

COUNTER: New Book Report BR7

Background and overview

Following consultation undertaken with vendors, publishers and librarians, COUNTER has created a new optional report, **BR7** for recording the usage of e-books.

The purpose of this report

This new report will reconcile BR1 and BR2, allowing for comparable usage of e-books regardless of the hosting site and unit of delivery by providing a count, by title, of unique accesses to an e-book during a session. Regardless of how many segments (e.g. pages or chapters or the entire e-book) a user downloaded during a session, the count for a given e-book will only increment by one. To enable this each title must be uniquely identifiable with an identifier, such as a Book DOI.

An explanation of the new report and an Excel example below is for visualization purposes.

Book Report 7: Number of Successful Unique Title Requests by Month and Title in a Session

| | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L |
|----|-----------------------------|--|------------|----------|------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------|------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| 1 | Book Report 7 (R4) | Number of Successful Unique Title Requests by Month and Title in a Session | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | <Customer> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | <Institutional Identifier> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | Period covered by Report: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 | yyyy-mm-dd to yyyy-mm-dd | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | Date run: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | yyyy-mm-dd | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | | Publisher | Platform | Book DOI | Proprietary Identifier | ISBN print edition | ISBN electronic edition | ISSN | Reporting Period Total | Jan-2014 | Feb-2014 | Mar-2014 |
| 9 | Total for all titles | | | | | | | | 721 | 245 | 203 | 273 |
| 10 | Title AA | Publisher X | Platform Z | | | 978-1-84448-092-0 | 978-1-84448-096-0 | | 182 | 45 | 42 | 95 |
| 11 | Title BB | Publisher X | Platform Z | | | 978-1-84448-093-0 | 978-1-84448-097-0 | 0317-8471 | 334 | 118 | 101 | 115 |
| 12 | Title CC | Publisher Y | Platform Z | | | | 978-1-84448-098-0 | | 41 | 15 | 4 | 22 |
| 13 | Title DD | Publisher Y | Platform Z | | | | 978-1-84448-099-0 | 2049-3630 | 164 | 67 | 56 | 41 |

NOTES:

- For 'Customer' specify, for example, the organizational level to which the usage reports refer: e.g. 'Harvard University', 'Department of Chemistry'
- The ISNI identifier must be used for the 'Institutional Identifier'
- An e-book DOI is required for every title on the list, if a DOI is available. This should be provided simply as an identifier value. (If a Book DOI is not available, the cell must be left blank).
- The Proprietary Identifier column must be included, but cells may be left blank if the vendor has no Proprietary Identifier for a book
- e-books for which the number of title requests is zero in every month should **not** be included in Book Report 7
- For guidance on Data Display Rules, see Journal Report 1
- It is mandatory to provide values for both eISBN and pISBN when available (leave blank if not available).
- Titles with zero usage are to be excluded from this report (see "Note on zero usage" below).

The reports will also be available in XML and will be retrievable using the SUSHI protocol – the COUNTER XML schemas on the NISO SUSHI website at:

<http://www.niso.org/schemas/sushi/#counter>.

Session definitions and guidance

A session will be determined either by:

- A session ID available in the weblogs, when such an ID is available in the logs and reliably represents an individual user's session on the site, or
- The combination of site+IP+user agent as a surrogate for the session ID

When assessing logs from a content site, for a user-session, a single Title View represents a series of one or more download events where those download events occur with a timespan of less than 30 minutes between download events. When the timespan between subsequent download events exceeds 30 minutes, the Title View count is incremented.

If two download events for the same book within the same user-session happen less than 30 minutes apart, disregard the first event and use the later event when looking for subsequent events.

Note on zero usage

Many librarians requested this new report to include titles with zero usage. After consultation, this proves not to be practical for the following reasons. The first is that the reports in Excel format would be unmanageable due to size and complexity and secondly, since the set of e-books titles taken by each library is unique, it is difficult and in some cases impossible for the provider's reporting service to know which e-books a given institution is entitled. Note that BR1, BR2, and BR3 already exclude titles with zero usage.

Audit requirements

This report is *optional* for Release 4 of the COUNTER Code of Practice, which means that there is no mandatory requirement for audit.

However, we encourage e-book providers to implement it.

We would also like publishers and vendors to report implementation of the report and we will list their compliance on the COUNTER website under "*Optional New Book Reports provided but not audited*". Of course publishers and vendors may choose to have these reports audited, in which case we will list their compliance on the under "*Optional New Book Reports and audited*".