

A CASE STUDY WITH THE BRITISH LIBRARY

BUILDING THE NATIONAL COLLECTION WITH NIELSEN BOOK METADATA

One of The British Library's core responsibilities is the creation and development of a national collection of books published or distributed in the UK in accordance with legal deposit legislation. Legal deposit has existed in English law since 1662 and requires publishers to provide a copy of every work they publish in the UK to The British Library. In 2013, legal deposit regulations were expanded to include digital as well as print publications.

Publications deposited are made available in the Library's reading rooms and are preserved to become part of the nation's heritage for the benefit of future generations. Legal deposit supports a cycle of knowledge, whereby deposited works provide inspiration and source material for new books that will eventually achieve publication.

The British Library uses Nielsen Book product and organisational datasets together with the ISBNs assigned by the UK ISBN Agency, run by Nielsen Book, to ensure that it manages its legal deposit workflows accurately and efficiently.

NIELSEN BOOK'S METADATA SUPPORTS THREE KEY ACTIVITIES:

- Identifying new candidate UK-published titles and their publication dates to enable The British Library to claim items from publishers to build the collection.
- Ensuring that the Library claims only one version of a publication that a publisher might issue in multiple print and digital formats.
- Enabling The British Library to identify new UK publishers and send its claims to their correct addresses.

In addition, The British Library uses selected Nielsen Book MARC21 records as the basis for its own catalogue entries for new UK publications and also uses Nielsen Book datasets as part of its reading room reference services to users.

Nielsen Book metadata helps to provide The British Library with an accurate and comprehensive picture of the UK book trade so that it can target its resources accordingly and respond appropriately to a rapidly evolving marketplace. The British Library greatly values the coverage, detail and timeliness of Nielsen Book's metadata and the assistance it provides in developing the national collection for future generations to enjoy.



For more information email: sales.book@nielsen.com