

COUNTER Code of Practice

2.0 Overview

This section provides an overview of the scope of the COUNTER Code of Practice.

[Section 3 Technical Implementation of COUNTER Reports](#) introduces the REQUIRED reports, describes the common format shared by all COUNTER reports, and defines the COUNTER report attributes and their values.

[Section 4 COUNTER Reports](#) provides detailed specifications for each COUNTER report. Use this section to understand what elements are included in each report.

[Section 5 Delivery of COUNTER Reports](#) outlines the options a content provider MUST provide to enable customers to access their reports.

[Section 6 Logging Usage](#) describes various options used for logging usage transactions.

[Section 7 Processing Rules for Underlying COUNTER Data](#) discusses topics such as which return codes to count, double-click filtering, calculating unique items and unique titles accessed in a session, classifying searches (regular, federated, automated, or platform), robots and internet crawlers, tools that cause bulk downloads, and text and data mining.

[Section 8 SUSHI for Automated Report Harvesting](#) offers a more in-depth description of the REQUIRED COUNTER_SUSHI API support.

[Section 9 Audit](#) provides the requirements for the COUNTER audit.

[Section 10 Other Compliance Topics](#) talks about license language to require COUNTER usage statistics, confidentiality of data, and supporting consortia in their need to obtain usage data for their members.

[Section 11 Extending the Code of Practice](#) offers suggestions for content providers who may want to create custom reports or include additional elements and attribute values in COUNTER reports.

[Section 12 Continuous Maintenance](#) outlines the procedures that have been put in place to allow the Code of Practice to be amended and expanded on an incremental basis in a controlled and managed way.

[Section 13 Transitioning from Previous Releases or to New Reporting Services](#) describes the procedures and requirements for transitioning to a new reporting service or underlying logging system and for transitioning to a new COUNTER release, in particular from R4 to R5.

[Section 14 Change History](#) provides a list of the Code of Practice releases.