EIDR SYSTEM
VERSION 2.0

Best Practices Guide

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EIDR — Entertainment Identifier Registry

Best Practices Guide.
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1   Introduction

This document describes the best practices for creating records in the EIDR System for new-release movies and episodic television. This document assumes the reader is familiar with the *EIDR Data Fields Reference* and should be used in conjunction with this guide.

There are several ways to create EIDR content records:

- Web-based Registry GUI
- EIDR SDK for Java and .NET
- EIDR command-line Tools
- REST API
- Bulk Ingest system.

The GUI implements a subset of the full capabilities of the REST API, while the SDK is complete. As a general matter, ongoing registration of new EIDR records should occur through the SDK, REST API or the Bulk Ingest system. However, for purposes of exploring and understanding the registration process, the GUI is easier to use (since, for example, it provides field enumerations as drop-down lists often with defaults; and performs additional data checking).

There are two versions of the EIDR system:

- Production registry
- Sandbox registry.

The sandbox is for training and for pre-flighting registrations. The production registry is the permanent public database. In general, large datasets should be pre-flighted.

2   Creating Records for Episodic Television

2.1   Television Object Types

For the episodic television use case, there are three underlying concepts as shown in the following table:

EIDR Representation	Definition	Derived From
Series	A container for seasons or episodes.	n/a
Season (child object with IsSeasonOf relationship)	A container for episodes. For those series that are further organized into seasons, you must create a Season object. (Note that in Britain, the term for this is "series".)	Series
Episode (child object with IsEpisodeOf relationship)	An episode of a series. Note that if a Series has Seasons, then all Episodes must fall into a season.	Series or Season

The concepts of Edits and Manifestations are also relevant to television episodes and other content. The details are covered under the section "Creating Movie Records".

In the diagrams below, an arrow indicates parent-child relationship and metadata inheritance. The first diagram shows a Series without Seasons, and the second has Seasons. A Series without Seasons would apply to a mini-series or a nightly news program.
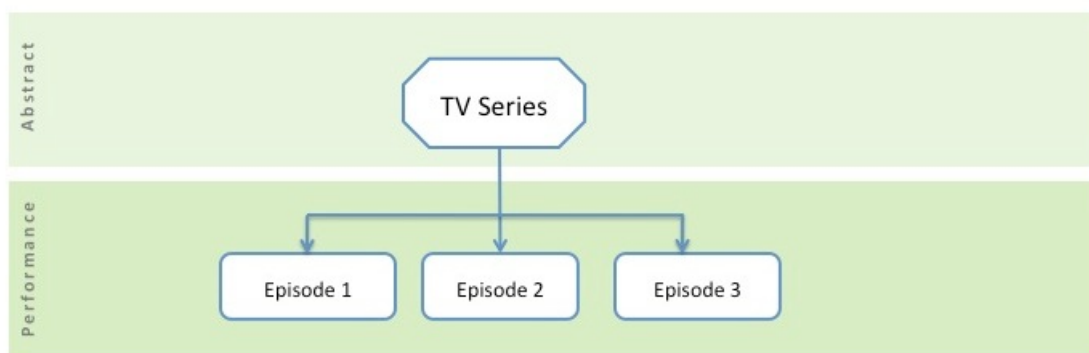
TV Series (with seasons)

2.2 Overview of Series in EIDR

A series is defined as a collection of episodes with a single overarching title. A series in EIDR may be ordered with episode numbers or unordered with episode titles. A series may optionally be further subdivided into seasons.
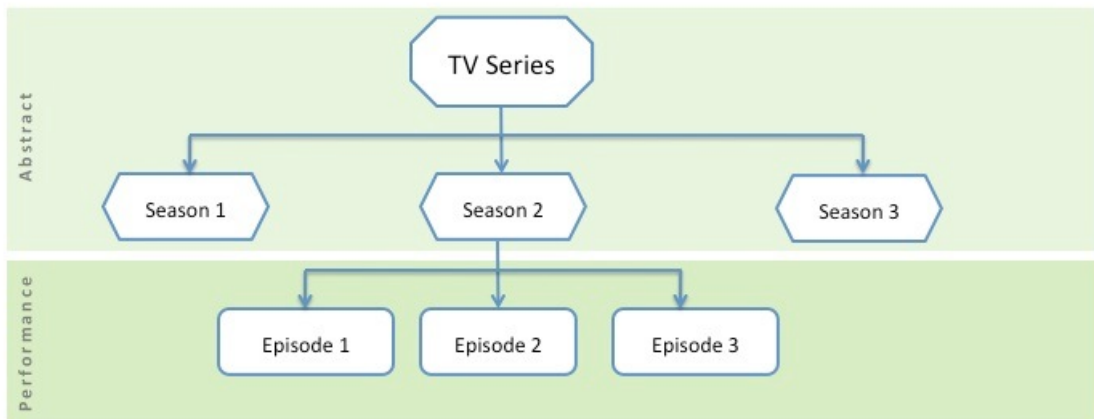
A series must have multiple episodes. A pilot for a series that was never (further) produced should not be registered as a Series.[1] A sneak preview of a series (which might feature interviews with the cast) is a one-time only show, not an episode of the series.

A series is more than a program presented in parts. If parts have unique titles then this is indicative of a series. For example, the BBC documentary, *David Attenborough's Madagascar*, has only three episodes but each has a separate title. A made-for-TV movie (such as *Oprah Winfrey Presents 'The Wedding'* or *The Three Lives of Thomasina* - 1964) or a theatrical movie presented over two or three nights is not a Series.[2] A made-for-TV movie is treated as one object in EIDR, the same as a one-time only show.[3]

The dubbed episodes of a series (i.e., of the same video) are registered under the same Series as the original and are not a separate Series in EIDR.

A live event such as The Olympics will have multiple programs for each national broadcaster. These should not be placed under a generic Olympics Series. Similarly,

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[1] Depending on its subsequent disposition, it might be a theatrical Movie, a one-time only program or an episode in a television anthology series. For example, the unsold pilot for *Barney Miller* appeared on the ABC summer anthology, *Just for Laughs*.
[2] Multiple program ID's could be added in these cases as Alternate ID's to an EIDR record if desired. A use case (such as tracking advertising revenue for a broadcast) that required a separate EIDR asset ID for each part can be supported by registering each part as a Clip of the Base object (or its applicable Edit).
[3] The process for creating telefilm records is very similar to that for theatrical movies as described in the "Creating Movie Records" section.

a professional sporting league will usually have multiple concurrent series (for example, *Monday Night Football* in the United States is its own Series).

A remake of a series (i.e., with a different cast) is a different Series in EIDR. So for example, the original *The Office* that was made in UK is a completely separate series from *The Office* that was made in US). Such remakes even with the same title are distinguishable by other metadata, starting in this case with Country of Origin.

The revival of a Series (such as *Jeopardy!* in 1984) is best treated as a separate Series in EIDR. Usually, the Credits and Associated Organizations are different from the original series, which reinforces the separateness of the series. However, a television Series that switches networks (as did the daytime version of *Wheel of Fortune*) or switches from a network to first-run syndication (as did the original *Baywatch*) will still be the same Series.

The relaunching or rebranding of a series can cause confusion. For example, *Bizarre Foods with Andrew Zimmern* after 6 seasons became *Bizarre Foods America*. Different content providers may treat such changes as a new series or simply a new season (especially if the credits, time slot and broadcaster are the same). You may need to search for such cases both as Seasons and Series when matching.

In rare cases, a popular game show (such as *The Hollywood Squares* in its original run) may simultaneously have daytime and nighttime versions. Even though these might have similar Credits, these must be different Series since they have different episode sequences.

Spin-off relationships between Series (such as happened with the *Mary Tyler Moore Show*) are not captured in the EIDR hierarchy.

2.2.1   Series Metadata
The first step is to create a root object for the Series. The root object, an EIDR Series record, will have the following fields and values:

Field	Value
StructuralType	Required. This is must be "Abstraction", because it is a container and does not represent any specific performance.
Mode	Required. This will be "AudioVisual".
ReferentType	Required. This will be "Series".

Field	Value
ResourceName	Required. This is the official domestic title of the series (for example "Will & Grace" not "Will and Grace"). The *original* release name is generally preferable — with name changes added as alternates – so that the title does not have to ever be changed. Note that ISO Latin transliteration is *recommended* for complex scripts for the primary Resource Name as a convenience for international users and easier font support. For example, "Hagane no Renkinjutsushi" instead of 鋼の錬金術師 (which would be an Alternate). Names should *not* have other metadata in them (like the language or the release year in parentheses).
	This field also requires a language attribute (lang) that uses ISO codes to describe the *title* (*not* the language of the work). So "Hagane no Renkinjutsushi" would have lang="ja".
	For most content, the titleClass attribute should be "release", except use "transliterated" if that is the case. If the released title is not yet known the titleClass could be "working" or "internal". Generic working titles (such as "Untitled Phil Gurin Project") should be used only if no other name is available and should be replaced once the real title is established.
Alternate ResourceName	Optional. The title in other scripts or languages can be added for ease of identification, and is *recommended* for de-duplication in the initial registration. This field also requires a language attribute (lang) that uses ISO codes to describe the *title*. For "Hagane no Renkinjutsushi", this would be "Fullmetal Alchemist" with lang="en"; and 鋼の錬金術師 still with lang="ja". Or "Così gira il mondo" with lang="it" for the CBS serial *As the World Turns*.
	Examples of other alternates: A series may change names (for example, the reality show "17 Kids & Counting" changed its name as new kids were added); or have a different title when syndicated while it is still in production (for example, *Happy Days* became *Happy Days Again*). These would all have a titleClass="AKA".
	"MASH" with titleClass="other" for *M*A*S*H*; or "SNL" with titleClass="acronym" for *Saturday Night Live*. These are not frequent for a series in its original language.
	Note that ASCII equivalents of Roman scripts (such as "Cosi gira il mondo") are not allowed even if the lang attribute is different.
	Punctuation variants (such as *Jeopardy* without its trailing exclamation point) should not be provided as they are unofficial and are not needed for de-duplication and searching.

Field	Value
OriginalLanguage	Required. This is the primary language that was used by the actors during the filming. This is specified according to IETF RFC-5646. Common values are: en, fr, de, zh. This must also include a mode attribute, which will be "audio" for television. For virtually all serial works this field will be a single value (in other words, incidental languages such as Spanish in lessons in the American version of "Sesame Street" should be ignored). Finally, there is an optional type attribute, which will be "primary" for TV works.
VersionLanguage	Not allowed for title-level works.
AssociatedOrg	Required if insufficient Credits provided. This should include principal production company(s) for the initial broadcast. While only one is required, other ones can be added (up to the EIDR limit of 16) to better match the original credits. The simplest way to specify this is to provide a value for the organizationID attribute the taken from a list of EIDR company ID's, which can be easily queried through the end-user UI. (In this case the idType attribute is "EIDRPartyID".) If a new ID is required for a record, you can request one through EIDR customer support or you can simply provide the official company name as it appears in the credits of the work in the DisplayName subelement. In any case, these fields require a role attribute. Production companies should be given the generic "producer" value. A Broadcaster may be added here since these do not usually change for a series. (Distributors should not be provided for the root object except for series with zero or one season. Distributors should not be provided for a Series with multiple seasons unless they never changed over the course of the series or unless you have no other company information.)
ReleaseDate	Required. This can just be the year of air date of the first episode. The month and day should not be added unless they are known for sure. The format is ISO 8601.
CountryOfOrigin	Required. This should be the country for which the production is intended. This is most often the location of the Associated Organization(s) that is making and (first) releasing the show. So for the series *Danse Avec Les Stars* this would be France for TF1, not the UK co-producer BBC Worldwide Productions. EIDR takes the ISO country code for the value.
Status	Required and not inherited. A value of "valid" should be used for all content (except in the rare case that it is "in development").

Field	Value
ApproximateLength	Required. For a Series, this is the typical episode length. If unknown or unavailable or variable between episodes or seasons then this is zero in ISO 8601 extended ("PT0H").
AlternateID	Optional. An ID by which the work is known in another system. As a root record, ID's such as a Baseline Project ID or an IMDb Title identifier would be appropriate.
Registrant	This is required for every EIDR registration. This must be the Party ID you use in your EIDR credentials.
Credits	Required if no Associated Organizations present. This consists of up to 2 directors and 4 leading actors/performers in the order billed). It is used for differentiation and identification and is not a complete set of credits. For details on the Credits fields see the *EIDR Data Fields Reference.* These should not be provided unless the information is generally true throughout (such as for a mini-series or the star or host of a seasonal series such as Patrick Stewart in *Star Trek: The Next Generation*; Bob Eubanks for *The Newlywed Game*; or Rod Serling for *The Twilight Zone*), because this is used for de-duplication. There is often no consistent director for a long-running series and so this should be omitted. So no Credits would apply at all to the Series record in EIDR for the MTV seasonal series *The Real World* or *Saturday Night Live.*
Description	Optional. Not generally needed for a Base object. It could for example say something about the history of the work if it explains some unexpected metadata value.

For details on handling fields and attributes, you will need to refer to the *EIDR Data Fields Reference.*

These are the fields that are specific to a Series:

Field	Value
EndDate	Optional. The date of the last episode in the Series. This should not be present for a current series or if the end date is not known. This is recommended where known since it will assist in identification of the Series, and for data validation of child records.
SeriesClass	Optional. This is usually "Episodic", but could be "Anthology" or "Mini-series". For details, see the *EIDR Data Fields Reference.*
NumberRequired	Optional. If the Series only has Season children then this should be true.
DateRequired	Optional. Generally false for Series with Seasons since this data is not always easily available.

Field	Value
OriginalTitleRequired	Optional. Generally false for Series with Seasons since most Seasons do not have title.

At least one of these fields must be provided.

2.2.2   Creating a Series Object with the Web UI

To create a Series record in the Web UI:

1. Click on the Create button in the top tool bar.
   The Create screen appears.
2. Click on the TV Series button.
   The Create Series screen appears:

   Note that some fields will already be provided with applicable defaults.
3. Enter the remaining required fields.
4. Click on the "Show Optional Fields" link to enter selected optional fields such as Credits.
5. Click on the Create button.
   If successful, the View screen will appear with following message:
   `Asset successfully created`

2.2.3 Creating a Series Object with the REST API

The REST API takes an XML description of the object. Here is an example of an ongoing Series:

```
<Create type="CreateSeries">
 <Series>
  <BaseObjectData>
   <StructuralType>Abstraction</StructuralType>
   <Mode>AudioVisual</Mode>
   <ReferentType>Series</ReferentType>
   <ResourceName lang="en" titleClass="release">Saturday Night
Live</ResourceName>
   <OriginalLanguage mode="Audio" type="primary">en</OriginalLanguage>
   <AssociatedOrg idType="EIDRPartyID" organizationID="10.5237/3F12-
A26D" role="producer"/>
   <ReleaseDate>1975</ReleaseDate>
   <CountryOfOrigin>US</CountryOfOrigin>
   <Status>valid</Status>
   <ApproximateLength>PT90M</ApproximateLength>
   <Administrators>
    <Registrant>10.5237/8418-EF8A</Registrant>
   </Administrators>
  </BaseObjectData>
  <ExtraObjectMetadata>
   <SeriesInfo>
    <SeriesClass>Episodic</SeriesClass>
    <NumberRequired>true</NumberRequired>
   </SeriesInfo>
  </ExtraObjectMetadata>
 </Series>
</Create>
```

For details on how the XML sits within the REST call itself, please see the *EIDR REST API Guide*. (The Bulk Ingest application uses the same format with a different packaging mechanism.)

Note that the best practice for namespaces is to declare all of them on the topmost level as shown here in the XML for a skeletal REST request.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<Request xmlns="http://www.eidr.org/schema"
xmlns:doi="http://www.doi.org/2010/DOISchema"
xmlns:md="http://www.movielabs.com/md/2.1/md"
xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance">
 <Operation>
  <XML data for the record here >
 </Operation>
</Request>
```

2.3 Season Metadata

The next step is to create a Season object, if applicable. A season should be created even if there is only one. However, a TV mini-series such as *Roots* (1977) or serial such as the BBC's *Pride and Prejudice* (1995) should not have a season. A sequel to a mini-series, such as *Roots: The Next Generations* (1979) is also not considered a season but a separate EIDR Series.

The Season object will have the following fields and values:

Field	Value
StructuralType	Required. This is always an "Abstraction"
Mode	Required and inherited. This should not need to be specified for a Season.
ReferentType	Required. This will be "Season".
ResourceName	Required. This is usually automatically generated so it should only be provided in the rare case that the official name changed with the season (as in *Real World: San Francisco*). Do not provide or include generic names such as "2005 Season" even as Alternate Names. This field can also be used to indicate the applicable series name when the series changes name during its run. The titleClass attribute when user-supplied will usually be "release".
Alternate ResourceName	Optional. Rarely used for Seasons.
AssociatedOrg	Optional and inherited. Should be provided if changed during the show's run.
ReleaseDate	Required and not inherited in this case. This can just be the year of air date of the first episode of the season. The month and day should not be included unless they are known for sure.
CountryOfOrigin	Required and inherited. This should not need to be specified for a Season.
Status	Required and not inherited. A value of "valid" should be used for all content (except in the rare case that it is "in development").
ApproximateLength	Required but not inherited in this case. For a Season, this is the typical episode length. If unknown or unavailable or variable this is zero in ISO 8601 extended ("PT0H").
AlternateID	Optional (and not inherited). An ID by which the record is known in another system. This can include a Baseline Season ID.
Registrant	This is required for every EIDR registration. This must be the Party ID you use in your EIDR credentials.

Field	Value
Credits	Optional and inherited. Strongly recommended where this changes from season to season. This consists of up to 2 directors and 4 leading actors/performers. It is used for differentiation and is not a complete set of credits. For details on the Credits fields see the *EIDR Data Fields Reference*. These should not be provided unless the information is generally true throughout.
Description	Optional and not inherited, but rarely needed for a season. It could for example say something about the history of the asset if it explains some unexpected metadata value (such as "final episodes released on DVD after series was cancelled").

For details on handling fields and attributes, you will need to refer to the *EIDR Data Fields Reference*.

These are the fields that are specific to a Season:

Field	Value
Parent	Required. This must be the ID for a Series.
EndDate	Optional. The date of the last episode in the Season. This should not be present for a current season or if the end date is not known. This is recommended where known since it will assist in data validation of child Episode records.
SeasonClass	Optional. This is usually "Main", but could be "Mini-series". For details, see the *EIDR Data Fields Reference*.
NumberRequired	Optional but recommended. If the Season only has ordered episodes then this should be true.
DateRequired	Optional. Is generally only true for daily programs or any case where the number is not determinable and titles are not given.
OriginalTitleRequired	Optional. Should be true for modern fictional series.
SequenceNumber	Optional. The integer number of the season within the series. The first broadcast season should always be 1.

Generally, a Season should set one of NumberRequired, DateRequired, or OriginalTitleRequired. Many modern fictional series (that are not mini-series such as "Friends" or "Seinfeld") should set both NumberRequired and OriginalTitleRequired. Setting these special fields to true will help avoid duplicate episodes that only have one value among the distribution number, release date or title fields (which might occur when data comes from different providers or systems).

2.3.1 Creating a Season Object with the Web UI

To create a Season object in the Web UI:

1. Navigate to the Parent Series record for the Season you wish to create. (Starting here will pre-populate the Parent field in the Create screen.)
2. Click on the Create Related: Season link.
The Create Season screen appears:

Note that some fields will already be provided with applicable defaults.
3. Enter the remaining required fields.
4. Click on the "Show Optional Fields" link to enter selected optional Base fields such as Credits.
5. Click on the Create button.
If successful, the View screen will appear with following message:
```
Asset successfully created
```

2.3.2 Creating a Season Object with the REST API

Here is the XML description of a Season using the REST API. This example creates a completed Season for a Series:

```
<Request xmlns="http://www.eidr.org/schema"
xmlns:doi="http://www.doi.org/2010/DOISchema"
xmlns:md="http://www.movielabs.com/md/2.1/md"
xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance">
 <Operation>
```

```xml
  <Create type="CreateSeason">
   <Season>
    <BaseObjectData>
     <StructuralType>Abstraction</StructuralType>
     <Mode>AudioVisual</Mode>
     <ReferentType>Season</ReferentType>
  <AssociatedOrg idType="EIDRPartyID" organizationID="10.5237/3F12-
A26D" role="producer"/>
     <ReleaseDate>2011</ReleaseDate>
     <CountryOfOrigin>FR</CountryOfOrigin>
     <Status>valid</Status>
     <ApproximateLength>PT30M</ApproximateLength>
     <Administrators>
      <Registrant>10.5237/8418-EF8A</Registrant>
     </Administrators>
    </BaseObjectData>
    <ExtraObjectMetadata>
     <SeasonInfo>
      <Parent>10.5240/1323-7446-3D74-8BAD-EA2C-V</Parent>
      <EndDate>2012</EndDate>
      <NumberRequired>true</NumberRequired>
      <SequenceNumber>1</SequenceNumber>
     </SeasonInfo>
    </ExtraObjectMetadata>
   </Season>
  </Create>
 </Operation>
</Request>
```

Note the outer XML elements vary for other interfaces.

2.4   Episode Metadata

Note that programming guides may show back-to-back episodes as one listing ("the one-hour season premier"), but that these should be represented by two episodes in EIDR. If the credits are rolled between the parts during original broadcast or if the parts have distinct titles or credits then this indicates separate Episodes.

Extended episodes should be Edits of the original Episode (for example, the "XL" versions of the series *Pit Boss*).

A recut version of an episode with additional material (such as introducing it as a flashback) that is shown as new (as happened with "Samantha Meets The Folks" in Season 2 of *Bewitched*) should be a new Episode and not an Edit of the original. You might make a note to this effect in the Description though.

The final step in creating a simple Series is to create the Episode objects. The episode object will have the following fields and values:

Field	Value
StructuralType	This must be "Abstraction" for Episodes.
Mode	Required and inherited. This should never need to be specified for an Episode.
ReferentType	This is required and cannot be inherited. So this will usually be "TV" (but can be "Web" or even "Movie" for serials)
ResourceName	Except for news or game shows, most modern series give a title to episodes. If an episode title is typical for a series, it is strongly recommended that the episode not be registered without it to assist in de-duplication. A name must be supplied for each Episode if the OriginalTitleRequired of the parent is true. The Episodes of some ordered series episodes (such as a variety or talk show) have not been given an official title, in which case the title will be automatically generated.
Alternate ResourceName	Optional and *not* inherited.
AssociatedOrg	Optional and inherited. Generally not provided for episodes.
ReleaseDate	Required and *not* inherited in this case. The month and day should be included if they are known. Month and day is highly recommended for daily programs such as news or talk shows. A full date must be supplied for each Episode if the DateRequired of the parent is true. The format is ISO 8601 (such as 2010-08-31 where the middle number is the month).
CountryOfOrigin	Required and inherited. This should not need to be specified for an Episode.
Status	Required and not inherited. A value of "valid" should be used for all content (except in the rare case that it is "in development").

Field	Value
ApproximateLength	Required but inherited. The format is ISO 8601 extended (such as "PT30M" for 30 minutes). For an episode this should be the actual length (without commercials), but the programming slot length (without seconds), such as 30 minutes, can be used if this is not known.
AlternateID	Optional and *not* inherited. An ID by which the record is known in another system. The original broadcast version of an Episode could have a Baseline Episode ID or an IMDb Title identifier for example.
Registrant	This is required for every EIDR registration. This must be the Party ID you use in your EIDR credentials.
Credits	Optional and inherited. Normally not specified for the Episode and inherited from the parent. Actors may be useful for episodes that do not have names as a way to distinguish the record. For example, for Episode 22 of Season 36 of "Saturday Night Live", Justin Timberlake was the host and Lady Gaga was the musical guest, and so they could be listed as the Actors.
Description	Optional and not inherited, but rarely needed for an Episode. It could for example say something about the history of the work if it explains some unexpected metadata value. For example you might say "one-hour season finale" for a series that is normally one-half hour.

For details on handling fields and attributes, you will need to refer to the *EIDR Data Fields Reference*.

These are the fields that are specific to an Episode:

Field	Value
Parent	Required. This must be the ID for a Series or Season.
EpisodeClass	Optional. This is usually "Main", but could be Pilot, Standalone, Special, Omnibus, Recut, Segment. For details, see the *EIDR Data Fields Reference*.

Field	Value
DistributionNumber	Required if Parent has NumberRequired is true. Recommended where known. This is the position number of the episode within the parent. The order is based on air date. More complicated numbering schemas can be supported as described in the *EIDR Data Fields Reference*. Starting number will almost always be episode 1 for each season (i.e., not cumulative). Distribution numbers must be unique within the parent Season/Series. The parent of a pilot might be outside of any Season. For example, the pilot for the U.S. cartoon show *Codename: Kids Next Door* was over one year before any regular season and should be outside any Season. May have the optional domain attribute (e.g., "sony.com").
HouseSequence	Optional. Content creators may want to register an item before an "official" number is known, and episodes of some series have some internal identifier beyond their title. For example, the house sequence may indicate the order in which episodes were filmed. Should have the optional domain attribute (e.g., "sony.com").
AlternateNumber	Optional. Any alternate sequence number (up to 32 may be added). Must have the optional domain attribute (e.g., "sony.com").

Note that various Edits may be created from the initial Episode. For more information about Edits see the discussion in section "Movie Object Types".

2.4.1   Creating an Episode Object with the Web UI

To create an Edit object in the Web UI:

1. Navigate to the Parent record for the Episode you wish to create. (Starting here will pre-populate the Parent field in the Create screen.)
2. Click on the Create Related: Episode link.
   The Create Episode screen appears:

Note that some fields will already be provided with applicable defaults.

3. Enter the remaining required fields.
4. Click on the "Show Optional Fields" link to enter selected optional Base fields such as Credits.
5. Click on the Create button.
   If successful, the View screen will appear with following message:
   `Asset successfully created`

2.4.2 Creating an Episode Object with the REST API

The REST API takes an XML description of the object. Here is an example of creating one Episode for a Series that is ordered:

```
<Request xmlns="http://www.eidr.org/schema"
xmlns:doi="http://www.doi.org/2010/DOISchema"
xmlns:md="http://www.movielabs.com/md/2.1/md"
xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance">
 <Operation>
  <Create type="CreateEpisode">
   <Episode>
    <BaseObjectData>
     <StructuralType>Abstraction</StructuralType>
     <ReferentType>TV</ReferentType>
```

```
  <AssociatedOrg idType="EIDRPartyID" organizationID="10.5237/3F12-A26D"
role="producer"/>
    <ReleaseDate>2011</ReleaseDate>
    <Status>valid</Status>
    <Administrators>
     <Registrant>10.5237/8418-EF8A</Registrant>
    </Administrators>
   </BaseObjectData>
   <ExtraObjectMetadata>
    <EpisodeInfo>
     <Parent>10.5240/1323-7446-3D74-8BAD-EA2C-V</Parent>
     <SequenceNumber>2</SequenceNumber>
    </EpisodeInfo>
   </ExtraObjectMetadata>
  </Episode>
 </Create>
 </Operation>
</Request>
```

Note the outer XML elements vary for other interfaces.

3 Creating Movie Records

3.1 Movie Object Types

For the simple new-release Movie use case, there are three underlying concepts as shown in the following table:

EIDR Representation	Definition	Derived From
Base Object	This represents the underlying intellectual property of an audio-visual work or the concept or idea of the work. For a Movie this is the title-level record.	n/a
Edit (child object with IsEditOf relationship)	An instance of a title with unique characteristics that differentiate it from any other version. For the records covered by this set of best practices, differences in the video are most important, although other differences can be covered as well.	Base or another Edit
Generic Manifestation (child object with IsManifestationOf relationship)	An instance of the version that can be sold, transmitted, transferred or played.	Edit

Multiple Edits can be derived from single Base Object, such as an original theatrical release and a director's cut released later. An Edit such as a theatrical release can spawn many products, such as a Manifestation for on-line streaming and a Manifestation for download-to-own.

The EIDR Base-Edit-Manifestation hierarchy maps to Title-Version-Product in the hierarchy developed by the joint ID working group of the Hollywood IT Society (HITS) and the Digital Entertainment Group (DEG).

In the diagrams below, an arrow indicates parent-child relationship and metadata inheritance. The object types will be discussed in later sections.

Simple Feature Film Example
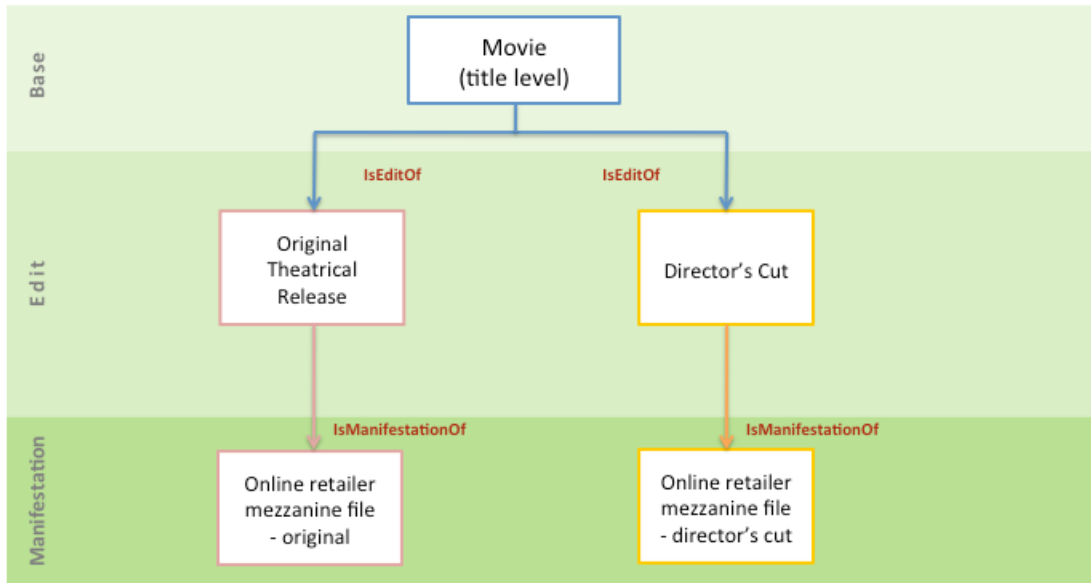
3.1.1 Organizing Edits

An Edit is a specific variant of a Base object. Examples of Edits include the domestic theatrical release, international releases, and colorized versions. The registrant decides whether to create a flat set of Edits, in which all Edits are children of the Base, or a nested set, where some Edits may be children of other Edits.

A hospitality release is added in the diagrams below showing both possible hierarchies. With the nested hierarchy, inheritance is more robust. In the nested example, the hospitality version of the theatrical release will inherit the correct duration as well as any other base fields that are specific to the Edit. Navigation is also enhanced with nesting since you can locate a specific version more easily. Finally, the nested data organization matches the organization of the source material more closely, which may add value to some workflows.

Note that if a registrant is unsure about the heritage of a particular version it is better to create it as a child of the Base.

Nested Edit Hierarchy
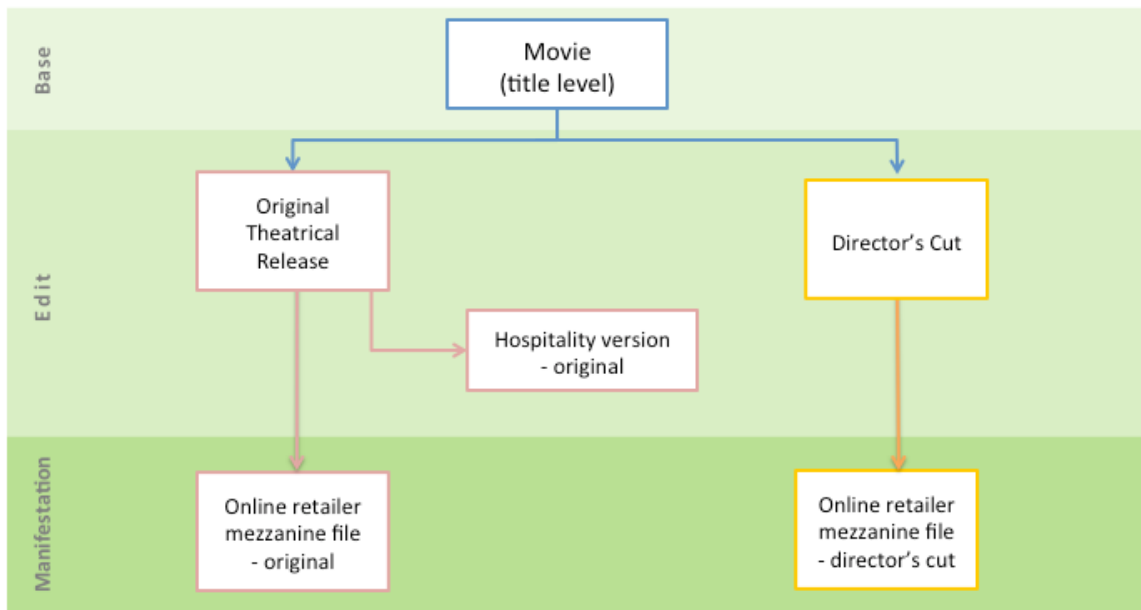
Flattened Edit Hierarchy
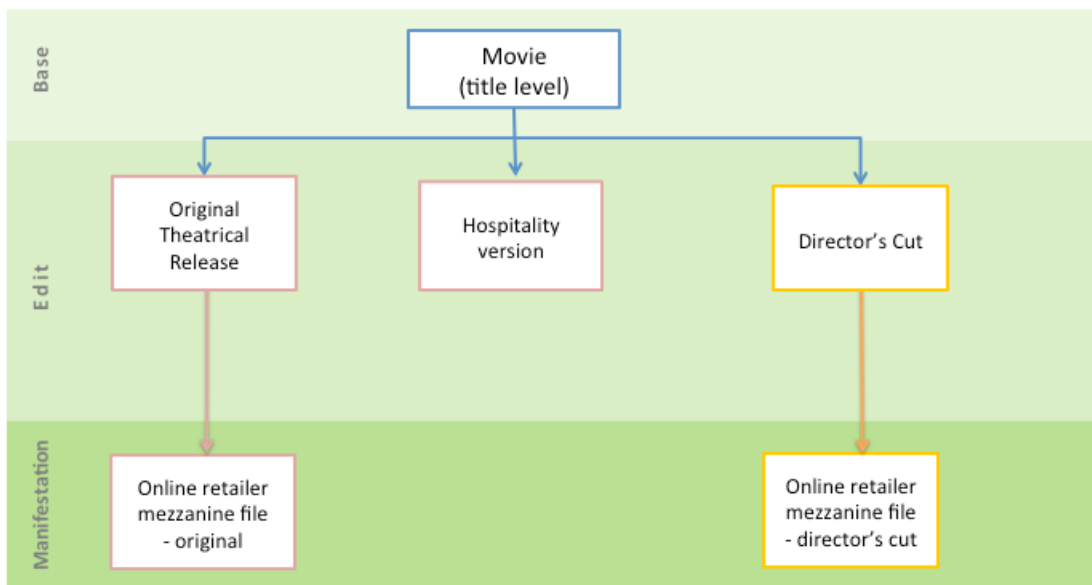
3.2   Overview of Movies in EIDR

A Movie in EIDR is content that first appeared in a theatre/cinema or was released directly to video. This (Referent) type is intended for feature films and other long-form motion pictures. If the duration is short then the record should be given the Short type. Best practices should follow industry definitions such as that of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, which requires features to have a running time of at least 40 minutes.

Each title is first registered with a single Base record. From the base record come versions and products.

A re-release (even with a new title) should not be registered unless the content has actually changed. However, the new title should be added as an Alternate Resource Name. If the content does change that would be an Edit of the original base record.

Franchises can be created as an EIDR Compilation if needed (for details, see the *EIDR Data Fields Reference*). A group of movies may be given Alternate Titles that include the franchise name such as "Batman: The Dark Knight". However, franchise names in titles are generally discouraged since they can create de-duplication problems. Films of book series such as "The Lord of the Rings" are considered separate EIDR Movies (not an EIDR Series) and may be treated in EIDR like a franchise.

A remake is considered an entirely distinct object and not an Edit or version of the original. Similarly, a director's (audio) commentary, a making-of documentary or a behind-the-scenes feature is a separate base object.

A montage of short serials edited together into one work that is released separately is a Movie. This was done for example with "The Perils of Pauline" in 1916. This can optionally be given Composite information. For details, see the *EIDR Data Fields Reference*.

3.3   Base Movie Metadata

The first step is to create a base object. The base object represents the title-level record. The base object will have the following fields and values:

Field	Value
StructuralType	Required. A title-level record for a Movie must be "Abstraction".
Mode	Required. This will be "AudioVisual" for all movie titles except for silent films, which will be "Visual". AudioVisual works are rare before 1927.
ReferentType	Required. This will be "Movie" for theatrical films (and "TV" for telefilms or one-time-only television programs).

Field	Value

ResourceName	Required. This is the *official domestic* title of the work. For example:
	  o "Rocky III" *not* "Rocky 3"
	  o "The Women" *not* "Women, The"
	  o "The Dark Knight" *not* "Batman: The Dark Knight"
	  o "Y Tu Mamá También" *not* "Y Tu Mama Tambien"
	  o "Wo hu cang long" *not* "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon").
	Note that ISO Latin transliteration is *recommended* for complex scripts for the primary Resource Name (so for "Crouching Tiger…", 臥虎藏龍 would be an Alternate).
	
	This field also requires a language attribute (lang) that uses ISO codes to describe the *title* (*not* the language of the work). So "Wo hu cang long" would have lang="zh".
	For released movies, the titleClass attribute should be "release", except use "transliterated" if that is the case. If the released title is not yet known the titleClass could be "working" or "internal". This attribute can be omitted if not known.

Alternate ResourceName	Optional. For international films, the title in other languages can be added for ease of identification, and is *recommended* for de-duplication in the initial registration. This field also requires a language attribute (lang) that uses ISO codes to describe the *title*. This field can also incorporate the franchise name: "Batman: The Dark Knight" (in which case the titleClass would be "other"). For a Base record, this can also be used for a working title (titleClass="working") or short-lived initial release title (such as "Cutter & Bone" with a titleClass of "AKA" or "FKA" for "Cutter's Way").
OriginalLanguage	Required. This is the primary language that was used by the actors during the filming. This must also include a mode attribute, which will usually be "audio" for modern works. (For a silent film, this would be "Visual".) For almost all works this field will be a single value (in other words, incidental languages such as Russian in "The Hunt for Red October" should be ignored). Should be multi-valued for works that are multi-lingual such as the movie "Babel". Finally, there is an optional type attribute, which will be "primary" for title-level audiovisual works (and "normal" for silents). The Original Language code should be "zxx" for a film without dialogue or subtitles (typically before 1901).
VersionLanguage	Not allowed for title-level works.

Field	Value
AssociatedOrg	Required. This should include principal production company(s). While only one is required, other ones can be added (up to the EIDR limit of 16) to better match the original credits. The simplest way to specify this is to provide a value for the organizationID attribute the taken from a list of EIDR company ID's, which can be easily queried through the end-user UI. (In this case the idType attribute is "EIDRPartyID".) If a new ID is required for a record, you can request one through EIDR customer support or you can simply provide the official company name as it appears in the credits of the work in the DisplayName subelement. In any case, these fields require a role attribute. Production companies should be given the generic "producer" value. Distributors should generally *not* be provided for an Abstraction.
ReleaseDate	Required. This is the date of original domestic release. Festival dates (such as Cannes) should *not* be used for major films, but might be used for independent films without distribution agreements. If the record is an Abstraction, this can just be the year. Do not add the month and day unless they are known for sure. The format is ISO 8601.
CountryOfOrigin	Required. This should be the location of the Associated Organization(s) that is making and releasing the film (not the country where primarily filmed).
Status	Required. A value of "valid" should be used for all content unless you want to keep it private with "in development". Any film that has been commercially released or announced should have a value of valid.
ApproximateLength	Required. The running time of the movie. The format is ISO 8601 extended (such as "PT1H30M" for 90 minutes). For an Abstraction this would represent expected length, for example, of the first release. Seconds should *not* be included for Abstractions, except for very short works such as actualities.
AlternateID	Optional. An ID by which the work is known in another system. For a root Movie, ID's such as a Base ISAN, IMDb Title identifier, or AMG Work ID. UPC's, SKU's and other product-level identifiers, and V-ISAN's do not normally apply at this level of the hierarchy.
Registrant	This is required for every EIDR registration. This must be the Party ID you use in your EIDR credentials.

Field	Value
Credits	Optional but strongly recommended for base record of a movie. This consists of 2 directors and 4 leading actors. The Credits should follow the original billing order. For an ensemble cast (such as "He's Just Not That Into You" – 2009) that is ordered alphabetically, this would still be the first ones. Similarly for the Director, where there are multiple including an anthology (such as "Paris, je t'aime"), use the first ones from the alphabetical list. It is used for differentiation and is not a complete set of credits. For details on the Credits fields see the *EIDR Data Fields Reference*.
Description	Optional. Not generally needed for a base object. It could for example say something about the history of the work if it explains some unexpected metadata value such as "Originally planned as a television series pilot but released theatrically instead."

For details on handling fields and attributes, you will need to refer to the *EIDR Data Fields Reference*.

3.3.1   Creating a Base Object with the Web UI

To create a Base object in the Web UI:

6. Click on the Create button in the top tool bar.
   The Create screen appears.
7. Click on the Movie button.
   The Create Movie screen appears:

Note that some fields will already be provided with applicable defaults.

8. Enter the remaining required fields.
9. Click on the "Show Optional Fields" link to enter selected optional fields.
10. Click on the Create button.

If successful, the View screen will appear with following message:

```
Asset successfully created
```

If there is an error, the Create screen will show an error message at the top.

3.3.2   Creating a Base Object with the REST API

The REST API takes an XML description of the object. Here is an example of a Base record for a Movie:

```
<Create type="CreateBasic">
 <Basic>
  <BaseObjectData>
   <StructuralType>Abstraction</StructuralType>
   <Mode>AudioVisual</Mode>
   <ReferentType>Movie</ReferentType>
   <ResourceName lang="fr">Un Grand Film!</ResourceName>
   <OriginalLanguage mode="Audio" type="primary">fr</OriginalLanguage>
 <AssociatedOrg idType="EIDRPartyID" organizationID="10.5237/3F12-A26D"
role="producer"/>
   <ReleaseDate>1960</ReleaseDate>
   <CountryOfOrigin>FR</CountryOfOrigin>
   <Status>valid</Status>
```

```
  <ApproximateLength>PT1H30M</ApproximateLength>
  <Administrators>
   <Registrant>10.5237/9DD9-E249</Registrant>
  </Administrators>
  <Credits>
   <Director>
    <md:DisplayName>Adrienne Auteur</md:DisplayName>
   </Director>
   <Actor>
    <md:DisplayName>Jean T. Bonhomme</md:DisplayName>
   </Actor>
   <Actor>
    <md:DisplayName>Fifi De Ville</md:DisplayName>
   </Actor>
  </Credits>
 </BaseObjectData>
 </Basic>
</Create>
```

For details on how the XML sits within the REST call itself, please see the *EIDR REST API Guide*. (The Bulk Ingest application uses the same format with a different packaging mechanism.)

Note that the best practice for namespaces is to declare all of them on the topmost level as shown here in the XML for a skeletal REST request.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<Request xmlns="http://www.eidr.org/schema"
xmlns:doi="http://www.doi.org/2010/DOISchema"
xmlns:md="http://www.movielabs.com/md/2.1/md"
xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance">
 <Operation>
  <XML data for the record here>
 </Operation>
</Request>
```

3.4 Creating an Edit

EIDR uses an Edit object to represent a specific cut or variant. In the HITS terminology this would be a Version.

Most of the fields in the base object portion of the Edit can be inherited from the parent, with the following exceptions and caveats:

Field	Value
StructuralType	An Edit should be a Performance in this use case. This must be provided if the parent is an Abstraction since an Edit cannot be an Abstraction and so cannot inherit this from the parent.
Mode	This is inherited and normally does not change for Edits, so generally it will not have to be provided directly.
ResourceName	This can be inherited so it should only be provided if the official name of the work changed with the version (as in "Apocalypse Now Redux"). The type of change (such as director's cut) is handled in the EditClass field so the ResourceName should not be changed to incorporate that information.
OriginalLanguage	Cannot be changed for child records.
VersionLanguage	Will not usually apply for Edits.
AssociatedOrg	Must be provided since this is not inherited. The principal production company(s) can be repeated. Distributors should be added here.
ReleaseDate	Required and not inherited in this case. This should specify the month and day if they are known, in addition to the year.
CountryOfOrigin	Required and inherited. So should be provided only if different for the Edit.
Status	Required. A value of "valid" should be used for all content (unless you want to keep it private with "in development").
ApproximateLength	Required and not inherited in this case. In many cases it will differ from the root, such as when the EditClass is "Director's Cut" or "Extended").
AlternateID	Optional, and not inherited from the parent. If provided, this should be an ID that applies specifically to this version such as an EPG ID or a V-ISAN.
Registrant	This is required for every EIDR registration. This must be the Party ID you use in your EIDR credentials. It could be different from the Registrant of the Edit's parent.
Credits	For Movies, these is normally inherited from the Base (except for cases such as voice actors in a dubbed animated film).
Description	Required and not inherited. If present, this should give details on the EditClass such as "hotel edition". It can be used to support the manual de-duplication process, and so should be meaningful and concrete.

There are several fields specific to Edits. All of them are used to distinguish the record for de-duplication:

Field	Value
Parent	Required. The EIDR content ID of this Edit's parent.
EditUse	Required. An enumerated list with values for channels such as `Theatrical` and `Broadcast` as well as `General` and `Unknown`.
EditClass	Optional and supports up to 8 values. An enumerated list with numerous values that describes what has been done to the content of the Edit such as: `Censored`, `Director's Cut`, `Extended`.
MadeForRegion	Optional and supports up to 8 values. This describes the primary region(s) for which the version was originally made. (This does not imply anything about where the Edit is actually distributed.) The values can be `Domestic`, `International` or an ISO 3166-1 alpha 2 code. Do not use Domestic if there is more than one Country of Origin since it will be ambiguous. Do not put all the possible territories that might apply to the Edit in this field (such as US, Guam and the Virgin Islands when US is the primary and all that is needed for differentiation).
EditDetails	Unlike the Description field, this field is used in matching to distinguish one Edit from another. (Purely informational text should go in the Description.) Optional and supports up to 8 values. This also requires a domain attribute (such as `"mychannel.com"`), which is unique to each value.
ColorType	Required. An enumerated list. The most common value will be `color`. Color is rare in Movies before 1928 and TV before 1959.
ThreeD	Required. This Boolean field should be set to `true` if this version is 3D.

See the *EIDR Data Field Reference* for additional options and details.

3.4.1   Creating an Edit Object with the Web UI

To create an Edit object in the Web UI:

1. Navigate to the Parent record for the Edit you wish to create. (Starting here will pre-populate the Parent field in the Create screen.)
2. Click on the Create Related: Edit link.
   The Create Edit screen appears:

Note that some fields will already be provided with applicable defaults.

3. Enter the remaining required fields.
4. Click on the "Show Optional Fields" link to enter selected optional Base fields.
5. Click on the Create button.
   If successful, the View screen will appear with following message:
   ```
   Asset successfully created
   ```

3.4.2 Creating an Edit Object with the REST API

The REST API takes an XML description of the object. Here is an example creating a single record for an Edit of a Movie for the original theatrical release:

```
<Request xmlns="http://www.eidr.org/schema"
xmlns:doi="http://www.doi.org/2010/DOISchema"
xmlns:md="http://www.movielabs.com/md/2.1/md"
xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance">
 <Operation>
  <Create type="CreateEdit">
   <Edit>
    <BaseObjectData>
     <StructuralType>Performance</StructuralType>
 <AssociatedOrg idType="EIDRPartyID" organizationID="10.5237/3F12-A26D"
role="producer"/>
     <ReleaseDate>2012</ReleaseDate>
```

```
        <Status>valid</Status>
        <ApproximateLength>PT3H</ApproximateLength>
        <Administrators>
         <Registrant>10.5237/8418-EF8A</Registrant>
        </Administrators>
        <Description lang="en">Includes additional scenes</Description>
      </BaseObjectData>
      <ExtraObjectMetadata>
       <EditInfo>
        <Parent>10.5240/B69F-DA9A-2AAA-6C51-5630-8</Parent>
        <EditUse>Theatrical</EditUse>
        <ColorType>color</ColorType>
        <ThreeD>false</ThreeD>
       </EditInfo>
      </ExtraObjectMetadata>
     </Edit>
    </Create>
  </Operation>
</Request>
```

Note the outer XML elements vary for other interfaces.

3.5 Creating Manifestations

A Manifestation is used to represent a particular digital instantiation of a Performance. It corresponds to a HITS/DEG Product. The EIDR Manifestation object comes in two flavors:

- Generic Manifestation, which describes the file at a high level and includes only the ManifestationClass. In this case, the Structural Type is Performance. Any Version Languages can be specified in the BaseObjectData.
- Technical Manifestation, which gives details about its container or tracks. In this case, the Structural Type is Digital. Any Version Languages specified in the ManifestationInfo will be automatically summarized in the BaseObjectData.

This document covers only Generic Manifestation. Note that a Generic Manifestation can be modified to become a Technical Manifestation if more information becomes available.

Most of the fields in the base object portion of the Manifestation can be inherited from the parent, with the following exceptions and caveats:

Field	Value
StructuralType	Required and not inherited in this case. A generic Manifestation should be a Performance. (Technical Manifestation must be Digital.)
Mode	Required and inherited. Should be provided if different for the Manifestation. For example, a Manifestation that represents only the video track would have a mode of Visual.
ResourceName	This should normally be inherited. However, some generic Manifestations may be difficult to distinguish with only the required metadata, so unique information may be placed here as a last resort.
OriginalLanguage	Cannot be changed for child records.
VersionLanguage	The languages available in this manifestation. Should be specified for Generic Manifestations using values from IETF RFC-5646. For example, a film with the subtitles burned in would have two languages.
AssociatedOrg	Must be provided since this is not inherited. The principal production company(s) can be repeated. The company responsible for creating the Manifestation should be added if needed.
ReleaseDate	Required and inherited. Should be provided only if different for the Manifestation. This should be the date it was created if the file is not directly released (as in a Mezzanine file). In addition to the year, this should specify the month and day if they are known.

Field	Value
CountryOfOrigin	Required and inherited. This would be the country where the encoding was done. Should be provided only if different from the Edit.
Status	Required. A value of "valid" should be used for all content (unless you want to keep it private with "in development").
ApproximateLength	Required and inherited. Should be provided if different from the parent's. It should be precise to at least minutes, but should *not* include seconds or fractional seconds unless they are known.
AlternateID	Optional and not inherited. If provided, this should be an ID that applies specifically to this Manifestation, such as a UPC or a digital distributor's ID. The types of Alternate ID's that apply to non-released items (such as Mezzanines) may be different from the types that apply to released items. For example, a SKU might apply only to a retail item.
Registrant	This is required for every EIDR registration. This must be the Party ID you use in your EIDR credentials. In some cases, the encoding house may register the record.
Credits	For Movies, these should always be inherited from the Edit.
Description	Required and not inherited. It can be used to support manual de-duplication, and so should be meaningful and concrete. For example, this can give details on the ManifestationClass (such as "Amazon Instant Video" or "Re-encode with 5 sec. commercial blacks").

These are the required fields that are specific to a Generic Manifestation:

Field	Value
Parent	The EIDR content ID of this Manifestation's parent.
ManifestationClass	This comes from an enumerated list. Typical values for this use case are VOD, EST, Game Machine, Mobile, Web, Mezzanine, Screener, Other. See the *EIDR Data Fields Reference* for more options and details.

3.5.1   Creating a Manifestation with the Web UI

To create a Generic Manifestation record in the Web UI:

1. Navigate to the Parent record for the Manifestation you wish to create. (Starting here will pre-populate the Parent field in the Create screen.)
2. Click on the Create Related: Manifestation link.
   The Create Manifestation screen appears:

   Note that some fields will already be provided with applicable defaults.
3. Enter the remaining required fields.

4. Click on the "Show Optional Fields" link to enter selected optional fields.
5. Click on the Create button.

If successful, the View screen will appear with following message:
```
Asset successfully created
```

3.5.2   Creating a Manifestation Object with the REST API

The REST API takes an XML description of the object. Here is an example of creating a Base record for a single Manifestation of an Edit of a Movie:

```
<Request xmlns="http://www.eidr.org/schema''
xmlns:doi="http://www.doi.org/2010/DOISchema"
xmlns:md="http://www.movielabs.com/md/2.1/md''
xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance">
 <Operation>
  <Create type="CreateManifestation">
   <Manifestation>
    <BaseObjectData>
     <StructuralType>Performance</StructuralType>
 <AssociatedOrg idType="EIDRPartyID" organizationID="10.5237/3F12-A26D"
role="producer"/>
     <Status>valid</Status>
     <Administrators>
      <Registrant>10.5237/8418-EF8A</Registrant>
     </Administrators>
     <Description lang="en">This corresponds to a release</Description>
    </BaseObjectData>
    <ExtraObjectMetadata>
     <ManifestationInfo>
      <Parent>10.5240/8CE9-63F0-4746-2DD4-9070-F</Parent>
      <ManifestationClass>DVD</ManifestationClass>
     </ManifestationInfo>
    </ExtraObjectMetadata>
   </Manifestation>
  </Create>
 </Operation>
</Request>
```

Note the outer XML elements vary for other interfaces.