National Diet Library Newsletter

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E-legal deposit of online publications started

On July 1, 2013, the e-legal deposit of online publications started based on the National Diet Library Law revised in June 2012. This obliges publishers in Japan to deposit online publications in the private sector including e-books and e-magazines with the National Diet Library (NDL) in order to contribute to the accumulation and utility of cultural goods in accordance with the legal deposit system.

Who come under the obligation?

All people other than national and local governments, independent administrative entities, etc. who make online publications available to the public via the Internet and other means.

What kind of materials are under the obligation?

For the near term, charge-free online publications without Digital Rights Management (DRM) are under the obligation. You can see the concrete examples of online publications in the following table. Items which fall under the categories with "O" must be deposited.

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<< Table: Concrete examples of online publications and coverage of acquisitions>>

	Charge-free and without DRM		
Concrete examples of online publication of "Private Persons"	Assignment of ISBN, ISSN or DOI	Format in PDF, EPUB or DAISY	Fee-paying or with DRM
Annual report, Year book,			
Directory, In-house organ,			
Public relations magazine,			
Bulletin, Collection of papers,			
Article in a journal, Research			
paper, Academic journal,			
Newsletter, Collection of	0	0	Х
abstracts by academic			
organization, Business report,			
Technical journal, CSR report,			
Company history, Statistics and			
others relevant to books or			
periodicals			

Items below are exempt from the obligation.

- Simple and easy publications (various types of announcements, blog, twitter, product catalog, class paper, etc.)
- Already deposited items with no updates
- Items for the purpose of office functions such as application or permission (example: documents produced in the process of e-commerce, etc.)
- Items the NDL confirms to be exactly the same as printed books or magazines already deposited
- Items for long-term use and never deleted (example: items available in university institutional repositories, etc.)
- Online publications became public before July 1, 2013, when the revised NDL Law came into force

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How to deposit items?

You can choose a method from the following three options:

- (1) Automatic crawling based on declaration
- (2) Transmission
 - *Attention: This option will be available at the beginning of 2014.
- (3) Deposit in the DVD-R format

How are deposited items provided in the library service?

Deposited items will be provided on the premises of the NDL. For more details, please visit our website at http://www.ndl.go.jp/jp/aboutus/online_data.html (Japanese only).

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