

## **7. Organisations – ISNI policy and practice**

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## **7.1 Definition**

The term "Organisation" on ISNI is the equivalent to "Corporate body" in RDA – "An organization or group of persons and/or organizations that is identified by a particular name and that acts, or may act, as a unit." (<http://access.rdatoolkit.org/> - see section 8.1.2 & Glossary)

An organisation can also be defined as a "legal entity (such as an association, company, person, government, government agency, or institution) identified by a particular name." ([www.businessdictionary.com](http://www.businessdictionary.com))

## **7.2 Searching**

The same search commands are used for both organisations and personal names in the ISNI production database (WinIBW).

### *Example*

A browse search<sup>1</sup> on "XTC" brings up the following display:

---

<sup>1</sup> For general information about browse searching on the ISNI production database, see 2.1

1	NA:	xtc,	
1	NA:	xtc,mark	
1	NA:	xtc hudebni skupina,	
1	NA:	xtc musical group,	
1	NA:	xtc products incorporated,	
3	NA:	xtc,	
1	NA:	xte pa nop,xv	
1	NA:	xteamartists llc,	
1	NA:	xtechnical death shredding,	
1	NA:	xteinberg,maksimilian oseievitx	
1	NA:	xtended,	
1	NA:	xtender musical group,	
1	NA:	xtent inc,	
1	NA:	xter,fran	
1	NA:	xteresa cultural center mexico city mexico,	
1	NA:	xtet musical group,	

The results include organisations such as “XTC” and personal names such as “XTC, Mark”. To select records to view from the browse list, see 2.2.

Note that ISNI is not case sensitive. Full stops are also not required between parent and subordinate organisations in the search.

*Example*

A browse search on “great britain office of the deputy primeminister” brings up the following results:

1	NA	great britain office of the deputy prime minister,
1	NA	great britain overprints society,
1	NA	great britain philatelic society,
1	NA	great britain property services agency,
1	NA	great britain royal air forcegroup no 12,
1	NA	great britain royal commission on historical monume...
1	NA	great britain royal institution,
1	NA	great britain school,
1	NA	great britain science and engineering research council,
1	NA	great britain ship,
1	NA	great britain sports council,
1	NA	great britain ussr association,
1	NA	great britain13 field survey squadron,
1	NA	great britain17 map reproduction sect,
1	NA	great britain17th 21st lancers museum,
1	NA	great britain2nd bedfords,
1	NA	great britain2nd tactical air force,
1	NA	great britain42 survey engineer regiment,
1	NA	great britain512 fd survey coy,
1	NA	great britain84 survey squadron,
1	NA	great britain84 sw son.

### **7.3 Merge/Split**

Records for organisations can be merged using the 77A field<sup>2</sup>. To manually merge records for the same organisation use the command:

**77A \$aISNI#ORG\$bM\$9[ppn of record you are merging to]**

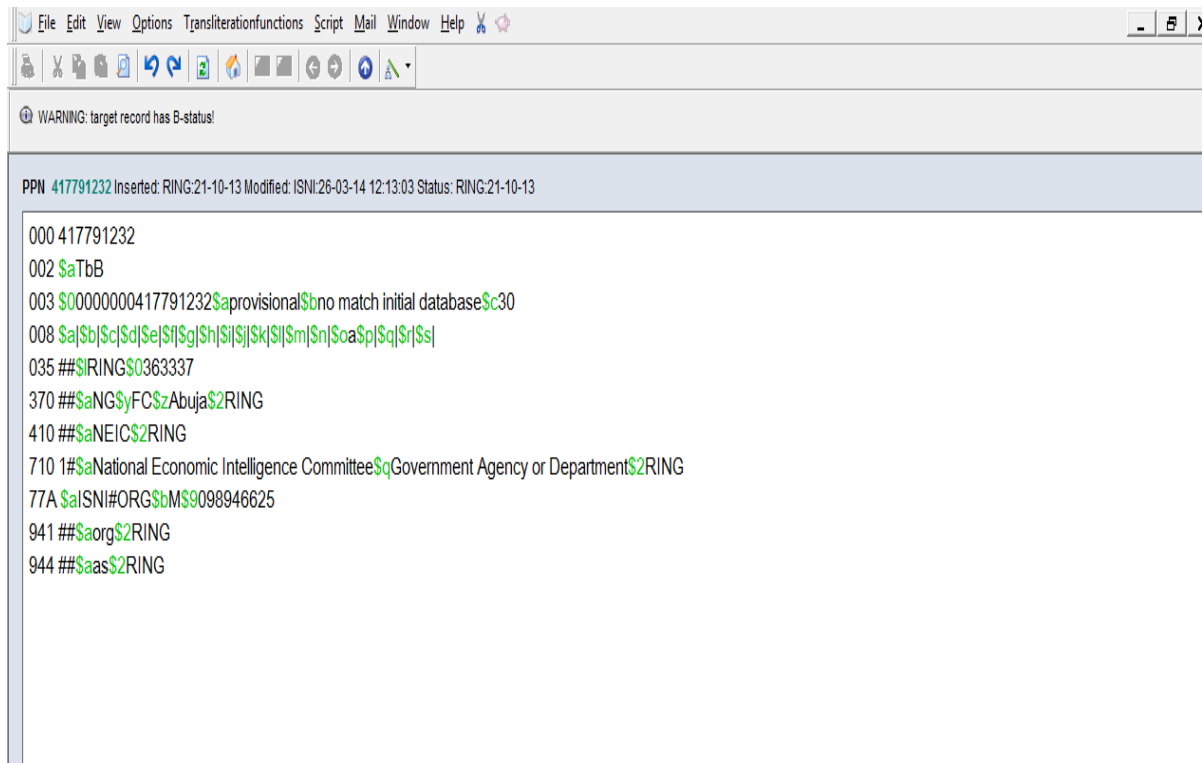
*Example*

In this example the following 77A has been manually added to the record on WinIBW:

**77A \$aISNI#ORG\$bM\$9098946625**

---

<sup>2</sup> For guidance on the 77A field, see 4.1.1.1

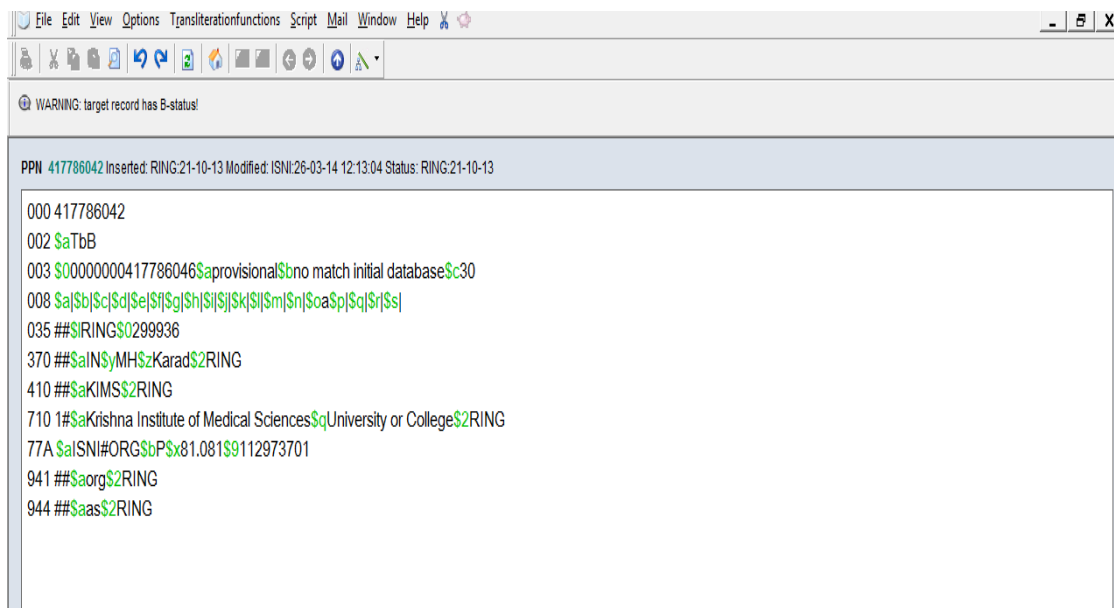


A 77A field may have also been added programmatically to highlight a potentially matching record.

*Example*

In this example, ISNI has highlighted a potential match with this record and PPN: 112973701. The following 77A field is present:

**77A \$aISNI#ORG\$bP\$x81.081\$9112973701**



Note the presence of an additional \$x subfield which is added programmatically. This is not required when manually adding the 77A field to merge records<sup>3</sup>.

Data may also be split from records for organisations, as with personal names. For guidance on splitting see 4.7.

## **7.4 Data enhancement**

If editing work is required on a record for an organisation, please see the guidelines in Chapter 4.

Examples of the types of editing that may be required are:

- **Correcting data errors and notifying sources (4.3)**
- **Disambiguating records (4.4)**
- **Splitting/deprecating records (4.7)**

For general guidelines on enhancing data, see 5.4.

Examples of the types of data enhancement that may be required are:

- **Citing bibliographic sources (5.4.3.4)**
- **General public notes (5.4.3.5)**

<sup>3</sup> For further details about manually adding the 77A field, see 4.1.3.2

## 7.4.1 Public notes

Public notes can be added to records for organisations, along with web links<sup>4</sup>.

### Example

The College of New Jersey was renamed as Princeton University in 1896. A public note has been added to the records for the College and the University to highlight this name change.

PPN 120975009 Inserted: 99999999-17-11-99 Modified: ISNI:19-08-14 10:04:26 Status: 99999999-10-10-11

410 2#[Princeton college](#)  
410 ##[Princeton college](#)  
410 20[P'u-lin-ssu-tun ta hsüeh](#)  
410 2#[Universidad de Princeton](#)  
410 ##[Universidad de Princeton](#)  
410 10[Universität Princeton](#)  
410 2#[Université Princeton, NJ](#)  
410 2#[Université de Princeton](#)  
410 ##[Université de Princeton](#)  
410 2#[University Princeton, NJ](#)  
410 2#[Universität Princeton](#)  
410 20[Đại-học Princeton](#)  
671 ##[Princeton University website, viewed 23 May 2013:History page \(Chartered in 1746 as the College of New Jersey; in 1896 the College of New Jersey was officially renamed Princeton University\)](#)  
710 2#[Princeton University](#)  
710 ##[Princeton university](#)  
710 2#[Princeton University](#)  
710 2#[Princeton University](#)  
710 20[Princeton University](#)  
710 2#[Princeton University](#)  
710 2#[Princeton University](#)  
710 2#[Princeton University](#)  
710 2#[Princeton University](#)  
710 20[Princeton University](#)  
710 2#[Princeton University](#)  
710 20[Princeton University](#)  
901 ##[9780691118802](#)  
901 ##[9780691118802](#)  
901 ##[9780691118802](#)  
901 ##[9780691118802](#)  
901 ##[9780080219233](#)  
901 ##[9780080219233](#)  
901 ##[9780080219233](#)  
901 ##[9780914366010](#)  
901 ##[9780914366010](#)

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<sup>4</sup> For guidance on the 671 public note and linking to websites, see 5.4.3.3

PPN 093415125 Inserted: 99999999:03-04-84 Modified: ISNI:19-08-14 10:03:40 Status: 99999999:10-10-11

370 ##\$aus\$2VIAF\$2DNB  
410 20\$aCollegium Neo-Caesariense\$2VIAF\$2LC  
410 20\$aCollegium Novae Caesareae\$2VIAF\$2LC  
410 20\$aPrinceton College\$2VIAF\$2LC  
410 2#\$aCollegium Neo-Caesariense\$2VIAF\$2NKC  
410 2#\$aCollegium Novae Caesareae\$2VIAF\$2NKC  
410 2#\$aPrinceton College\$2VIAF\$2NKC  
410 2#\$aPrinceton College\$2VIAF\$2DNB  
671 ##\$aPrinceton University website, viewed 23 May 2013:\$bHistory page (Chartered in 1746 as the College of New Jersey; in 1896 the College of New Jersey was officially renamed Princeton University)\$t2013-05-23 16:53:48\$gr\$uhttp://www.princeton.edu/main/\$2ISNI  
710 20\$aCollege of New Jersey (Princeton, N.J.)\$3commonForm\$2VIAF\$2LCS0n 84018185  
710 2#\$aCollege of New Jersey (Princeton, New Jersey)\$3commonForm\$2VIAF\$2NKC\$0ko2005310336  
710 2#\$aCollege of New Jersey Princeton, NJ\$3commonForm\$2VIAF\$2DNB\$0005077516  
710 20\$aCollege of New Jersey (Princeton, N.J.)\$2ISNI  
910 ##\$a@history of the class of 1866\$2VIAF\$2LC  
910 ##\$a@catalogus eorum qui munera et officia gesserunt in collegio neo caesariensi princetoniae\$2VIAF\$2LC  
910 ##\$a@Laws of the College of New-Jersey, reviewed, amended and finally adopted by the Board of Trustees, in September 1802 :\$bto which are prefixed, the Charter of incorporation and the Act of the state confirming and altering the charter, with a list of the present trustees and faculty of the college.\$2VIAF\$2LC  
910 ##\$a@Laws of the College of New Jersey :\$breviewed, amended and finally adopted by the Board of Trustees, in April 1794 : to which are prefixed, the charter of incorporation, the acts of the state confirming and altering the charter and a list of the present trustees and faculty of the college.\$2VIAF\$2LC  
910 ##\$a@Catalogus eorum qui munera et officia gesserunt quique alicujus gradus laurea donati sunt, in Collegio Neo-Caesariensi, Prinetoniae, in Republica Neo-Caesariensi.\$2VIAF\$2LC  
910 ##\$a@Catalogus Collegii Neo-Caesariensis\$2VIAF\$2LC  
910 ##\$a@Catalogue of the officers and students of the College of New-Jersey, for 1835 & 1836.\$2VIAF\$2LC  
921 ##\$aTypis Joannis T. Robinson\$2VIAF\$2LC  
921 ##\$aPrinted by Robert E. Honor\$2VIAF\$2LC  
921 ##\$aPrinted by Isaac Collins\$2VIAF\$2LC  
921 ##\$aFrom the press of (the late) R. Aitken, Jane Aitken\$2VIAF\$2LC  
922 ##\$aUS\$2VIAF\$2LC  
943 ##\$a179.\$2VIAF  
943 ##\$a180.\$2VIAF  
943 ##\$a181.\$2VIAF  
943 ##\$a182.\$2VIAF  
943 ##\$a183.\$2VIAF  
943 ##\$a184.\$2VIAF

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In this example, the 671 field was added to both records by the ISNI Quality Team. The field includes the following data:

*\$a* subfield: **Princeton University website, 23 May 2013** – the title of the website and the date it was viewed

*\$b* subfield: **History page (Chartered in 1746 as the College of New Jersey; in 1896 the College of New Jersey was officially renamed Princeton University)** – a summary of any useful data found on the website

*\$f* subfield: **2013-05-23 16:53:48** – the date/time the web links were added to the record<sup>5</sup>

*\$g* subfield: **r** – record reviewed by ISNIQT and editing is complete

*\$u* subfield: **http://www.princeton.edu/main/** - link to University website

*\$2* subfield: **ISNI** – the source code of the ISNI Quality Team

<sup>5</sup> Note that the *\$f* subfield is inserted automatically on saving the record. It is not added by the Quality Team.



#### **7.4.2 Linking see also references**

Reciprocal links can be made between related organisations and also between organisations and personal names.

For organisations, links are added in the "affiliations - organisations" field (MARC21 951/PICA 029Z). Links to personal names are added in the "affiliations – personal names" field (MARC21 950/PICA 028Z).

The following codes are allowed in the "affiliations - organisations" field:

**isMemberOf**  
**hasMember**  
**isUnitOf**  
**hasUnit**  
**isSupersededby**  
**supersedes**  
**isAffiliatedWith**  
**isRelatedTo**  
**see also from**  
**formerName**  
**laterName**  
**undefined or unknown**  
**no relation**

Note that these codes are sensitive to both case and spacing.

The following codes are allowed in the "affiliations – personal names" field when linking from a personal name to an organisation:

**hasMember**  
**hasEmployee**  
**isRelatedTo**  
**see also from**  
**contact**  
**undefined or unknown**  
**no relation**

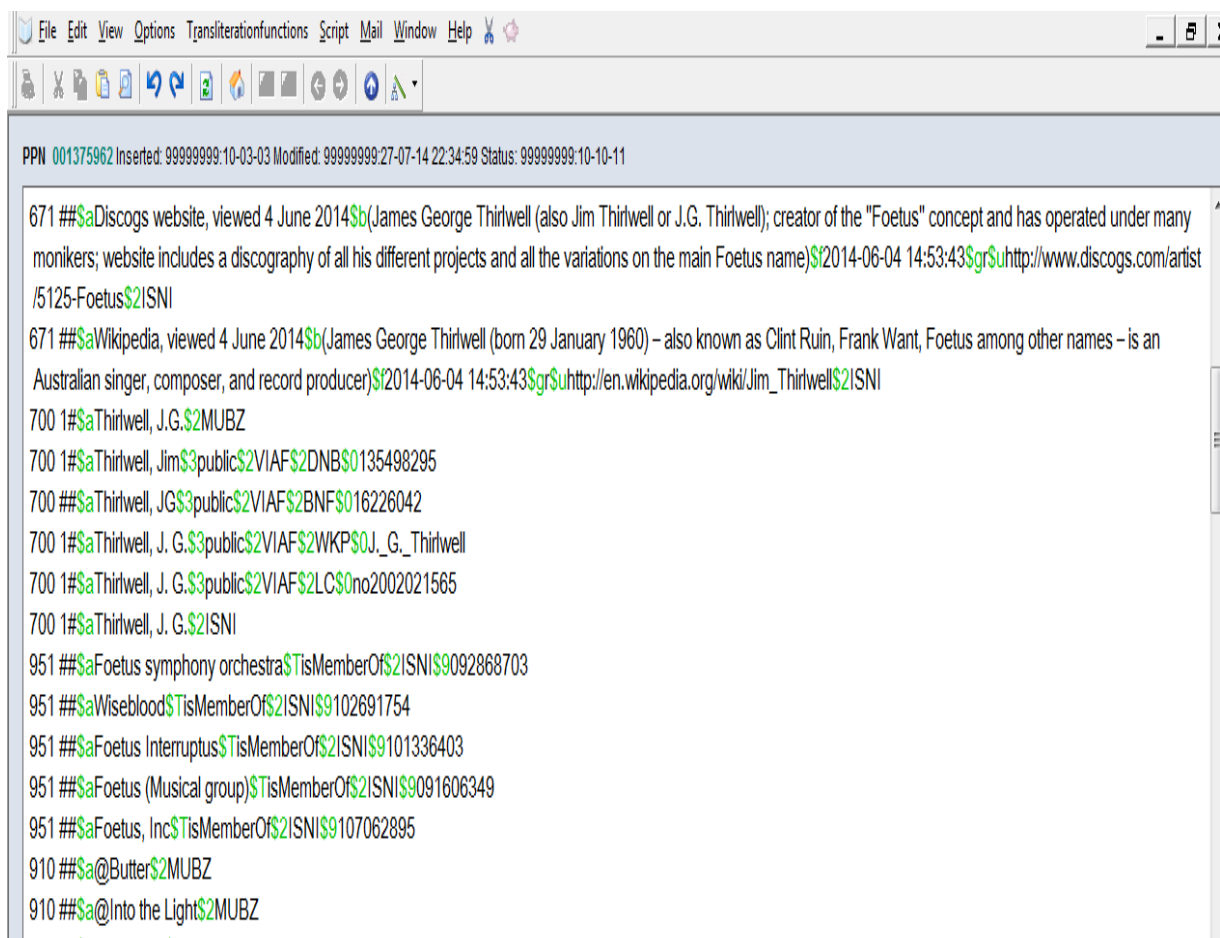
Note that these codes are sensitive to both case and spacing.

### 7.4.2.1 Reciprocal links between personal names and organisations

#### Example

The musician J.G. Thirlwell is a member of a number of different musical groups – Foetus Inc; Foetus Symphony Orchestra; Wiseblood; Foetus Interruptus and Foetus (Musical group).

The following organisational links are added to the personal name record for J.G. Thirlwell.



In this example, the 951 linking fields were added to the record by the ISNI Quality Team. The linking fields include the following data:

*\$a subfield: **name of the related organisation**, e.g. Foetus symphony orchestra*

*\$T subfield: **relationship between the person and the organisation**, e.g. isMemberOf (note the capital T at the beginning of the subfield)*

*\$2 subfield: **source code of the ISNI Quality Team**, e.g. ISNI*

*\$9 subfield: **PICA Production Number (PPN) of the record for the linking organisation**, e.g. 092868703*

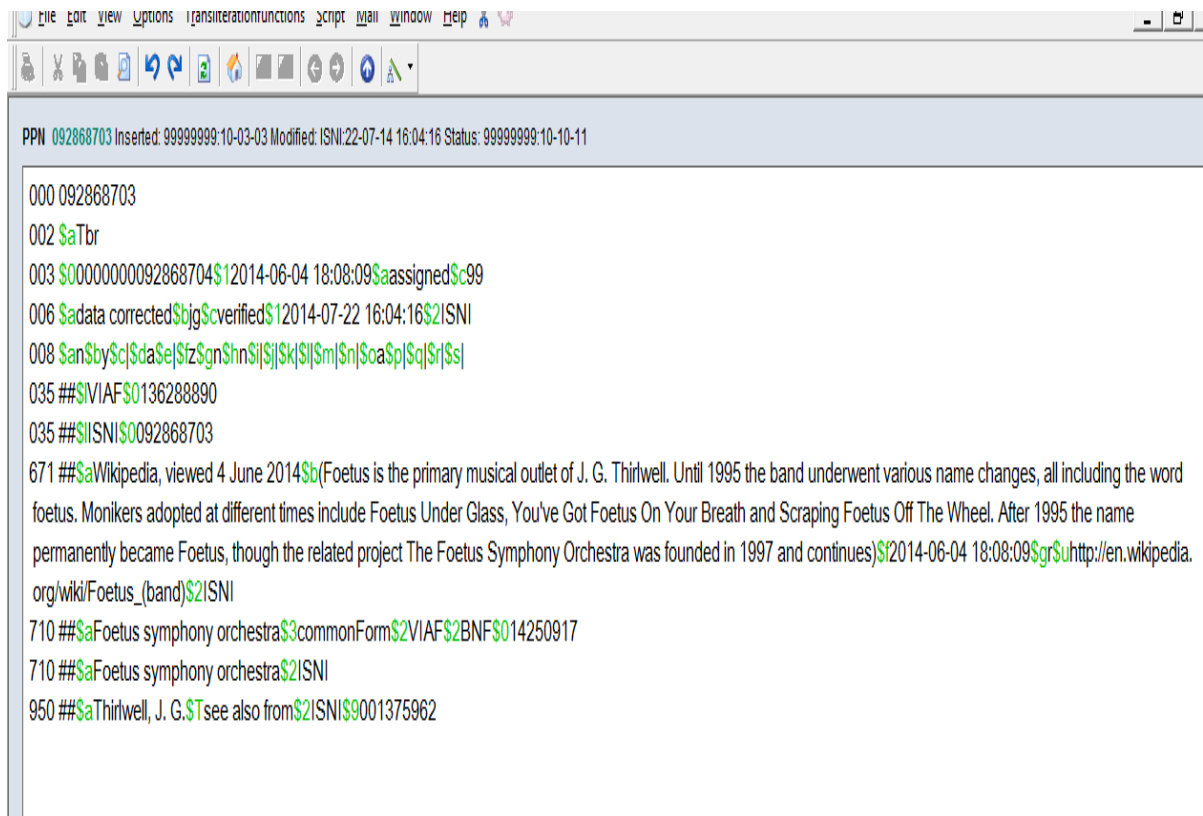
Once any linking fields have been added, select the ENTER key. ISNI will then add an additional \$8 subfield at the end of each linking field with the name of the related person/organisation, e.g.:

951 ##\$aFoetus symphony orchestra\$TisMemberOf\$2ISNI\$9092868703\$8Foetus symphony orchestra

A reciprocal link is then required between the record for the organisation and the personal name.

#### *Example*

In the record for the musical group "Foetus Symphony Orchestra" a reciprocal link has been added for the musician J.G. Thirlwell.



The 950 linking field to J.G. Thirlwell includes the following data:

*\$a subfield: name of the related person*, e.g. Thirlwell, J.G.

*\$T subfield: relationship between the person and the organisation*, e.g. see also from (note the capital T at the beginning of the subfield)

*\$2 subfield: source code of the ISNI Quality Team*, e.g. ISNI

*\$9 subfield: PICA Production Number (PPN) of the record for the linking organisation*, e.g. 092868703

Once any linking fields have been added, select the ENTER key. ISNI will then add an additional \$8 subfield at the end of each linking field with the name of the related person/organisation, e.g.:

950 ##\$aThirlwell, J. G.\$Tsee also from\$2ISNI\$9001375962\$8J.G. Thirlwell

Note that if data is added to the record with the source "ISNI" there will need to be a corresponding main name added for the same source (700/710 MARC21, 028C/029C PICA).

## 7.4.2.2 Reciprocal links between organisations

### Example

The College of New Jersey was renamed as Princeton University in 1896. Reciprocal links are added between the former and later names of the organisation.

PPN 120975009 Inserted: 99999999:17-11-99 Modified: ISNI:19-08-14 10:04:26 Status: 99999999:10-10-11

410 2#[Princeton college](#)  
410 ##[Princeton college](#)  
410 20[P'u-lin-ssu-tun ta hsüeh](#)  
410 2#[Universidad de Princeton](#)  
410 ##[Universidad de Princeton](#)  
410 10[Universität Princeton](#)  
410 2#[Université Princeton, NJ](#)  
410 2#[Université de Princeton](#)  
410 ##[Université de Princeton](#)  
410 2#[University Princeton, NJ](#)  
410 2#[Universität Princeton](#)  
410 20[Đại học Princeton](#)  
671 ##[Princeton University website, viewed 23 May 2013: History page \(Chartered in 1746 as the College of New Jersey; in 1896 the College of New Jersey was officially renamed Princeton University\)](#)  
710 2#[Princeton University](#)  
710 ##[Princeton university](#)  
710 2#[Princeton University](#)  
710 2#[Princeton University](#)  
710 20[Princeton University](#)  
710 2#[Princeton University](#)  
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710 2#[Princeton University](#)  
710 20[Princeton University](#)  
710 2#[Princeton University](#)  
710 20[Princeton University](#)  
710 2#[Princeton University](#)  
710 20[Princeton University](#)  
951 20[College of New Jersey \(Princeton, N.J.\)](#)  
901 ##[9780691118802](#)  
901 ##[9780691118802](#)  
901 ##[9780691118802](#)  
901 ##[9780691118802](#)  
901 ##[9780080219233](#)  
901 ##[9780080219233](#)  
901 ##[9780080219233](#)  
901 ##[9780914366010](#)

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In this example, a 951 linking field has been added to the record for Princeton University by the ISNI Quality Team. The linking field includes the following data:

**\$a subfield: name of the related organisation**, e.g. College of New Jersey (Princeton, N.J.)

**\$T subfield: relationship between the organisations**, e.g. formerName (note the capital T at the beginning of the subfield)

**\$2 subfield: source code of the ISNI Quality Team**, e.g. ISNI

**\$9 subfield: PICA Production Number (PPN) of the record for the linking organisation**, e.g. 093415125

Once any linking fields have been added, select the ENTER key. ISNI will then add an additional \$8 subfield at the end of each linking field with the name of the related person/organisation, e.g.:

```
951 20$aCollege of New Jersey (Princeton, N.J.)$TformerName$2ISNI$9093415125
$8College of New Jersey (Princeton, N.J.)
```

Note that if data is added to the record with the source "ISNI" there will need to be a corresponding main name added for the same source (700/710 MARC21, 028C/029C PICA).

A reciprocal link is then required on the record for the former name.

```
671 ##$aPrinceton University website, viewed 23 May 2013;$bHistory page (Chartered in 1746 as the College of New Jersey; in 1896 the College of New Jersey was officially
renamed Princeton University)$2013-05-23 16:53:48$gr$uhttp://www.princeton.edu/main/$2ISNI
710 20$aCollege of New Jersey (Princeton, N.J.)$3commonForm$2VIAF$2LCS$0n 84018185
710 2#$aCollege of New Jersey (Princeton, New Jersey)$3commonForm$2VIAF$2NKC$0ko2005310336
710 2#$aCollege of New Jersey Princeton, NJ$3commonForm$2VIAF$2DNB$0005077516
710 20$aCollege of New Jersey (Princeton, N.J.)$2ISNI
951 2#$aPrinceton University$TlaterName$2ISNI$9120975009
910 ##$a@history of the class of 1866$2VIAF$2LC
```

The linking field in this example contains the relationship type "laterName".

### 7.4.2.3 Creating live links on ISNI

Manually adding linking fields creates “live” links between records on both WinIBW and the public database.

#### Example

In the following record on WinIBW “live” links have been added manually by the ISNI Quality Team.

```
950 ##$aWaltuch, Karen$2VIAF$2BNF
950 ##$aUrsula$d1000 1966-$2VIAF$2DNB
950 ##$aPark, Elena Moon$2VIAF$2BNF
950 ##$aPapach, Leyna Marika$2VIAF$2BNF
950 ##$aPanacea$2VIAF$2DNB
950 ##$aFan, Felix$2VIAF$2BNF
951 ##$aFoetus, Inc$TisMemberOf$2ISNI$9107062895$8Foetus Inc
951 ##$aFoetus symphony orchestra$TisMemberOf$2ISNI$9092868703$8Foetus symphony orchestra
951 ##$aCome$TisMemberOf$2MUBZ
951 ##$aWiseblood$TisMemberOf$2ISNI$9102691754$8Wiseblood
951 ##$aThe The$TisMemberOf$2MUBZ
951 ##$aFoetus Interruptus$TisMemberOf$2ISNI$9101336403$8Foetus Interruptus
951 ##$aFoetus Interruptus$TisMemberOf$2MUBZ
951 ##$aFoetus (Musical group)$TisMemberOf$2ISNI$9091606349$8Foetus (Musical group)
951 ##$aScraping Foetus Off the Wheel$TisMemberOf$2MUBZ
951 ##$aThe Flesh Volcano$TisMemberOf$2MUBZ
951 ##$aFoetus Corruptus$TisMemberOf$2MUBZ
951 ##$aFoetus in Excelsis Corruptus Deluxe$TisMemberOf$2MUBZ
951 ##$aBaby Zizanie$TisMemberOf$2MUBZ
```

The manually added fields contain hyperlinks in the \$9 subfield to the linked record<sup>6</sup>. The additional linking fields without hyperlinks are from ISNI data sources and do not provide “live” links on WinIBW or the public database.

In the same record on the public database the manually added linking fields display as hyperlinks<sup>7</sup>. The additional linking fields from ISNI data sources are viewable on the record but do not provide “live” links.

<sup>6</sup> To view linked records on WinIBW using the hyperlinks see 2.3.6

<sup>7</sup> To view linked records on the public database using the hyperlinks, see 6.3.1.5

	Ferguson, Paul (co-performer)
	Fields, Jordan (co-performer)
	Flanigan, Dirk (co-performer)
	Flea (co-performer)
	Flores, Bart (co-performer)
	Flour (co-performer)
	Foetus (1960-; see also from)
	<a href="#">Foetus (Musical group)</a> (isMemberOf)
	Foetus Corruptus (isMemberOf)
	Foetus in Excelsis Corruptus Deluxe (isMemberOf)
	Foetus Inc (isMemberOf)
	<a href="#">Foetus Interruptus</a> (isMemberOf)
	<a href="#">Foetus symphony orchestra</a> (isMemberOf)
	Foetus, Inc
	<a href="#">Foetus, Inc</a> (isMemberOf)
	Francis, Black (co-performer)
	Frank Want
	Fuzz (co-performer)
	Ghielmi, Lorenzo
	Gira, Michael (co-performer)

It is best practice to add linking fields to records for organisations where appropriate.

### **7.4.3 Location of organisation – 370 field**

A location field should be added to all records for organisations, with the source code ISNI. This includes records where editing work is required, new records and those records where 370 fields have been added by other data sources.

#### *Example*

The Arts & Humanities Research Council is located in Swindon, England. Following editing work on the record for this organisation, an additional location field (370 MARC21, 019A PICA) has been added.

370 ##\$aGB\$zBristol\$2RING
370 ##\$agb\$2VIAF\$2BNF
370 ##\$agb\$2VIAF\$2DNB
370 ##\$aGB\$tGB SNN\$zSwindon\$2ISNI
377 ##\$aeng\$2VIAF\$2BNF
410 2##\$aArts and Humanities Research Council (Great Britain)\$2VIAF\$2NLIlat



The 370 field includes the following data:

*\$a subfield:* **GB** – the code for the country of location

*\$t subfield:* **GB SNN** – the code for the city/town where the organisation is located

*\$z subfield:* **Swindon** – the name of the city/town

*\$2 subfield:* **ISNI** – the source code of the ISNI Quality Team

The codes for the \$a and \$t subfields can be found at the following link:

<http://www.unece.org/cefact/locode/service/location.html>

The name in the \$z subfield should be recorded as it appears in the list in the above link.

Note that the 370 field refers only to the current location, where found. There is no requirement to add a 370 field for each previous location.

If only a country is known, this can be added in the 370 field without the specific location, e.g.:

**370 ##\$aGB\$2ISNI**

#### **7.4.4 Type of institution - \$q subfield**

The type of institution can be added to the name of an organisation, where this has been added with the ISNI source code<sup>8</sup>.

*Example*

```
710 2#$aArts & Humanities Research Council (Great Britain)$qFunding agency$2ISNI
710 1#$aArts and Humanities Research Council$qUniversity or College$2RING
710 2#$aArts & Humanities Research Council (Great Britain)$3commonForm$2VIAF$2NLIat$0000222722
710 2#$aArts & Humanities Research Council (Great Britain)$3commonForm$2VIAF$2LC$0nb2005011475
710 ##$aArts and humanities research council$cGrande-Bretagne$3commonForm$2VIAF$2BNF$016152190
710 2#$aArts & Humanities Research Council$3commonForm$2VIAF$2DNB$0978408993
```

The type of institution is added in a \$q subfield, following the name of the organisation, e.g.:

**710 2#\$aArts & Humanities Research Council (Great Britain)\$qFunding agency\$2ISNI**

Note that a \$q subfield would only be added if the type of institution was clear.

---

<sup>8</sup> A list of institution types can be found in Appendix 1

#### **7.4.5 BOWKER Publisher (BOWP) records**

BOWKER publisher records contain the source code BOWP. Records for subordinate organisations from this source may include MARC coding errors.

Example

The organisation University of Florida Library appears in BOWP data as:

```
710 1#$aUniversity of Florida$qLibrary$2BOWP
```

This needs to be amended to:

```
710 1#$aUniversity of Florida$bLibrary$2BOWP
```

Note that we would only amend BOWP data when editing the record for another reason, e.g. Merge, data enhancement, etc.

#### **7.4.6 Converting name variants to related names**

There are different practices among ISNI data sources in regard to organisational name changes. A name change may be treated as a variant name by one source but established as a separate public identity by another.

These different policies can lead to multiple variant names within the same record and variant names matching main headings in other records<sup>9</sup>.

*Example*

Sheffield College was formed by a merger of individual colleges, including Norton College and Castle College.

There are separate ISNI records for Sheffield College and the former Castle College, now absorbed into the larger institution.

---

<sup>9</sup> For further information about how ISNIs are assigned to organisations and the different policy practices, see 7.5.

671 ##\$aThe Sheffield College is a further education (FE) college in Sheffield, England. It was formed by the merger of six FE colleges in 1993\$|2014-12-01 12:10:44\$gr\$2|ISNI

671 ##\$aWikipedia page, viewed 1 December 2014\$|2014-12-01 12:05:10\$gr\$uhttp://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\_Sheffield\_College\$2|ISNI

671 ##\$aThe Sheffield College website, viewed 1 December 2014\$|2014-12-01 12:14:13\$gr\$uhttp://www.sheffcol.ac.uk\$2|ISNI

451 ##\$aCastle College\$gUniversity or College\$2RING

710 1#\$aSheffield College\$gUniversity or College\$2RING

710 1#\$aThe Sheffield College\$gUniversity or College\$2|ISNI

941 ##\$aorg\$2RING

944 ##\$aas\$2RING

951 1#\$aCastle College\$gUniversity or College\$Tsupersedes\$2|ISNI\$943982415X\$8Castle College

951 1#\$aNorton College\$gUniversity or College\$2|ISNI\$9405046901\$8Norton College

370 ##\$aGB\$|GB SHE\$2|ISNI

671 ##\$aCastle College was absorbed into "The Sheffield College" in 1993 when The Sheffield College was formed by the merger of six Further Education colleges (Sheffield College, Stradbroke College, Norton College, Castle College, Parson Cross College, and Loxley College).\$|2014-12-01 12:05:10\$gr\$2|ISNI

671 ##\$aWikipedia page, viewed 1 December 2014\$|2014-12-01 12:05:10\$gr\$uhttp://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\_Sheffield\_College\$2|ISNI

710 ##\$aCastle College\$2|ISNI

941 ##\$aorg\$2|ISNI

944 ##\$aas\$2|ISNI

951 1#\$aSheffield College\$gUniversity or College\$TisSupersededBy\$2|ISNI\$9403667763\$8Sheffield College

976 ##\$2|ISNI\$a|ISNI\$b20141201:120645\$cf[Pauline]\$dnone\$e0\$10

The Ringgold data for Sheffield College includes Castle College as a variant name. This variant is also the main name of a separate ISNI record.

To resolve this problem, convert the variant name to a related name (951 MARC21, 029Z).

671 ##\$aThe Sheffield College is a further education (FE) college in Sheffield, England. It was formed by the merger of six FE colleges in 1993\$|2014-12-01 12:10:44\$gr\$2|ISNI

671 ##\$aWikipedia page, viewed 1 December 2014\$|2014-12-01 12:05:10\$gr\$uhttp://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\_Sheffield\_College\$2|ISNI

671 ##\$aThe Sheffield College website, viewed 1 December 2014\$|2014-12-01 12:14:13\$gr\$uhttp://www.sheffcol.ac.uk\$2|ISNI

710 1#\$aSheffield College\$gqUniversity or College\$2RING

710 1#\$aThe Sheffield College\$gqUniversity or College\$2|ISNI

941 ##\$aorg\$2RING

944 ##\$aas\$2RING

951 ##\$aCastle College\$gqUniversity or College\$2RING

951 1#\$aCastle College\$gqUniversity or College\$Tsupersedes\$2|ISNI\$943982415X\$8Castle College

951 1#\$aNorton College\$gqUniversity or College\$2|ISNI\$9405046901\$8Norton College

671 ##\$aCastle College was absorbed into "The Sheffield College" in 1993 when The Sheffield College was formed by the merger of six Further Education colleges (Sheffield College, Stradbroke College, Norton College, Castle College, Parson Cross College, and Loxley College).\$|2014-12-01 12:05:10\$gr\$2|ISNI

671 ##\$aWikipedia page, viewed 1 December 2014\$|2014-12-01 12:05:10\$gr\$uhttp://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\_Sheffield\_College\$2|ISNI

710 ##\$aCastle College\$2|ISNI

941 ##\$aorg\$2|ISNI

944 ##\$aas\$2|ISNI

951 1#\$aSheffield College\$gqUniversity or College\$TisSupersededBy\$2|ISNI\$9403667763\$8Sheffield College

976 ##\$2|ISNI\$a|ISNI\$b20141201:120645\$c[Pauline]\$dnone\$e0\$f0

There is no requirement to notify the data source as no change is required to the record at their end. The amended data would only be reflected in the ISNI database<sup>10</sup>.

<sup>10</sup> When converting variant names to related names in VIAF source data, a protect field will need to be added to the record – see 3.2.4 for guidance on the protect field.

## **7.5 Assigning ISNIs to Organisations**

### **7.5.1 Main principle - Public identity of an organisation**

An ISNI is assigned to the public identity of an organisation.

*Example*

The Brooklyn Children's Museum in Brooklyn, New York.

**ISNI:** 0000 0001 2221 3072

**Main names:** Brooklyn Children's Museum *RING*

Brooklyn Children's Museum *VIAF JPG*

Brooklyn Children's Museum *VIAF NLA*

Brooklyn Children's Museum *VIAF LC*

**Variant names:** BCM *VIAF LC*

Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences. Brooklyn Children's Museum *VIAF LC*

In this example, the public identity or most commonly known form of name is given by all the data sources on ISNI as "Brooklyn Children's Museum."

There are also variant names associated with this public identity - an acronym and a parent organisation, the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences. These names are not assigned separate ISNIs but are considered to be alternative or variant names of the public identity.

### **7.5.2 Variant names of an organisation**

An organisation may have several forms of variant or alternative names. These can include acronyms, abbreviations, transliterated names or translations.

However, there are cases where the distinction between public identities and variant names are more problematic. How should organisational name changes be treated? Is the former name a separate public identity or should it be considered as a variant? What about mergers or splits where there is a change to the organisational structure?

Brooklyn Children's Museum in the example above changed its name from the Children's Museum in the 1930's, adding Brooklyn to the beginning of the name. Should the Children's Museum be considered as a variant name? Alternatively, should it be considered as a distinct public identity, with its own assigned ISNI?

### **7.5.3 ISNI data**

#### **7.5.3.1 VIAF**

There are different practices among the contributing VIAF libraries in regard to organisations. An organisational name change may be treated as a variant name by one library but a change in public identity by another.

Some VIAF contributors (e.g. BNF<sup>11</sup>) consider organisations that have changed their name as a single public identity unless there has been a change to the organisational structure such as a merge or split.

However, other VIAF contributors (e.g. LC/NACO) consider name changes to be distinct public identities, regardless of whether there has been any change in the structure of the organisation.

The same VIAF contributor can also have different practices depending on their bibliographic data, e.g. LC/NACO would normally create separate authority records for each name change. However, if there are no bibliographic titles relating to earlier forms of name they are not established as separate public identities on the name authority file.

These variations in policy have resulted in different practices on the ISNI database in regard to the recording of organisations.

---

<sup>11</sup> Note that the Bibliothèque nationale de France (BNF) is an ISNI Registration Agency and no longer a VIAF source on the ISNI database.

### 7.5.3.2 Ringgold

The Ringgold database (<http://www.ringgold.com/index.html>) was established to uniquely identify organisations/institutions.

In Ringgold data, the public identity of the organisation is always considered to be the latest name. Earlier forms of name are treated as variants and not considered to be separate public identities. In Ringgold (as with some data sources such as BNF) there is one authority record which incorporates both the current and former names of the same organisation.

In Ringgold, the following categories are all considered as alternative or variant names and are not established as separate public identities:

**Transliterated name**  
**English translation of the institution's name**  
**Acronym**  
**Abbreviation**  
**a/k/a (also known as)\***  
**Former name**  
**Brand name**  
**Imprint**  
**Library name (unless stand-alone)**  
**Diacritic name**  
**Campus**  
**Laboratory (unless stand-alone)**

Note that in regard to libraries and laboratories they are not established as headings in the Ringgold database unless they are stand-alone (for example public libraries) or serve more than one legally separated organisation. For example some university libraries provide services to the university and also function as a regional or national library. Health libraries can serve university health faculties and departments, and also a local hospital or local health system.

This approach can lead to multiple variant names within the same record.



*Example*

The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (U.S.)

**ISNI:** 0000 0004 0481 4802

**Main names:** National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism *RING*  
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (U.S.) *VIAF LC*  
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (Spojené státy americké) *VIAF NKC*  
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (USA) *VIAF RERO*  
National institute on alcohol abuse and alcoholism *BNF*  
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (U.S.)

**Variant names:** Laboratory for Integrative Neuroscience *RING*  
Laboratory of Physiologic Studies *RING*

In this example, the public identity or most commonly known form of name is given by all the data sources on ISNI as "National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism."

However, two further variant names have been added by Ringgold for laboratories that are attached to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. For some VIAF sources such as LC/NACO these variant names are considered as separate public identities and established as headings in their own right.

## **7.6 Examples of organisational name changes on ISNI**

The purpose of this section is to demonstrate the different approaches to organisational name changes by the different data sources on ISNI and highlight the issues that can arise.

For guidelines on the ISNIQT policy in dealing with organisational name changes, see 7.7.

### **Example 1**

Dayton Art Institute (Former names: Dayton Museum of Arts; Montgomery County Art Association)

**ISNI:** 0000 0001 2194 4922

**Main names:** Dayton Art Institute *RING*

Dayton Art Institute *VIAF LC*

Dayton Art Institute *VIAF NLA*

Dayton Art Institute *VIAF DNB*

Dayton Art Institute *VIAF JPG*

Dayton Art Institute *VIAF LAC*

**Variant names:** Dayton Museum of Arts *VIAF NLA*

Dayton Museum of Arts *VIAF LC*

Montgomery County Art Association *VIAF NLA*

Montgomery County Art Association *VIAF LC*

In this example Ringgold data for the Dayton Art Institute has merged with VIAF. VIAF data includes the former names as variants. There are no related records for the earlier names. LC/NACO have not created separate records for each change of name in this case as there were no bibliographic titles related to the earlier name forms.

## **Example 2**

Association of American Colleges and Universities (former name: Association of American Colleges)

### **A) Current name: Association of American Colleges and Universities**

**ISNI:** 0000 0000 9255 2910

**Main names:** Association of American Colleges and Universities *RING*

Association of American Colleges and Universities *VIAF DNB*

Association of American Colleges and Universities *VIAF NKC*

Association of American Colleges and Universities *VIAF LC*

**Related names:** Association of American Colleges *VIAF DNB*

Association of American Colleges *VIAF LC*

Association of American Colleges *VIAF NKC*

### **B) Former name: Association of American Colleges**

**ISNI:** 0000 0000 9106 9177

**Main names:** Association of American Colleges *BOWP*

Association of American Colleges *VIAF DNB*

Association of American Colleges *VIAF NLIat*

Association of American Colleges *VIAF LC*

Association of American Colleges *VIAF NKC*

Association of American Colleges *VIAF NLA*

**Related names:** Association of American Colleges and Universities *VIAF DNB*

Association of American Colleges and Universities *VIAF LC*

Association of American Colleges and Universities *VIAF NKC*

In this example VIAF DNB, LC/NACO and NKC have treated the change of name from "Association of American Colleges" to "Association of American Colleges and Universities" as a change of public identity. Separate records have been created by these VIAF sources to reflect the earlier and current forms of name.

In this example Ringgold have no variant form for the earlier name and have merged with the correct VIAF record.

### **Example 3**

The California Institute of Technology has undergone a series of name changes without any change to the organisational structure.

The former names of this institution are: Throop University (1891-1892); Throop Polytechnic Institute (1892-1913); Throop College of Technology (1913-1920); California Institute of Technology (1920- )

#### **A) Current name: California Institute of Technology**

**ISNI:** 0000 0001 2192 4307

**Main names:** California Institute of Technology *VIAF BNE*  
California Institute of Technology *VIAF NLIat*  
California Institute of Technology *VIAF JPG*  
California Institute of Technology *VIAF LC*  
California Institute of Technology *VIAF NLA*  
California institute of technology *BNF*  
California Institute of Technology Pasadena, Calif *VIAF DNB*  
California Institute of Technology *VIAF PTBNP*  
California Institute of Technology *VIAF NUKAT*  
California Institute of Technology *VIAF NKC*

**Variant names:** Throop College of Technology *VIAF NLIat*  
Throop Politechnic Institute *VIAF NLIat*  
Throop University *VIAF NLIat*  
Throop college of technology (Pasadena, Calif.) *BNF*  
Throop polytechnic institute (Pasadena, Calif.) *BNF*

**Related names:** Throop College of Technology *VIAF LC*  
Throop College of Technology *VIAF NUKAT*  
Throop College of Technology *VIAF NKC*  
Throop Polytechnic Institute *VIAF NUKAT*  
Throop University *VIAF NUKAT*

#### **B) Former name: Throop College of Technology**

**ISNI:** 0000 0001 0706 8890

**Main names:** Throop College of Technology *VIAF NKC*  
Throop College of Technology *VIAF LC*  
California Institute of Technology *RING*

**Variant names:** Throop College of Technology *RING*  
Throop University *RING*  
Throop Polytechnic Institute *RING*  
Millikan Library *RING*

**Related names:** California Institute of Technology *VIAF LC*  
California Institute of Technology *VIAF NKC*  
Throop Polytechnic Institute *VIAF LC*  
Throop Polytechnic Institute *VIAF NKC*

**C) Former name: Throop Polytechnic Institute**

**ISNI:** 0000000106315423

**Main names:** Throop Polytechnic Institute *VIAF LC*  
Throop Polytechnic Institute *VIAF NKC*

**Related names:** Throop College of Technology *VIAF LC*  
Throop University *VIAF LC*  
Throop University *VIAF NKC*

**D) Former name: Throop University**

**ISNI:** 0000 0001 0807 4723

**Main names:** Throop University *VIAF NKC*  
Throop University *VIAF LC*

**Related names:** Throop Polytechnic Institute *VIAF LC*  
Throop Polytechnic Institute *VIAF NKC*

The record for the current form of name (California Institute of Technology – example A) reflects the different practices of VIAF sources.

BNF and NLIlat have treated the earlier names as variant forms.

VIAF LC/NACO, NUKAT & NKC have treated the name changes as different public identities, creating separate (but linked) records. These separate records also exist on the ISNI database – see examples B,C and D.

Ringgold have treated the earlier names as variant forms. However, their data has incorrectly merged with the record for a former name - Throop College of Technology (see example B).

#### **Example 4**

The Wenham Historical Association and the Wenham Museum merged in 1953 to form the Wenham Historical Association and Museum.

#### **A) Current name: Wenham Historical Association and Museum**

**ISNI:** 0000 0001 0791 2334

**Main names:** Wenham Historical Association and Museum *VIAF LC*  
Wenham Historical Association and Museum *VIAF DNB*  
Wenham Museum *RING*

**Variant names:** Historical Association and Museum Wenham, Mass *VIAF DNB*  
Offizieller Name Wenham Historical Association and Museum, Inc *VIAF DNB*  
Wenham Historical Association *VIAF DNB*  
Wenham-Museum *VIAF DNB*

**Related names:** Wenham Historical Association *VIAF LC*  
Wenham Museum *VIAF LC*

#### **B) Former name: Wenham Museum**

**ISNI:** 0000 0000 9947 6666

**Main names:** Wenham Museum *VIAF LC*

**Related names:** Wenham Historical Association and Museum *VIAF LC*

#### **C) Former name: Wenham Historical Association**

**ISNI:** 0000 0001 0015 733X

**Main names:** Wenham Historical Association *VIAF LC*

**Related names:** Wenham Historical Association and Museum *VIAF LC*

The record for the current form of name (example A) reflects the different practices of VIAF and non-VIAF sources.

VIAF DNB have treated the earlier names as variant forms.

VIAF LC/NACO have treated the name changes as different public identities, creating separate (but linked) records – see examples B and C.

Ringgold have one name representing an earlier form which has matched to the current name – see example A.

## **7.7 ISNIQT policy on organisational name changes**

The ISNI Quality Team are now following BNF practice in regard to organisational name changes<sup>12</sup>.

- Separate records are not generally established for organisational name changes
- Only where there has been a clear change to the structure of an organisation (e.g. a merge or split), would separate records be established for each appropriate organisational name
- In cases of doubt or where there is no clear evidence of a change to the organisational structure, separate records would not be established

In cases of doubt, do not establish separate records.

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<sup>12</sup> ISNIQT are not routinely merging or editing records for organisations at the present time. However, changes are being made to records following enduser requests