there is only one metadata object so a single ContentID will suffice. If there are different metadata sets, then the EIDR-x form could be used, although this is the unusual case because generally a new EIDR ID would be better practice. If considering the EIDR-x format, first consider whether it is the truly same Content or whether there should be a distinct based identifier (e.g., EIDR ID) created. If you end up needing a new EIDR-X for a CID, odds are you should be creating a new base identifier. Recommended practice is to create new base identifies (e.g., EIDR IDs) when there are differences in Content.

If all Avails for this Content maps to the same Experiences, then the EIDR-s form can be used. However, the EIDR-x form gives you the flexibility to create different Experiences for different Avails. One particular use case for this is different Retailers. If each Retailer gets a slightly different experience for the same Avail, even if it is just artwork, then it is necessary to that the Avails use the appropriate identifiers to ensure mapping to the correct Experience. The recommended practice is to use EIDR-x even if you have not identified differences. This provides the flexibility to add variations later.

Note that the base identifier need not be EIDR, although EIDR is designed for these scenarios.

### Content ID

The Content ID (also referred to as ContentID and CID) is used exclusively as a reference to metadata. As such, it’s important for User interface, but it has no actual function in other parts of the workflow, such as Rights management, licensing, distribution, and packaging.

A Content ID can describe an actual work, such as a movie, a TV episode or a short subject, or it can be an object used to group things such as a season, series or franchise.

Everything identified by a Content ID should have Basic Metadata record. Basic Metadata is formally defined in the Media Entertainment Core [MEC].

Keep in mind that Metadata is used by every User Interface including those for processing orders and order resolution.

ContentID covers a particular version of the work, regardless of where that work is released. Metadata can contain multiple instances if localized information, so on ContentID can cover many regions and languages. Only if the edit changes, is a new ContentID required.

### Experience ID

The Experience ID identifies an Experience. It’s not any more complicated than that, but is essential to have the capability to refer to an Experience.

In this flow, one gets from an Avail to an Experience using the Media Manifest’s AvailExperienceMap.

### Logical Asset ID (ALID)

The Logical Asset Identifier (ALID) defines the content that a person has Rights to; that is, what is the subject of an Avail. The ALID goes into the Avail and it is used to map Avails to Experiences.

To understand an ALID, it is useful to look at how the ALID is used. When the studio decides the assets in an Avail, an ALID is created. The ALID might cover a single asset (e.g., a movie) or it can be an organized collection of assets (e.g., a season) or an arbitrary collection of assets (e.g., ‘movies starring Kirk Douglas’). At the time of the Avail, it is not necessary for the assets associated with the ALID to be fully defined—it can be updated later. However, by the time the assets are to be fulfilled, the ALID must be well defined.

How does one know the assets in the ALID? There are three ways;

* The Avail’s AssetList lists the assets. This is intentionally somewhat loose because it is understood that Avails are published before products are fully defined.
* The Media Manifest maps ALIDs to Experiences (ALIDExperienceMap). From there, the Media Manifest (Experience, Presentation, Inventory, etc.) fully defines what is addressed by the ALID
* EIDR unambiguously identifies what an ALID refers to. EIDR definitions correspond to the various assets an Avail must address (i.e., movies, episodes, seasons, arbitrary collections, etc.). We recommend EIDR because of the flexibility and precision. Note that EIDR definitions can be created in rough form, if full information is not available at Avail time, and revised later.

The ALID is the glue that ties everything together.

### AvailID

Generally, people will refer to the Avails by title, region and window; but systems need something more precise. An AvailID uniquely defines an Avail. AvailID is a means for systems to refer to Avails. Note that since an AvailID can cover multiple sets of assets (e.g., seasons) and multiple sets of terms (e.g., HD EST, HD VOD, SD EST, SD VOD, etc.) the AvailID can cover quite a bit.

An Avail Identifier (AvailID) identifies an Avail. More specifically, AvailID uniquely identifies a combination of assets and business terms.

To be clear, the following describe what an AvailID is not:

* An AvailID is not necessarily unique to a combination of assets and terms. A studio might assign multiple IDs to the same combination. This might be useful if the same Avail structure is offered to different Retailers.
* An AvailID is not a content identifier. In many cases, an Avail will correspond with a single asset. However, the IDs are not interchangeable. Asset is fundamentally different from Asset+Terms. Put differently, an Avail uses Content IDs to refer to items that is being made available.

It is also important to unambiguously identify the content referred to by the Avail, even if it is not fully defined at Avail time. This is what the Distribution Entity must deliver and what the Retailer may offer. The identifier that refers to the collection of assets associated with an Avail is a Logical Asset Identifier (ALID).

An Avail identifier might be used by the studio or various service providers partnering with the studio so Avails must be identified in a globally unique manner. Consequently, the AvailID must be defined globally unique. In most cases AvailID and ALID will be based on the same EIDR. The EIDR-x form can be used to distinguish between the different Avails for the same content.

For example, when Avails are updated the AvailID is used to know that a particular Avail is to be updated (i.e., the update AvailID matches the original AvailID). The Avail may be updated, but the ID remains constant.

### Track, Image and Interactive IDs

Asset Physical Identifier (APID) uniquely identifies each digital asset.

The Physical Asset ID is more commonly referred to as an APID. In general, the terms Physical Asset and Digital Asset are synonymous, and you will see the term Digital Asset used more commonly in the specifications.

It’s important to understand the following

* An APID does not correspond to a specific, single file. A Container is a Container regardless of whether it’s in a file by itself, part of a ZIP file or packaged in some other way.
* It is a matter of convention what constitutes a new encoding and requires a new APID. Typically, in a Media Manifest, APID used for tracks will remain constant regardless of encoding. For example, a TrackID will generally refer to the same essence regardless of encoding. That way, a track can be updated without having to update a Presentation.
* APIDs used for files should be unique to a given file. If the file changes (e.g., the encoding changes or certain data in the file change), then a new APID is required.

### ID Format

This document defines identifier formats as a best practice. These are not mandated in the referenced specifications, but best practice requires consistency. It may at some point make sense to move these to their respective specifications. Note that only the format is defined here. Use of these identifiers is defined elsewhere in this document.

Identifiers in the document use the Common Metadata [CM], Section 2.1 identifier format <MDID> where

<MDID> ::= “md:“<type> “:”<scheme>“:”<SSID>

<scheme> and <SSID> are defined in [CM], Section 2.1.

<type> is defined as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ID** | **<type>** | **Constrained form** |
| PackageID | packageid | “md:packageid:“<scheme>“:”<SSID> |
| AvaliID | availid | “md:availid:“<scheme>“:”<SSID> |
| ProductID | alid | “md:alid:“<scheme>“:”<SSID> |
| PresentationID | presentationid | “md:presentationid:“<scheme>“:”<SSID> |
| Experience | experiencedid | “md:experienceid:“<scheme>“:”<SSID> |

ProductID is a Logical Asset identifier and consequently uses the ALID format.

The following additional naming conventions are used optionally for identifiers in Media Manifest:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ID** | **<type>** | **Constrained form** |
| App Group | appgroupid | “md:appgroupid:“<scheme>“:”<SSID> |
| Picture Group | picturegroupid | “md:picturegroupid:“<scheme>“:”<SSID> |
| Playable Sequence | playablesequence | “md:playablesequence:“<scheme>“:”<SSID> |
| Video Track ID | vidtrackid | “md:vidtrackid:“<scheme>“:”<SSID> |
| Audio Track ID | audtrackid | “md:audtrackid:“<scheme>“:”<SSID> |
| Subtitle Track ID | subtrackid | “md:subtrackid:“<scheme>“:”<SSID> |
| Interactive Track ID | interactiveid | “md:interactiveid:“<scheme>“:”<SSID> |
| Image ID | imageid | “md:imageid:“<scheme>“:”<SSID> |
| Picture ID | pictureid | “md:pictureid:“<scheme>“:”<SSID> |
| Gallery ID | galleryid | “md:galleryid:“<scheme>“:”<SSID> |

## Using EIDR

Information on using EIDR can be found in the references [EIDR-UG], [EIDR-ID] and [EIDR-V]. Additional information is provided in this section.

### EIDR Format (EIDR-s and EIDR-x)

EIDR is based on the Digital Object Identifier (DOI), standardized as ISO 26324 [ISO26324] and described [DOI]. A full EIDR ID looks something like this: 10.5240/1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H. It can be converted to a resolvable form to obtain metadata: <https://resolve.eidr.org/EIDR/object/10.5240/1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H>. However, the Common Metadata identifier format uses URN format which requires percent encoding for certain characters such as slash (‘/’ = ‘%2f’). So, it’s easier to use a form of EIDRs that does not include the “10.5240/” prefix. The forms relevant here are EIDR-S (for ‘short’) and EIDR-X (for ‘eXtended’). These and other forms are defined in [EIDR-ID].

These forms are as follows:

“md:avail:eidr-s:“<EIDR suffix>

“md:avail:eidr-x:“<EIDR suffix>“:”<extension>

For example,

md:avail:eidr-s:1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H

md:avail:eidr-x:1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H:craigsmovies.com\_july\_NorthAmerica

The short form is used to express an EIDR ID with no other information. The extended form is used when identifiers are derived from the EIDR ID, but additional information is required to add uniqueness. Examples will follow throughout this document.

## EIDR Object Type

When using EIDR as the based for an AvailID it is important to use the correct EIDR Object Type. EIDR Object Types are defined in [EIDR-UG], Section 4.

EIDR Types should be assigned based on the asset types in the Avail. In general if there is a single asset (or season) the EIDR type should represent a particular Edit of that asset. If there is a collection of objects, it should be an EIDR Compilation (collection of assets). However, if this is impractical, the type of the primary asset can be used.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Asset Type** | **EIDR Type** | **Alternate EIDR Type** |
| Movie | Edit |  |
| Episode | Edit of Episode |  |
| Season | Season |  |
| Movie with extras | Compilation | Edit |
| Episode with extras | Compilation | Edit |
| Season with Extras | Compilation | Season |

### EIDR in Avails

In general, the EIDR-X form is most appropriate for Avails. This is because there may be multiple Avails for a single title. The <extension> part makes the Avail unique. For example, let’s assume a single title: The Devil is in the Details, EIDR Edit = 1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H. AvailIDs might be:

md:avail:eidr-x:1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H:craigsmovies.com\_july\_NorthAmerica

md:avail:eidr-x:1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H:craigsmovies.com\_july\_Europe

md:avail:eidr-x:1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H:craigsmovies.com\_aug\_NorthAmerica

md:avail:eidr-x:1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H:craigsmovies.com\_aug\_Europe

Because the extended EIDR (EIDR-X) form was used, it is possible to distinguish retailers, timing and region. This is done in a human-readable form, but it could also be done with something computer-friendly.

Naming conventions in extensions are intended to support uniqueness human readability and SHOULD NOT be parsed automatically to extract information.

## Practice for Constructing Asset Identifiers from top-level IDs

This section defines a recommended practice for building the IDs required by the Manifest. This practice is designed to make the manifest easier to create, read and maintain.

This practice should be used when unique identifiers do not already exist for an object. For example, if there is an ID for a movie’s trailer, it should be used. However, it there is no ID for that trailer, this practice describes how to construct a unique trailer ID from the movie’s ID.

Following is an example of identifiers using this convention.



ID form remains consistent with the other ID recommendations. That is, the ID is of the form:

<MDID> ::= “md:“<type> “:”<scheme>“:”<SSID>

This practice addresses the <SSID> part. The following form is used. Note: It looks complicated, but you’ll see from the examples it’s quite simple.

<SSID>::= <Experience SSID> | <Presentation SSID> | <Component SSID>

When constructing an identifier, it is important that the completed <SSID> is formatted in compliance with the <scheme>.

The following examples use EIDR; for example, md:presentationid:eidr-x:1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H:trailer.1. Other identifier schemes also work, provided one can distinguish between the pure identifier and one with an extension. This practice suggest appending ‘-x’ to the org-specific scheme. For example, org:craigsmovies.com becomes org:craigsmovies.com-x as shown in this example, md:presentationid:org:craigsmovies.com-x:abc123:trailer.1

### Derived Experience IDs

Experience IDs are derived using the <Experience SSID> form.

<Experience SSID> ::= <Root SSID>[“:”<experience name>]

* <Root SSID> refers to the identifier of the parent object from which the Experience is derived. For example, if the Experience is for a movie, the <Root SSID> is the SSID for the movie. If the Experience is for a season, the <Root SSID> is the SSID for the season.
* <experience name> is a string unique for Experience IDs for the <Root SSID>. That is, it needs to be different for each ExperienceID derived from a given <Root SSID>.

As Experiences often align with the top-level identifier used in ALID and ContentID (i.e., <Root SSID>. In this case, the Experience ID is simply constructed using the base identifier as the SSID; for example, md:experienceid:eidr-s:1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H.

Where there is not a simple mapping Experience ID can be constructed by appending unique data; for example, md:experienceid:eidr-x:1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H:exp1.

### Derived Presentation IDs

Presentation IDs are derived using the <Presentation SSID> form.

<Presentation SSID> ::= <Presentation Unique ID> | <Root SSID>“:”<av type>  
[“\_”<av subtype>] [“.”<index>]

* <Presentation Unique ID> and <Component Unique ID> are identifiers that are assigned to the assets externally to this practice. For example, if an EIDR is created for a particular Presentation that would be the <Presentation Unique ID>. Similarly, if an EIDR is created for a given audio track, that would be the <Component Unique ID>.
* <Root SSID> refers to the identifier of the parent object from which the Presentation is derived. For example, if the Presentation is a trailer for a movie, the <Root SSID> is the SSID for the movie. It is assumed there is only one “feature” presentation for the given <Root SSID>
* <av type>, <av subtype> and <index> distinguish this asset from other assets
  + <av type> is as defined in Audiovisual/Type.
  + <av subtype> is as defined in Audiovisual/Subtype. This should be included if Audiovisual/Subtype is present.
  + <index> is a number used to differentiate objects of the same type/subtype.
  + For example: main, promotion\_trailer.1, trailer.2, bonus\_making-of.1, bonus\_making-of.2, bonus\_deleted-scenes.1, bonus\_deleted-scenes.2

Following are examples of Presentation IDs using this approach:

* md:presentationid:eidr-x:1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H:main
* md:presentationid:eidr-x:1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H:trailer.1
* md:presentationid:eidr-x:1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H:bonus\_deleted-scenes.1

### Derived Component IDs

Componet IDs are derived using the <Component SSID> form.

<Component SSID> ::= <Component Unique ID> | <Presentation SSID> “.”<component type> [“.”<index>]

<component type> ::= “video” | <audio type> | <subtitle type>

<audio type> ::= “audio.”<language>[“.”<audio type>”]

<subtitle type> ::= “subtitle.”<language>[“.”<subtitle type>”]

* <language> is a language code as defined in [CM]
* <audio type> is as defined in Inventory/Audio/Type. Additional information can be appended as necessary for clarity or uniqueness.
* <subtitle type> is as defined in Inventory/Subtitle/Type. Multiple types or additional information can be appended as necessary for clarity or uniqueness.
* For example, video, audio.en.primary, audio.fr.narration, audio.es.dialogcentric, audio.de.commentary, subtitle.fr.normal, subtitle.en.forced subtitle.en.sdh, subtitle.de.large, subtitle.es.commentary

Following are examples of component IDs using this approach:

* md:vidtrackid:eidr-x:1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H:main.video
* md:audtrackid:eidr-x:1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H:main.audio.de.commentary
* md:subtrackid:eidr-x:1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H:bonus\_trailer.1.subtitle.de.large

Physical identifiers such as found in Inventory/{Audio|Video|Subtitle}/TrackIdentifier can be represented as follows. Note that physical assets are generally identified as an APID (Physical Asset ID).

* md:apid:eidr-x:1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H:main.video
* md:apid:eidr-x:1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H:main.audio.de.commentary
* md:apid:eidr-x:1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H:bonus\_trailer.subtitle.de.large

## IDs, Computer-readability and Human-readability

IDs are designed to be computer readable. The most important factors are that the ID be well formed and unique with the scope of usage.

Some conventions such as ID type are structurally important as they allow unique identifiers to be assigned using the same root identifier (e.g., EIDR).

Where possible, we used conventions that would enhance the readability of the ID. For example, you can distinguish a Content ID from an Experience ID by the type embedded in the string. You can determine an ID type by viewing the scheme.

NEVER USE STRINGS FROM AN IDENTIFIER IN LIEU OF METADATA. For example, you might see an ID that looks like this: md:subtrack:eidr-x:1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H:subtitle.de.large. We certainly hope this is a German large subtitle, but it might not be. Rely on the appropriate metadata (e.g., Track/Subtitle/Language). The only reliable aspect of any identifier is that it is unique.

## ID Summary

Unless otherwise noted:

* AvailID is unique for the Avail. It should be built from the base EIDR ID in EIDR-x form.
* ALID refers to an Edit of the Movie, TV episode, etc. It should be built from the base EIDR ID in EIDR-s or EIDR-x.
* Asset/@contentID – references metadata for the movie. It should in EIDR-s form. This is informative only as metadata might not yet be finalized.

Avails are connected to Experiences as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ID** | **Avails Type** | **Mapping to Experience** |
| Avail ID | Avail/@AvailID | MediaManifest/AvailsExperienceMap |
| ALID | Avail/ALID |  |
| Content ID | Avail/Asset/@contentID | Experience/Audiovisual/@ContentID |

# Connecting Objects

This section describes how one gets from Avail to Media Manifest and from Media Manifest to physical (encoded) assets.

The mappings can be simple and direct. However, in practice information is often incomplete or inconsistent. This section attempts to address the real-world scenarios to allow mapping under various non-ideal conditions.

## Mapping Avail to Experience

The most direct means to map Avail to Experience is to use the Avail Experience mapping found in the Media Manifest (MediaManifest/AvailExperienceMap). This defines the set of Experiences that satisfy a set of Avails.



Selection of the precise Experience then involves looking for the Experience that matches language and region. Information on region can be found in Section 8.1.

If, for some reason, the three elements are not simultaneously available it is still possible to infer which Experience applies to which Avail. However, this is not a general solution and might not work in all circumstances. The Retailer and the Distribution Entity organization must agree upon constraints that allow this work.

Following are some examples of what could work *under controlled circumstance*:

* Assuming only a single asset and one release per region, Experience could be matched based on Avail/@ContentID matching Experience/BasicMetadata/@ContentID, and region/territory matching as per Section 8.1. One could, by convention, use Avail/Asset/Metadata/ProductID to match Experience/BasicMetadata/@ContentID.
* Assuming multiple assets and one release per region, Experience can be matched based on ProductID as in the previous example. One would have to identify an Experience that contained all the ProductIDs from all the Assets in the Avail. This would require constraints on the Avail to avoid assets mapping to more than one Experience.

## Mapping Avail file references to Media Manifest asset references

The Media Manifest provides a very direct means to map Experience to Assets.

In the following diagram, the vertical dotted line shows where this mapping occurs. This process is described in detail in [Manifest], Section 2.2.3.



Media Manifest provides the means to reference content either by asset identifier (physical asset) or by location.

### Referencing assets by identifier

The most general and correct is to use TrackIdentifier in various Inventory types (Audio, Video, etc.). This allows assets to be referenced regardless of how the asset is containerized or packaged with other tracks. However, the Retailer’s asset management system must be able to index off identifiers. Retailers might wish to consider this on their roadmaps.

### Referencing assets by location

In this recommendation, the only location we are considering is filename. It is presumed that any other types of location (e.g., URL for download) will be resolved through the File Manifest that enumerates delivery mechanisms.

The element for referencing filenames is ContainerReference which is found under each of the Inventory media types (Audio, video, etc.). The outermost container in Inventory’s ContainerReference/ContainerLocation/… should match the File Manifest’s FileInfo/Location.

Consider the following diagram from [Manifest]. File Manifest FileInfo/Location corresponds with the Media Manifest’s ExternalContainerReference.



The following illustrates track within nested containers. In this scenario, File Manifest’s FileInfo/Location corresponds with the *outermost* container, in this case ContainerReference/ParentContainer/ContainerLocation. Note that the File Manifest does not address the internal structure of a container—the only possible reference is the file itself which is the outermost container.



### Images

There are several types of images in a Media Manifest; for example, chapter images, metadata images and gallery images. It is important the recipient of a Media Manifest be able to easily locate images associated with an Experience.

All Images must be included in the Inventory.

Images that are part of an Experience include the following:

* Images in Picture Group referenced in Gallery/PictureGroupID
* Images referenced in BasicMetadata/LocalizedInfo/ArtReference. Basic Metadata exists in Experience and Audiovisual, both through reference (ContentID) and by inclusion (BasicMetadata).
* Images referenced in Presentation/Chapters/Chapter/ImageID for all Presentations referenced directly by the Experience, or referenced indirectly through a Playable Sequence

To make it easier to locate images associated with an Experience, the recommended practice is to also include images that belong together (e.g., chapter images and metadata images) in a Picture Group. With the exception of Picture Groups referenced in Galleries, Picture Groups associated with an Experience should be referenced in Experience/PictureGroupID. Specifically

* All chapter images for a Presentation should be in a Picture Group
* All metadata images associated with a ContentID should be in Picture Group

References to images in BasicMetadata/LocalizedInfo/ArtReference should be to the Inventory. That is, the reference should be of form “md:imageid:“<scheme>“:”<SSID>. For example:

<manifest:Audiovisual ContentID="urn:dece:cid:eidr-s:C5CA-AD07-3B62-A2B0-23C1-G">

 <manifest:PresentationID>presentation</manifest:PresentationID>

 <manifest:BasicMetadata ContentID="urn:dece:cid:eidr-s:C5CA-AD07-3B62-A2B0-23C1-G">  
   <md:LocalizedInfo language="en" default="true">  
     ...  
     <md:ArtReference resolution="800x600">md:imageid:eidr-x:C5CA-AD07-3B62-A2B0-23C1-G:poster.en</md:ArtReference>

     ...

   </md:LocalizedInfo>  
   <md:LocalizedInfo language="de">  
     ...  
     <md:ArtReference resolution="800x600"> md:imageid:eidr-x:C5CA-AD07-3B62-A2B0-23C1-G:poster.de</md:ArtReference>

     ...

   </md:LocalizedInfo>

   ...

 </manifest:BasicMetadata>

</manifest:Audiovisual>

# Avails

An Avail is one or more assets and one or more business rules that define when, where and for how much those assets are offered and delivered to a user.

An example of Avails can be found in [Avails]. Although this model is generally compatible with any avails description mechanism, this document will use [Avails] as the model for the purposes of description.

## Avails Model

A generalized representation of Avails is shown in the following figure:



On the left is a generalization of the Avails structure. On the right is a conceptualized expanded view of Assets and Transactions, more precisely Avail/Asset and Avail/Transaction respectively. AvailMetadata covers other Avail data such as disposition, licensor, service provider, avail type, description and notice that human intervention is required. These other data are described in [Avails] and are not directly relevant to this discussion.

What is important for this discussion is how Avails relates to the assets that are delivered to the Retailer and ultimately to the consumer.

## Constructing an AvailID

An AvailID SHALL be globally unique. The same AvailID SHALL NOT be used for a different combination of assets and terms. An Avail associated with an AvailID SHALL have only one disposition.

An AvailID SHOULD comply with the AvailID format above. This is not a strict requirement, but it will make global uniqueness much easier and avoid us IDs in the wrong context. Note that UUIDs avoid the first issue, but not the second.

An AvailID SHOULD be based on an EIDR ID.

## Avails of various Experiences

The following illustrations show how Avails and Experiences would be constructed around a few types of titles.

The most common cases are a single move, a single episode and a single season. These are described in Sections 5.3.1 and 5.3.2. Other cases are described in the sections that follow.

### Availing a single Movie or TV Episode

The Avail for a Movie has a single Avail/Asset element describing the Movie.



A single entry is in ALIDExperienceMap mapping the ALID to the ExperienceID for the movie.

The structure is the same for a single Episode. The following example is for a single episode, in this case Season 1, Episode 3. In general, each episode would get its own Avail and Experience.



### Television Season without episodes listed

The season without episodes explicitly listed as distinct Assets is similar to the Season without episodes listed as Assets (later example). However, since there is only one Asset (the season itself) and episodes might not yet be known, it is does not make sense to reference individual episodes. It is understood from context that the Experience will ultimately include episodes.



In this case, the ALID Asset/@contentID both are built from the season-level identifier.

### Movie with Extras and Season with episodes listed

The following illustrates a movie with bonus material (extras) and a season with selected episodes. In both cases the ALID represents an object that includes all assets (e.g., EIDR Compilation).

In both cases, Asset elements are created for each Asset. In each of these Assets, metadata describes that individual Asset and the ContentID refers to metadata for that Asset. Note that these identifiers are for the Asset, not for the season/collection. Typically, these will be the EIDR Edit for that work.

The following movie example allows specific assets to be listed. This avoids any ambiguity about which assets are included.



The following form is used when it is important to be explicit about the episodes that are included. In the previous example, the entire season is included. In the following example, certain episodes can be excluded. Generally, this would not be used for complete seasons.



### Avail with Multiple Experiences

These examples illustrate how an ALID can identify a set of Experience elements. In these examples, there is an Avail that covers three seasons—although it could be any combination of content. An ALID is defined that covers those three seasons.

In both cases, an ALID is created that covers three seasons. This is independent of how the Avail metadata is constructed or how the Experiences are structured.

In the first case, the three seasons are presented to the consumer as a single entity, including its own metadata. For example, these seasons might be sold as “Show XYZ, *The Early Years*”. Consequently, it is viewed as a single entity both in the Avails Asset as well as from the Experience. The Avail is created with one Asset. Subsequently, an Experience will be created for the three seasons. Each individual season still exists as its own experience, but the parent Experience (three seasons) links to those through ExperienceChild.

The ALID need only map to the single Experience as the others are inferred through the linkages.



In the second example, the Avail lists each season as its own Asset. While the previous example implies that the set of seasons is a distinct entity, this example makes no attempt to group the seasons other than to say they’re sold together. There is an Avail/Asset element created for each season. ALIDExperienceMap maps the single ALID to the collection of Experiences.



## Holdbacks

A holdback is a special type of Avail that indicates exceptions to another Avail.

### Holdback terms

Holdbacks are defined in Terms with the termName values ‘HoldbackScope’, ‘HoldbackAsset’, ‘HoldbackAssetType’, and ‘HoldbackLanguage’. A Holdback should not have any other terms.

Holdback territories, time periods and assets must be a subset of the original Avail. Note that by subset, it could match exactly or represent a smaller set (proper subset).

### Holdback examples

Let’s say a studio had licensed a movie worldwide for EST, but wanted to withhold the German Subtitle track for weeks 2 and 3. There would be two Transaction elements.  The first licensed the movie, and would have the appropriate terms.

The second, the holdback avail, would look exactly the same, except it only covered weeks 2 and 3.

This holdback avail could hold back specific tracks as follows:

<avails:Term termName="HoldbackAsset">

<avails:URI>urn:dece:subtrackid:eidr-x:C5CA-AD07-3B62-A2B0-23C1-G:main.subtitle.de</avails:URI>

</avails:Term>

<avails:Term termName="HoldbackAsset">

<avails:URI>urn:dece:subtrackid:eidr-x:C5CA-AD07-3B62-A2B0-23C1-G:commentary.subtitle.de</avails:URI>

</avails:Term>

Or, the holdback avail could hold back by language and track type

<avails:Term termName="HoldbackAssetType">

                <avails:Text>Subtitle</avails:Text>

</avails:Term>

<avails:Term termName="HoldbackLanguage">

                <avails:Text>de</avails:Text>

</avails:Term>

If the holdback prohibited download and license (i.e., sale, rental and streaming allowed), the following terms could be added:

<avails:Term termName="HoldbackScope">

                <avails:Text>Download</avails:Money>

</avails:Term>

<avails:Term termName="HoldbackScope">

                <avails:Text>License</avails:Text>

</avails:Term>

# Manifest Construction

This section provides additional guidance on Media Manifest construction.

## References within Manifest

The following diagram represents a Media Manifest and encoded media associated with the Manifest. This is described in detail in [Manifest].

Generally, arrows represent references identifier, although in at least one case (Playable Sequence) it represents optional inclusion.



How identifiers are used for references are determined by whether the references are to be used entirely within the Media Manifest or whether those identifiers will be external references. If references are internal, identifiers can be in any form as long as they are unique.

External identifiers should be used when they are available. For example, a Presentation might correspond with a Presentation in a Common Media Package (CMP). Use of the same Presentation ID allows the CMP to be used for media playback in lieu of the Presentation structure in the Manifest (or vice versa).

It is easy to confuse identifiers, so we recommend using the naming conventions in Section 3.1.7.

We offer no recommendation on whether Playable Sequence should be included or referenced in Audiovisual.

## Region and Language

Region and language should be used as necessary to provide the correct experience to the user.

Region should be encoded using guidance from Section 8.1. The primary reasons for using region are to provide distinct playable sequence and to offer different sets of tracks to different regions. If one is not doing one of those two things, they should carefully consider whether regions are required. Note that Avails should prevent the availability of content to given territories. Many consider it a feature to offer the broadest set of languages to their customers.

Languages can, in general, be handled through track selection, although for marketing reasons, some may opt to group tracks into different experiences. Note that metadata localization allows one metadata set to be internationalized so it can be used across multiple languages and regions.

## Metadata

The within the Experience is means to convey Metadata describing an Experience, Playable Sequence or Presentation. There is metadata at the experience level, and also at the Audiovisual.

### Metadata by reference or inclusions

The implementer is given the option of including metadata in the XML document, or referring to the metadata elsewhere. This is reflected by an xs:choice between a BasicMetadata element and a ContentID element. When using BasicMetadata, metadata is included. ContentID refers to metadata with the assumption the recipient can locate that metadata.

### Metadata requirements for Experience and Audiovisual

There must always be metadata for the Experience. This provides any application that needs information about the Experience to obtain that information and present it to a user. This applies whether the Experience is a single asset or is part of a complex hierarchy as illustrated below:

 

Metadata is also needed to describe each audiovisual asset within an Experience. The following example shows a movie with additional materials. There is metadata at the Experience level and also metadata for each audiovisual asset.



In the special case when the Experience metadata matches the Audiovisual metadata, the Audiovisual metadata should be by reference. That is, use Audiovisual/ContentID using a Content Identifier that matches Experience/ContentID or Experience/BasicMetadata/@ContentID.



## Director’s Commentary and other track combinations

A Presentation contains all tracks conformed to play together. In a sense it is the tracks that *can* play together. However, it is not necessarily the tracks that *should* play together.

In particular, it is important that the subtitles are correctly matched to audio. It doesn’t make sense to play commentary audio and non-commentary subtitles.

To handle this, tracks are grouped in Presentation/TrackMetadata. There is one set for each combination of tracks that *should* be played together. TrackSelectionNumber is used to refer to different groups. TrackSelectionNumber=‘0’ is the primary group and should contain at least ‘primary’ audio tracks. Note that TrackSelectionNumber does not provide metadata on the track selection group—that must be derived from track metadata.

Alternatively, these groups can be assigned their own Presentation and given distinct Audiovisual element or even distinct Experiences.

Note that the user should likely be given the choice of playing track combinations that do not necessarily make sense. Let’s say, for example, they want director’s commentary subtitles with primary audio. Who are we to say no?

# File Delivery

## File Manifest

The File Manifest is an XML document that describes the structure of files delivered from one party to another. [Manifest] describes how to encode the FileManifest element. This section provides additional guidance on how to use the File Manifest in various applications.

## Package Concept and Identifier

A set of files is called a Package and is identified with a PackageID.

Avails must be identified in a globally unique manner. An Avail identifier might be used by the studio or various service providers partnering with the studio.

### What an Package Identifier Identifies

A Package ID represents a collection of files associated with a delivery.

There are two use cases here

* PackageID applies to a single delivery of files. Any files subsequent delivery would require a new PackageID. Versioning is handled outside the scope of File Manifest.
* Package ID applies to a set of files, regardless of when and how they are delivered. Subsequent versions of the File Manifest, as distinguished by FileManfiest/PackageDateTime, represent the complete set of files that the sender expects the recipient to obtain.

### Constructing an PackageID

A Package ID SHALL be globally unique. The same PackageID SHALL NOT be used for distinct sets of files.

A PackageID SHOULD comply with the PackageID format above. This is not a strict requirement, but it will make global uniqueness much easier and avoid us IDs in the wrong context. Note that UUIDs avoid the first issue, but not the second.

An PackageID SHOULD be based on an EIDR.

### EIDR and PackageIDs

A PackageID using EIDR would be of one the two following forms:

“md:avail:eidr-s:“<Short EIDR>

“md:avail:eidr-x:“<Short EIDR>“:”<extension>

In one usage, an EIDR is created for the Package as a Compilation. In this case, the EIDR-s form would be used. Alternatively, the EIDR could be constructed as an EIDR-x, possibly matching the AvailID or possibly extending the AvailID. See Section 3.2 for instructions how to use EIDR for Avail IDs.

If an Avail ID is further extended, <extension> part would include both the Avail unique information and the package information. For example, let’s assume a single title: The Devil is in the Details, EIDR Edit = 1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H. AvailIDs might be:

md:avail:eidr-x:1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H:craigsmovies.com\_july\_NorthAmerica

The Package ID could be:

md:package:eidr-x:1012-7947-21D5-9D24-CC5F-H:craigsmovies.com\_july\_NorthAmerica\_pkg1

Note that <type> changed to ‘package’ and ‘\_pkg1’ was added to indicate that this Package ID is for the first package (package 1) associated with that Avail.

Identifiers are to be processed in their entirety as an opaque object. Naming conventions in extensions are intended to support uniqueness human readability and SHOULD NOT be parsed automatically to extract information.

## File Identification and Versioning

### Identifying Files

Files can be identified in several ways. The most important distinction when identification refers to a specific version (e.g., a particular encoding) or to the contents (e.g., an encoding of a particular language track). For versioning files, it is important to know both.

The most definitive identification of a given file at the bit level is the file Hash (FileInfo/Hash). It is effectively guaranteed to be unique for any file.

The most flexible identification is an identifier (i.e., FileInfo/Identifier). An identifier can identify version and contents. Multiple identifiers can be included.

### Versioning

Files versioning requires knowing two files are the same except for the version. They must have some level of identification, but also be different in some manner.

Currently the following methods are available for versioning.

* FileInfo/Version element
* Information inherent in the file
* Determine from Media Manifest which files are relevant

#### FileInfo/Version FileInfo/FileDate versioning

The simplest means to determine the most recent version is the use of the Version element in FileVersion. The initial has Version either absent or ‘0’. These are semantically equivalent. A Version>0 means there has been an update. The file with the largest Version is the most current.

As this is the simplest and most unambiguous, this method is recommended.

FileInfo/FileDate can also be used to determine file version.

#### Information in the File

Some files contain version information in the file. This is not the easiest method to determine version and it does not apply to all files, so it is not the preferred method.

Version information in files include:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **File Type** | **Means to determine version** |
| Metadata | Basic Metadata such as found in Media Entertainment Core (MEC) can be versioned using CoreMetadata/Basic/UpdateNum |
| Media Manifest | Media Manifest is versioned using MediaManifest/@updateNum. ExtraVersionReference can be used as an additional versioning identifier. |
| Avails | Avails can be versioned using Avail/Disposition/IssueDate. Note that IssueDate can include time. |
| Common File Format (CFF) | Common File Format files can be versioned by APID with additional information in MetadataMovie/ContainerVersionReference and MetadataMovie/@MetadataVersionReference. |

#### Media Manifest

The Media Manifest can link Avails to Experience and ultimately to media files. In general, if a file appears in the Media Manifest it is required.

If the Manifest is complete, there is no ambiguity about what file is what or how it is used in the system. Media file information is in the Inventory. Metadata is referenced by ContentID.

## File Delivery

The File Manifest design recognizes that not all files are necessarily delivered at once and may be updated once delivered. Methods are provided for generating and accepting incremental deliveries.

### Delivery Methods

The File Manifest supports most common means of delivering files: FTP, email, HTTP GET, etc. These methods are defined in [Manifest]. This document has no further recommendations regarding delivery methods.

### Delivering Sets of Files

The File Manifest supports delivering multiple files together. To do so, include multiple instances of FileInfo, one for each file.

The basic types of files delivered are as follows, although any type of file can be delivered.

* Manifest file – A file with data described in this section
* Metadata files
* Media files – audio, video, subtitle, apps, images, text, interactivity/apps)
* Avails files
* Ancillary files (any other files). Images are Ancillary files.

All files could be delivered in a single manifest or they could be spread across multiple manifests. It is reasonable to have one of files in one manifest and another set in another manifest. One should consider timing, including updates, when deciding how files should be grouped. Using the New Package Model described below (a new FileManifest for each drop), this is less critical. However, if the Single Package Model is used, the initial choice of grouping must be maintained for updates.

### Incremental Delivery

There are two ways to handle incremental delivery:

* A single Package definition is used, but updated to reflect changes.
* A new Package is generated for each update.

These are described in the following sections.

#### Single Package Model

The Single Package Model uses the same Package and PackageID for all deliveries. Each Package represents a complete snapshot of the delivery. The goal is for the recipient to have the same files represented in the File Manifest. If a file is added to the File Manifest, that file should be obtained. If a file is removed from the File Manifest, that file can be removed.

Consider the following. There are three deliveries of the File Manifest. They all have the same PackageID. The date-time increases with each delivery. The second drop adds File 3. The third drop adds File 4 and removes File 1. As the 2014-05-19 09:00 delivery is the last, the recipient should have Files 2, 3 and 4.



The removal of File 1 is indicated by FileInfo/Delivery/DeliveryMethod=‘removed’.

In the second delivery, File 1 and File 2 have already been delivered. The same is true for File 3 in the third delivery. This can be determined by the recipient by looking at the identification and the Hash. If the file is still deliverable, it should be noted in DeliveryMethod. However, if the file is presumed delivered and is no longer available, it should be noted by setting DeliveryMethod=‘delivered’.

The following diagram that follows the example above illustrates a File update:.



In this example, File 4 is revised. To recognize the File 4 is updated is must have the same Identifier as the previous version. Version is updated to be a higher value than the previous Version.

#### New Package Model

In the New Package Model, each File Manifest has a unique PackageID. Only new or removed files are included. The following example has the same net effect as the example in the Single Package Model.



This model is requires every update to processed, and processed in order.

Update is similar in the model.



Like the previous model, Identifier remains constant and the Version is revised.

## Verifying File Correctness

It is strongly suggested that Hash be included and verified. Hash is required in cases where Hash is used to differentiate versions.

Software is subject to manipulation and should be treated as sensitive. All files that include any code, whether source or executable, must include Hash in the File Manifest and must be checked.

XML canonicalization is not required. Two XML documents might be functionally equivalent, but have slightly different encoding (e.g., different white space). There is no attempt to match such equivalences so XML Canonical Form [XML-C] is not required.

Hash algorithms (Hash/@method as defined in [CM], should be either ‘MD5’, ‘SHA-1’ or ‘SHA-256’. It is strongly recommended that implementations ingesting data from a File Manifest be capable of verifying using these algorithms.

If Hash is used, it is strongly recommended that the Length element be used to ensure that the sender and the receiver are checking the correct number of bytes. If Length differs more than a few bytes from the actual length of the file, be sure to verify that the hash was properly generated (think Heartbleed).

# Other element Encoding Rules

## Use of Region

Both Avails and the Experience allow region to be encoded. More specifically, the applicable elements are Avails/Transaction/Territory and TerritoryExcluded; and MediaManifest/Experience/Region and ExcludedRegion. These are encoded in accordance with [CM], Section 3.2.

### Avail Territories

A Transaction element can have multiple Territory elements, so any combination of territories can be covered by an Avail. Furthermore, multiple Transaction elements can be included, expanding the scope of the Avail. Be careful to ensure that no two Transaction elements cover the same territory unless the terms are unique (e.g., SD vs. HD).

Although Avails allows the inclusion of both Territory and TerritoryExcluded, this should not be used. The one exception is when ‘Domestic’ or ‘International’ is used, although these should not be used in Avails. Be specific and list countries. This will avoid confusion and potential contradictory information.

Consider the following: Avail 1 is US and Canada, shown in Orange, and Avail 2 is Mexico and parts of Central America shown in Green.

Avail 1: Territory=‘US’, Territory=‘CA’

Avail 2: Territory=‘MX’, Territory=‘GT’, Territory=‘BZ’, Territory=‘HN’, Territory=‘SV’, Territory=‘HN’, Territory=‘NI’, Territory=‘HN’, Territory=‘CR’, Territory=‘PA’



The following examples illustrate the use of ExcludedTerritory.

Avail 3: ExcludedTerritory=‘US’, ExcludedTerritory =‘CA’, ExcludedTerritory =‘MX’, ExcludedTerritory =‘GT’, ExcludedTerritory =‘BZ’, ExcludedTerritory =‘HN’, ExcludedTerritory =‘SV’, ExcludedTerritory =‘HN’, ExcludedTerritory =‘NI’, ExcludedTerritory =‘HN’, ExcludedTerritory =‘CR’, ExcludedTerritory =‘PA’



Avail 1, 2 and 3 collectively cover the entire world, excepting Cuba and North Korea.

### Experience Regions

The use of Region and ExcludedRegion is analogous the Avail’s Territory and ExcludedTerritory.

Note that Experiences are defined to address both region and language. So, there can be multiple experiences for a given region, each with their own language. The following scenarios assume the same language.

First Experience regions should not overlap. If they do, it should be assumed Experiences will be used the following precedence:

* If Region includes the territory in question, this Experience should be used.
* Otherwise, if ExcludedRegion does not include the territory in question, this Experience should be used
* Otherwise, if an Experience does not include Region or Excluded Region, this Experience should be used
* In the above cases, if there is more than one match, use the first Experience listed. If no Experience matches territory, the Experience to use is undefined; and, one should investigate.

Consider the following cases:

* The Experience has no Region or RegionExcluded, meaning the Experience covers the entire world.   
    
  This is always acceptable. It is presumed that a consumer will not be playing content outside of the Availed territory. So, it does not matter if the scope of the Experience is broader than the scope of the Avail.
* The Experience covers a Region that is a subset of the Avail.  
    
  This is always acceptable. However, it is important that there exists exactly one Experience that covers each part of the territory.

Using the Avail 1 example above (US and Canada), each of the following are acceptable (although not simultaneously):



One Experience worldwide (no Region or RegionExcluded)



One Experience for US and Canada together (Region=‘US’, Region= ‘CA’)

 

Two Experiences: One for US (Region=‘US’) and one for Canada (Region= ‘CA’).

## Audiovisual Type/SubType

The Audiovisual element contains Type and SubType elements to provide information about the referenced Playable Sequence or Presentation.

The Media Manifest specification defines Type as one of the following:

* ‘Main’ – Main title (typically the feature)
* ‘Promotion’ – Trailers, teasers, etc.
* ‘Bonus’ – Additional material related toward the Main Program, such as, deleted scenes, making-of, etc.
* ‘Other’ – Any other material included

This section provides guidance on encoding SubType. Zero or more SubType elements can be included[[1]](#footnote-1). Generally, SubType values are relevant only to specific Type values. For example, the “Trailer” SubType only applies to the “Promotion” Type. When more than one SubType is included, subsequent SubType instances modify the first SubType. This is not a hard and fast rule, and any applicable SubType should be included.

The following sections define the SubType values applicable to each Type value. In each section, a diagram is provided showing relationships and a table is provided describing each value.

Encoding must be as given (including spaces and dashes). It is recommended that interpretation is case insensitive.

### Main Type



|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **SubType value** | **Description** | **Parent** |
| Feature | Main feature. This avoids any ambiguity that this is the primary asset (movie, TV episode, etc.) in the collection. |  |
| Home | Home entertainment version. This is assumed unless otherwise stated. | Feature |
| Theatrical | Theatrical version. This may also appear under Alternate Version if desired for presentation or marketing reasons. | Feature |
| Alternate Version | Indicates another version of the asset |  |
| Director Cut | Director’s cut | Alternate Version |
| Unrated Version | Unrated version, typically with an implied rating higher than the original (e.g., “Unrated Edition”). | Alternate Version |
| Extended Cut | Extended version of the work, not including director’s cuts. | Alternate Version |
| Hospitality | Version created for hospitality (airplane, hotel, etc.) | Alternate Version |
| TV Edit | Version edited for television | Alternate Version |
| Sing-a-long | Full feature sing-a-long. Note that sing-a-long can also be Bonus. | Alternate Version |
| Workprint | Post-production version of the complete film. | Alternate Version |
| Never Aired Episode | TV Episode that was not aired. This would typically be included in a list with episodes that were aired. |  |
| Never Aired Pilot | The episode than never aired is a pilot. | Never Aired Episode |

### Promotion Type



|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **SubType value** | **Description** | **Parent** |
| Trailer | Short-form promotional content |  |
| Teaser | Short trailer that doesn't show a lot of footage, builds buzz |  |
| Preview | Preview |  |
| Short Preview | Short preview. This generally refers to the first 2 minutes of a work | Preview |
| Long Preview | Long preview. This generally refers to the first 10 minutes of a work | Preview |
| Sizzle Reel | "A sizzle reel is a fast paced video that is short and incorporates creativity with sounds and engaging sights to advertise a product or any concept on TV" (http://prsizzlereel.com/sizzlereel/what-is-a-sizzle-reel/) |  |
| EPK | Electronic Press Kit. Container for clips/other promotional material given to the press |  |

### Bonus Type



|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **SubType value** | **Description** | **Parent** |
| Clip | Subset of a Type=“Main” asset. If is not part of a main asset, is would generally be an Excluded Scene |  |
| Excluded Scenes | Any material that did not appear in the original Type=“Main” asset. |  |
| Featurette | General category that can include shorts, making-of's, and other types of film-related content |  |
| Supplemental | Additional finished material that would not be considered a Featurette. |  |
| Credits | Credits |  |

**Excluded Scenes**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **SubType value** | **Description** | **Parent** |
| Deleted Scene | Scene deleted from final cut | Excluded Scenes |
| Alternate Scene | A scene that replaces a scene in the final cut, but is not considered an Extended Scene | Excluded Scenes |
| Extended Scene | Alternate scene that extends an scene in the final cut. | Alternate Scene |
| Alternate Beginning | Scene that represents a different beginning. | Alternate Scene |
| Alternate Ending | Scene that represents a different ending. | Alternate Scene |

**Featurette**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **SubType value** | **Description** | **Parent** |
| Making-of | Documentaries that address some aspect of creating a work. These may address entire works, specific scenes, special effects, costumes or any other aspect of filmmaking. | Featurette |
| Behind the Scenes | Behind the scenes. | Featurette |
| Short | Short that accompanies a main title. For example, an animated short associated with an animated film. | Featurette |
| Outtake | Takes that are not included in the final version. | Featurette |
| Blooper Reel | Composition of outtakes from filming, usually edited together quickly to increase comedic value | Outtake |
| Line-O-Rama | Composition of different lines, typically ad-lib lines, from a work. Similar to a gag reel | Outtake |
| Interview | Interviews with cast/crew about a role or movie, generally released as promotional content | Featurette |

**Supplemental**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **SubType value** | **Description** | **Parent** |
| Pre-vis | Footage of a scene before final visual effects have been processed. Usually batched with clips from several VFX stages to show a progression | Supplemental |
| Multi-angle VFX | Multi-angle representations of visual effects | Supplemental |
| 360 Turntable | View of object from all angles (360 degrees) | Supplemental |
| B-Roll | B-roll material collected to fill in scenes. This might be included in the final cut, or not. | Supplemental |
| Sing-a-long | Scenes sing-a-long visuals. If it is a complete work, it should be an Alternate Version | Supplemental |
| Screen Test | Footage from actor's auditions for a role | Supplemental |
| Branching Feature | Commentary is included in divergent paths that the user can navigate. | Commentary |

**Credits**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **SubType value** | **Description** | **Parent** |
| Opening Credits | Credits shown at the beginning | Credits |
| Closing Credits | Credits shown at the end | Credits |
| Dubbing Credits | Credits for audio dubbing in particular languages. Can be used in conjunction with Opening Credits or Closing Credits. | Credits |

### Other Type

No SubType values are currently defined for “Other”.

### Studio-specific Types

For other types not covered, the following syntax is recommended:

“Other:”+[<org>”+“:”]+<label>

Where <org> is an organization-specific name and <label> is a unique label. Note that <org>+“:” is optional.

For example, if Warner Bros wished to add a Maximum Movie Mode Subtype, it would look like this: Other:Warner:MMM.

1. Ordering Files (DRAFT)

This section provides recommendations on ordering. If it is sufficiently general, it could become its own specification. It is envisioned that API and data definitions will follow.

A Retailer must generally inform the Distribution Entity which materials it wants.

Following could be supplied by a Retailer for ordering:

* Preferences
  + Type of files preferred in order of preference
  + Priority for encodes (e.g., 5.1 is preferable to 2.0)
* Minimal expectations
  + Which set of components is minimally required for a region

The order itself could be comprised of the following

* Identification of content required, suggestion identification are as follows: The Distribution Entity should be able to handle both ALID and File identification.
  + ALID – Logical Asset identifies the set of content. The Distribution Entity should know how to map an ALID to content files.
  + Files – Individual files can be requested. This is particularly true if a file was missing or corrupted.
  + AvailID – Identifies the associated Avail. This assumes The Distribution Entity is cognizant of Avails. This is rare, so this is not preferred.

Messages

* Readiness should be reported, including approvals and rejections
* An automated ordering system should have the capability to indicate that human inspection of the request is required.

1. Version 1.0 allowed only one SubType instance, but this is corrected in later versions. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)