

# ILRS code – first review

Following its successful launch in January this year, the Interlibrary Resource Sharing (ILRS) Code has been taken up by the majority of Australian libraries, according to the entries in the ILRS Directory. Core, Priority, Rush and Express have become standard terminology in interlibrary loan and document delivery units around Australia.

The Code improves services to patrons by setting agreed service levels and recommended prices. Agreement on service levels is crucial in making Australian interlending system efficient and effective.

The National Resource Sharing Working Group (NRSWG) developed the Code in consultation with the Australian library community, and the NRSWG is reviewing the Code now in the light of day-to-day use to see what changes would make the Code even easier to use.

## Proposed changes

Two relatively minor changes are being considered.

The first is to make Ariel and Fax the default delivery methods for copies delivered under the Rush and Express serv-

ices. This is already the case for the Priority service, but only fax is mentioned for Rush and Express. The change will allow suppliers to choose between Fax and Ariel where the requestor has the Ariel receiving software. The default delivery method applies when no delivery method is specified in a request, allowing the supplier to send the item without having to query which delivery method to use.

The second is to recommend a delivery price of \$9.90 for the loan of items up to 3 kg by Express Post or equivalent, with the price for heavier items to be negotiated. Express Post or equivalent is the default delivery method for loans under the Priority, Rush and Express services. Currently the Code says that the charge for Express Post or equivalent for loans are to be negotiated. The proposed change will create more certainty for patrons where charges are passed on, and allow patrons to make an informed decision about whether they want to place the request. It will also speed up the delivery of an item as suppliers can charge a standard price without having to negotiate a charge for the majority of loans.

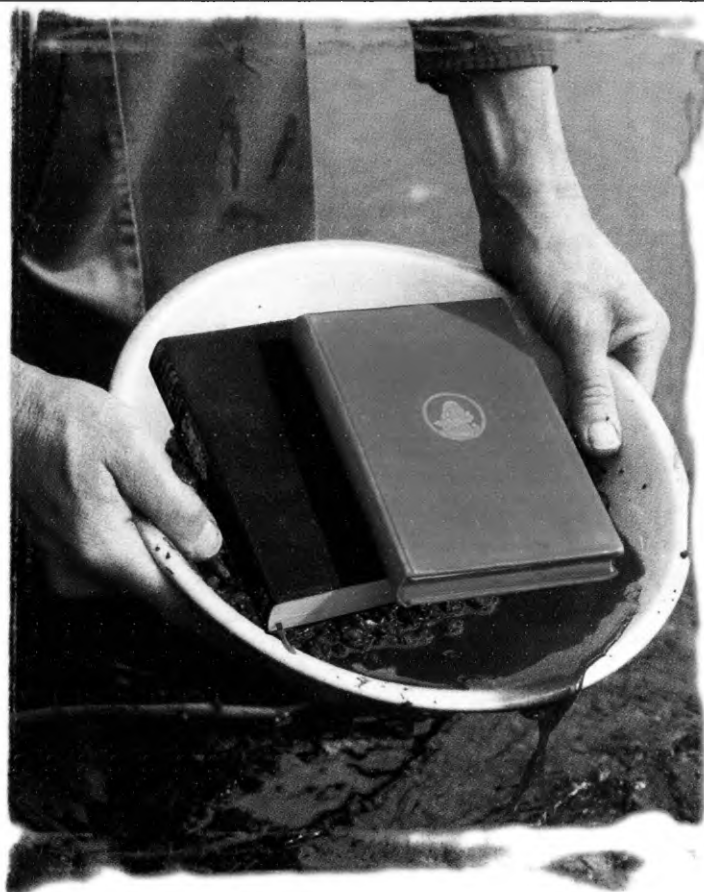
## Comment

Other suggestions for change or comments on the two proposed above can be made to any NRSWG member. Members are listed on the NRSWG home page at <http://www.nla.gov.au/initiatives/nrswg/>. Or, you can use the feedback form that is on the ILRS Code home page [<http://www.nla.gov.au/initiatives/ilrscod/index.html>].

Comments need to be received by the end of September. NRSWG will consult the library community about these proposed changes. Any changes will be approved by the Australian Library and Information Association, the Council of University Librarians and the Council of Australian State Libraries before implementation.

## Update your ILRS Directory entry

The ILRS Directory is a vital tool for any interlibrary loan section, and it is important that your entry is up-to-date. It not only lists your contact details, it tells other libraries what your policies and charges are, and what services you support. Please update your entry, if you have not already done so. You can update your information online via <http://www.nla.gov.au/ilrs/>. ■



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