Cataloging & Metadata Standards Committee

The Cataloging and Metadata Standards Committee (CaMS), re-organized and renamed in 2018, continues the work of previous Data Standards Committee (DSC), Core Oversight Committee (Core OC) and that of the CCO (Cataloging Cultural Objects) task force. Members maintain and support the use of Cataloging Cultural Objects, Embedded Metadata, Semantic Web Tools and VRA Core 4. As well, we seek collaborations with cataloging and metadata professionals outside Visual Resources community to expand our understanding about cataloging and metadata in general.

Interested in becoming a member?
Contact: vra-cams@googlegroups.com
Please use "new member" in the subject line.

VRA Core

VRA Core is a data standard purpose-built for the description of works of visual culture as well as the images that document them. The standard is hosted by the Network Development and MARC Standards Office of the Library of Congress in partnership with the Visual Resources Association. The current version is VRA Core 4, which has a published xml schema and an RDF ontology. The VRA Core Support site (http://core.vraweb.org) hosts support materials including FAQs, Cataloging Examples, and Tools.

Additional material about cataloging, data standards and data management may be found online in the VRA resources:
http://vraweb.org/resources/cataloging-metadata-and-data-management/

Cataloging Cultural Objects

Cataloging Cultural Objects: A Guide to Describing Cultural Works and Their Images (CCO) is a published manual for describing, documenting, and cataloging cultural works and their visual surrogates. The primary focus of CCO is art and architecture, including but not limited to paintings, sculpture, prints, manuscripts, photographs, built works, installations, and other visual media. CCO also covers many other types of cultural works, including archaeological sites, artifacts, and functional objects from the realm of material culture.

CCO is included as a data content standard in the NISO A Framework of Guidance for Building Good Digital Collections. CCO is currently available as a print publication from the American Library Association. The Full version of CCO is now made available by CaMS CCO subcommittee at http://vraweb.org/resources/cataloging-cultural-objects/

Embedded Metadata

Embedding descriptive metadata into image files is strongly recommended by the CaMS Embedded Metadata sub-committee. A suite of tools was built to be integrated into the cataloging workflow. Details are available at the sub-committee site.