BIBFRAME 2.0
Identifier Notes

A BIBFRAME Resource may have several identifiers. An Instance may have, for example, an ISBN; a Work might have an ISTC. There are many of these types of identifiers for BIBFRAME resources: ‘nbn’, ‘system number’, ‘doi’, ‘ismn’, ‘issn’, ‘istc’, ‘lccn’ and more.

Along with the identifier value itself, the identifier type must be conveyed.

Properties bf:identifiedBy and Class bf:Identifier

Property bf:identifiedBy is used to supply an identifier. Its object is class bf:Identifier, or a subclass. For the identifier type, there may or may not be a class defined. If there is a class, it might be a BIBFRAME class or an external class. So there are three cases:

- Identifier type indicated by BIBFRAME class.
- Identifier type indicated by external class.
- No class defined for identifier type.

Type Indicated by BIBFRAME Class

If there is a BIBFRAME class for the identifier type, that class is defined to be a subclass of bf:Identifier, and it is used to indicate the type. In the following example the identifier is an ISBN whose value is “1455502626”. Class bf:isbn is a subclass of bf:Identifier.

**Example 1: Identifier type indicated by BIBFRAME class**

```
bf:identifiedBy [ a bf:Isbn
              rdf:value "9783110413014" ] .
```

Type Indicated by External Class

If there is no BIBFRAME class but there is an external class for the identifier type, that class may be used to indicate the type.

**Example 2: Identifier type indicated by external class**

In the following example the identifier has (hypothetical) type “ABC”, defined in (hypothetical) vocabulary <http://example.org/vocabulary/identifierTypes> and thus class <http://example.org/vocabulary/identifierTypes/ABC> indicates the type. (Prefix ”identifier:” is assumed to be bound to the namespace vocabulary <http://example.org/vocabulary/identifierTypes>.)
No class known for identifier type

For an identifier type for which there is no known class, bf:Identifier is used, and the type is indicated by property bf:source.

Example 3: No class defined for identifier type

```
bf:identifiedBy [ a bf:Identifier ;
   bf:source [rdfs:label "source name here" ] ;
   rdf:value "1234567890" ] .
```