Information management challenges for a broadcaster: ... not as easy as abc

Mary Jane Stannus Head of Content Services, Australian Broadcasting Corporation

ALIA Information Online 2017 Conference



Overview

ABC - Context

The broadcasting environment

• Special Challenges for Information Management

Improving performance

- Datafication
- Master Data
- Metadata

The Role of the Information Professional (and others)

Conclusion



ABC - Context



National Radio Networks¹

RN, Classic FM, triple j

Radio Australia

a news and information radio service for the Pacific region



Capital City Local Radio²

available from all eight capital cities

Regional Local Radio

has a presence in 48 regional locations around Australia

Digital Radio³

Double J, ABC Jazz, ABC Country, ABC Grandstand, triple j Unearthed, and ABC Extra for special events

Streaming⁴

all digital radio services are streamed online

ABC main channel

the ABC's primary television channel

ABC3

a dedicated

children's

channel

ABC2

including ABC KIDS—content for preschoolers between 5am and 7pm—and ABC2 for a younger adult demographic between 7pm and 5am



ABC iview

the ABC's online television service





ABC Open

a place where regional Australians tell their stories through written and visual media, with ABC Open producers across the country



abc.net.au

content to stream and download, and unique broadband content

Mobile

apps for smartphones and tablets



ABC News and Current Affairs online

in-depth journalism content, analysis and opinion

ABC News 24

a national, 24-hour news network for television



ABC NewsRadio

a national, 24-hour news network for radio

Australia Plus

television and online services for audiences across Asia and the Pacific





ABC International Development

partnering with media, civil society and government organisations in the Asia-Pacific region, to assist in designing and delivering communication initiatives



ABC Retail

ABC Shop Online and 224 ABC Centres throughout Australia

Video Entertainment and Distribution

DVD and digital distribution

Sales and Business Development

format, digital content, footage, audio and stills



a variety of music products and live events

Studio and Media Production

provision of surplus production services to the market

ABC Publishing and Licensing

magazines, books and merchandise



News/Current Affairs Audience

Since 2014

- + 49% monthly plays on iView
- + 41% plays on YouTube
- Increasing use of mobiles for News content

In 2016 – News access

- 52% use social media
- 45% use Facebook
- Social media main source of news for >25% of 18-24 year olds



ABC Strategy 2015-2020

Vision

To be the independent home of Australian conversations, culture and stories

Mission

We will deliver outstanding content and services that are indispensable to society in a transforming media environment

Efficient,
Agile and
Accountable

Audiences at the Centre

Creative and Engaged



Content Services

News Libraries	Archives/Collections Management
Research Services	Rights Management & Advice
Sound & Reference Libraries	Records Management & Business Information Advice







ABC Content Services Collections

Physical items

- 77,000 cans of film
- 50,000 audio carriers (1/4" tape, CD's, Cassettes) (20,000 hours of unique ABC content)
- 300,000 videotapes (over 80,000 hours of unique ABC content
- 450,000 commercial music CD's (220,000

Digital items

- 158,000 audio files in the Radio production system (from 2003)
- 140,000 TB of news items in the News Production systems
 130,000 files of video and audio digitised from one-inch videotape, audio transcription discs, and 1/4" radio recordings (from 2005)

The broadcasting environment:

Special challenges for information management



National Radio Networks¹

RN, Classic FM, triple j

Radio Australia

a news and information radio service for the Pacific region



Capital City Local Radio²

available from all eight capital cities

Regional Local Radio

has a presence in 48 regional locations around Australia

Digital Radio³

Double J, ABC Jazz, ABC Country, ABC Grandstand, triple j Unearthed, and ABC Extra for special events

Streaming⁴

all digital radio services are streamed online



ABC News and Current Affairs online

in-depth journalism content, analysis and opinion

ABC News 24

a national, 24-hour news network for television

ABC main channel

the ABC's primary television channel

ABC2

including ABC KIDS—content for preschoolers between 5am and 7pm—and ABC2 for a younger adult demographic between 7pm and 5am



(a)

ABC NewsRadio

a national, 24-hour news network for radio

Australia Plus

television and online services for audiences across Asia and the Pacific

ABC3

a dedicated children's channel



ABC iview

the ABC's online television service



ABC Open

a place where regional

Australians tell their stories

through written and visual media, with ABC Open producers across the country

00





ABC International Development

partnering with media, civil society and government organisations in the Asia-Pacific region, to assist in designing and delivering communication initiatives



ABC Retail

ABC Shop Online and 224 ABC Centres throughout Australia

Video Entertainment and Distribution

DVD and digital distribution

Sales and Business Development

format, digital content, footage, audio and stills



abc.net.au

content to stream and download, and unique broadband content

Mobile

apps for smartphones and tablets

ABC Music and Events

a variety of music products and live events

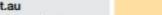
Studio and Media Production

provision of surplus production services to the market

ABC Publishing and Licensing

magazines, books and merchandise





Media Industry Data

Lack of industry standards for Master [Structured] Data

- Naming conventions
- Programs eg Four Corners v 4 Corners v 4C etc

Disparate:

- Data
- Nomenclature
- Management systems

Lack of integration

• Information silos

Costly to manage

- Resources
- IT



ABC Data

DIRKS study [2004]

- IT identified 1500 databases
- DIRKS identified 700 storing ABC records

Infrastructure/staffing

- Data entry
- Oversight/management of data in each system
- System maintenance
- Training/manuals etc

Simple questions difficult to answer

- e.g. How many times has this tape been broadcast?
- e.g. Reporting broadcast content by genre
- · Answers must be assembled manually using 'stitched together' data



Current technology project approach

- No ABC wide data standards
- Local user requirements focus
- No ABC wide interoperability
- Data migration responsibility sits with vendor
 - Risk of loss of data
 - Risk of data transfer without value assessment
 - Lack of analysis of data against industry standards to identify gaps



Media Information Management

Current

Information silos lacking interoperability

Information is a byproduct

Format driven IM system design

Application dependant

User requirements determine the system

Data use locked in to a single use case

Limited amount of information

Multiple instances of information retained for different systems/functions

Goal

Integrated MIM systems

Information is an asset

Data type agnostic

Application independent

Standards are central to system design

Emerging information uses can be handled

Massive increases in volume, velocity and variety of information

Pointers to data retained rather than data itself



Why does this matter?

...media organizations may have fared without Master Data Management/Structured Data because people resources are tasked with solving the problem

Manual effort is often used to compensate for record-keeping misalignments and gaps, instead of implementing a systems-based solution.

The cost of disconnected systems and misaligned data comes in the form of allocating people resources to overcome data management shortcomings.

As the industry evolves in terms of information and complexity, you need more than an analyst role to fix problems; you also must involve more senior levels, as governance and compliance requirements demand.



Improving performance:

Datafication Master data Metadata



Data + Information = datafication

Datafication is the process and methodology of turning aspects of your activity into computerized data and transforming this information into new forms of value



'Datafication' of Rights Information in the ABC

	Rights	Means the right to, and the right to authorise third parties to, license the copying and incorporation of parts of the Programme of any length in other audio and audio-visual productions, and to license the exploitation of those other productions in any way now known or discovered in the future.	Action mco-ipre:MakeExcerpts
--	--------	--	---------------------------------

Source: EBU Report on Audiovisual rights. TR 030. October 2014



Master Data Management My Place Series 2 Episode 1

On Air Instance :Episode

series episode numeric name:

Mv Place (2) 14 title: 1878 Henry

episode number: 14

episode of: My Place (2) **ABC TV House Number:**

CH1047H001S00

published duration: PT26M

duration: PT24M

year of reference: 2010

language: English

type: Pre-Purchase **genre:** Childrens C genre: Drama

genre: Children's Programs - Ch **genre:** Children's Programs genre: Children's Drama

target audience: General

Trove Instance :Episode

name: Episode 14

episode number: 14

episode of: My Place

ABC TV House Number:

CH1047H001 duration: PT24M

year of reference: 2010

language: English

ABC TV Classification: G

type: Series

production company: ABC

Trace Instance :Episode

name: My Place (2): Ep 14 name: My Place (2): E

episode number: 14 episode of: My Place

ABC TV House Number:

CH1047H001

published duration: PT26M

TVBDA Instance :Episode

name: My Place (2): Ep 14

episode number: 1 episode of: My Place

ABC TV House Number:

CH1047H001 published duration: PT26M

year of reference: 2010

ABC TV Classification: G

type: Pre-Purchased

genre: Children's

production unit: ABC Childrens

country of reference: Australia

Music Cue Sheet :Episode

name: My Place name: 1878 Henry

episode number: 14

duration: PT24M

year of reference: 2011

genre: Children's

production company: Rusty

Fig Pictures

country of reference: Australia

credit item: Alexander Graham.

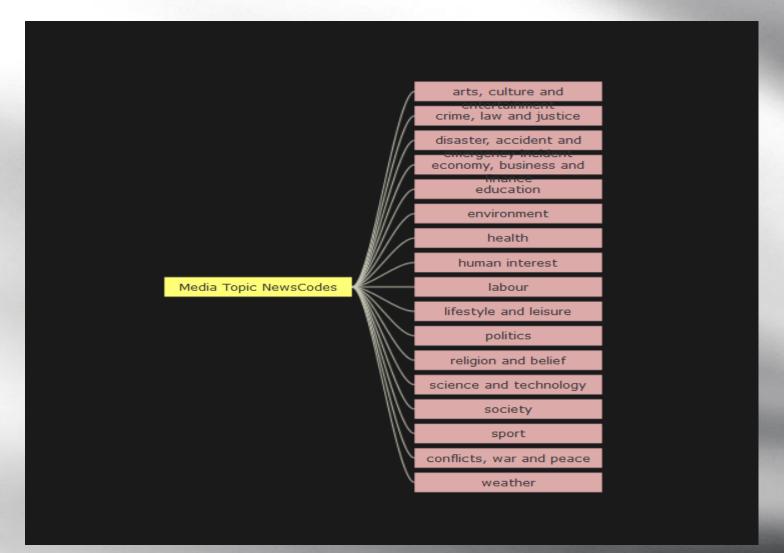
actor

credit item: Kevin Lou, actor **credit item:** Eden Carnegie, actor credit item: Michael Rowland.

Director



Metadata example - IPTC Media Topic News Codes





The role of information specialists



Skills and attributes of information specialists

Understand the importance of information technology, architecture and methodologies to determine the structure, design and flows of information

Create accurate and standards-driven metadata for enhanced and persistent access to information resources in an online environment

Source: https://www.alia.org.au/foundation-knowledge-skills-and-attributes-relevant-information-professionals-working-archives

We can't do it alone - Collaborators

Enterprise Architecture

- Promotes the development of information management standards and practices
- Defines strategies and governance
- Promotes the alignment of the data model with the enterprise architectural plan
- Undertakes Business Process Modelling

TV and Radio

- Implements File based delivery standards
- Replaces engineering standards with standards that cover both technical and information qualities of a file- and include specifications for master data, metadata and 'other data.

Information Technology Projects

- Business analysts define 'requirements' which are synonymous with the design and development of individual technology projects
- Individual technology projects are most pervasive, but unrecognised form of Information management practiced within the ABC.

•Website and Digital Services

- Controlled vocabularies, navigational taxonomies and metadata standards determine the structure, navigation and labelling of ABC website
- Future Website Information Architecture based on Audience User Experience
- Digital Network develops new digital products, services and experiences for the ABC's audiences based on research into Natural Language processing, connected cars, future homes etc.



Strategy for Information and Media Management (SIMM) 2016/2017

INPUT FROM:

ABC Strategic Pillars
Previous SIMM Strategies 2013-2015
SIMM Executive membership audit interviews
Check Up Digital ABC assessments 2014-2016 (National Archives of Australia NAA)
Digital Continuity 2020- targets and pathways (National Archives of Australia NAA)

STRATEGIES:

1. Introduce whole-of-life information and media management

2. Enterprisewide information and media management 3. Build **awareness** of information management, methodologies and processes

4. Use key metrics to assess maturity of information management & architecture



Conclusions



ABC data management in transition

From

Technology focussed projects

Single purpose systems

Multiple standards (vendor decided)

Data duplication

• Including multiple copies of media asset/information in different systems



Information/ data as first focus

• Information/audience focussed projects

Common data model/ associated vocabularies

- Industry standards
- Information architecture

Integrated rights management/content management



Decision making principles

Media assets and associated assets are core ABC assets

Whole of organisation approach

- ABC wide Information Architecture
- Data needs across the organisation considered in project planning

Collaboration/cooperation

- Change management to organisational culture
- Is this our biggest challenge?



Expected outcomes for the ABC

Media assets

- Unique identifier assigned
- Search results precise and relevant
- · All media assets uniquely identified
- Clearly linked to rights/permissions available
- Reduced need for storage

Savings in staff time in duplicated effort

Improved information for decision making

Industry standards applied to:

- Data models and architecture
- Genres
- Content vocabularies



Thank you, and with

credits to colleagues in Content Services

in particular Trish Hoyne, Lizbeth Moore, Lynne Carmichael

Questions and comments to: stannus.maryjane@abc.net .au

