

# Vericast

Metadata File,  
format metadata.xls

## Reference Guide

*Version: 1.4 - EN*

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## Version history

<i>Version Number</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Filename</i>
1.0	19/04/2012	First release	Vericast metadata xls Reference Guide - v1.0 EN
1.1	06/06/2013	Microsoft Excel 2007/2010 XML (.xlsx) file format support	Vericast metadata xls Reference Guide - v1.1 EN
1.2	05/12/2014	New fields available + adaptation to BMAT new database schema	Vericast metadata xls Reference Guide - v1.2 EN
1.3	16/04/2015	New field available (work internal ID) + restyled header	Vericast metadata xls Reference Guide - v1.3 EN
1.4	19/03/2019	New field available (album artwork)	Vericast metadata xls Reference Guide - v1.4 EN

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## 1 Glossary

<i><b>Term</b></i>	<i><b>Definition</b></i>
DELIVERY	Batch of reference files that are uploaded to the platform together with the corresponding metadata.
METADATA	Information about the audio reference (for example: title, artist, label...).
REFERENCE	Audio file to be used as a reference for recording analysis.
VERICAST	BMAT's Music Monitoring solution.

## 2 Introduction

This document gives details on the process of edition of metadata of the references in the specific metadata.xls BMAT format.

The metadata brings textual information of an audio file, which is needed to identify and index the correspondent audio in Vericast. That is why every file uploaded to the platform must include data that describes it precisely and consistently.

Apart from the metadata format described in this document, BMAT also accepts the following ones: DDEX (used by Sony, Universal or Warner, The Orchard, ...), iTunes XML and MMD XML, among others.

In case of any doubt, please, contact [content-support@bmat.com](mailto:content-support@bmat.com)

## 3 The metadata file

BMAT's metadata format metadata.xls is based on an MS Excel sheet (MS Excel 97/200/XP/2003 - .xls- or 2007/2010 - .xlsx-) and can be edited using Microsoft Office or any other compatible software like LibreOffice's Calc (<http://www.libreoffice.org/>).

**Every row of this file contains the metadata of one audio file.**

BMAT may provide you with a sample file.

### 3.1 Placement and naming

This file is placed at the root of the delivery folder and contains the metadata of each reference contained in this specific directory. The audio files may be placed in several subdirectories, but there must be only one metadata file per delivery folder.

The metadata filename, metadata.xls or metadata.xlsx, must not be changed so that the system can recognize it.

### 3.2 Header and data fields

The first row of the Excel file represents the header that describes the necessary information for each audio file. Each audio file must be placed in a separate row. There are 3 types of fields: mandatory, optional and users generated. The header of the mandatory and optional fields should never be modified, because the system interprets each column's content by its name. On the other hand, the optional columns that are left empty must not be deleted.

### 3.2.1 Mandatory fields

The corresponding cells of these fields must always contain the relevant audio information.

These fields are as follows:

- **URL: the path of the audio file related to the upload directory.** It represents the exact name of the audio file preceded by the name of the subdirectories where the file is located inside the delivery folder, separated by a slash (/).

For example, if you have the audio file placed in  
.../references/20100806\_0001/greatest\_hits/the\_beatles-let-it-be.mp3, where  
.../references/20100806\_0001/ is the delivery folder with the file  
.../references/20100806\_0001/metadata.xls, the URL field must be  
***greatest\_hits/the\_beatles-let-it-be.mp3***.

The URL allows us to link unequivocally the audio file with the information of the row where it is placed.

- **Track title:** in order to avoid any indexing issue in Vericast, the title must be written correctly, as it is published. If the track version is not the same one as the standard album version (for example, if it is a live performance or instrumental), this must be pointed out in brackets.

For example, if it is the live performance of *Let It Be*, we put *Let It Be (live in Liverpool)*.

- **Track artist:** in order to avoid any indexing issue in Vericast, the track artist's name should be written in its official format.
- **Label:** the label that owns the rights of the recording for **the country of the customer**. In order to avoid any indexing issue in Vericast it should be written in its official format.
- **ISRC:** the *International Standard Recording Code* (ISRC) represents a code of 12 characters used as a unique and permanent reference on an international level for a phonogram. For example, *GBAYE0601498*.  
[http://www.ifpi.org/content/section\\_resources/isrc.html](http://www.ifpi.org/content/section_resources/isrc.html)

In case of any doubts, please, contact [content-support@bmat.com](mailto:content-support@bmat.com).



### 3.2.2 Optional fields

The corresponding cells of these fields could be filled in if you have the necessary information. These are as follows:

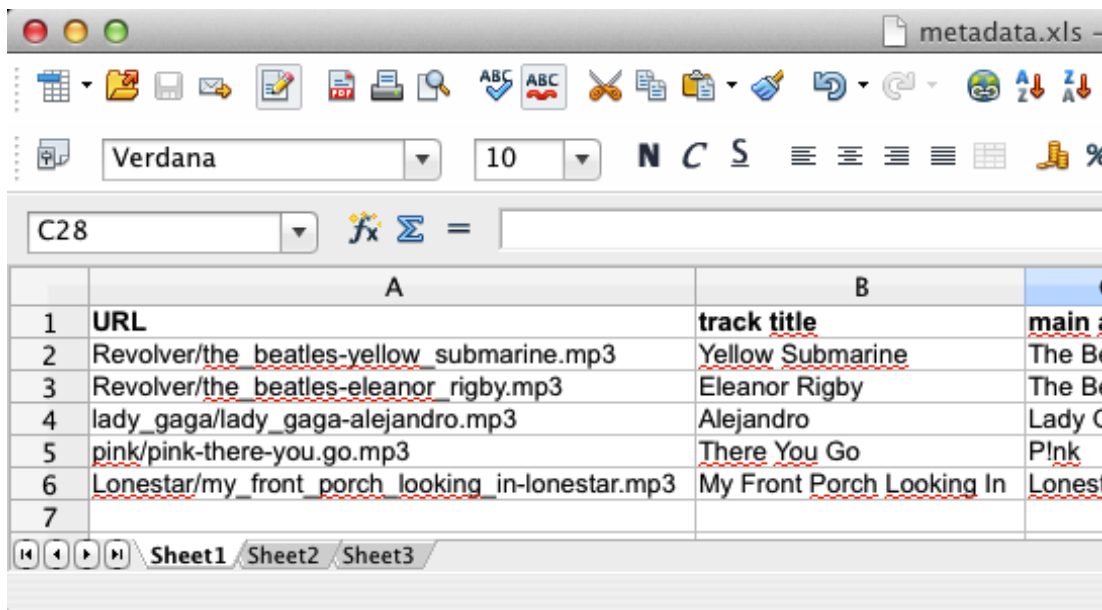
- **Language:** a code composed by 2-characters that indicates the language used in the track. The code follows the ISO 639-1 code (Alpha-2 code). For example, *EN* (English), *ES* (Spanish), *FR* (French).  
[http://www.loc.gov/standards/iso639-2/php/code\\_list.php](http://www.loc.gov/standards/iso639-2/php/code_list.php)
- **Album title:** the album of the corresponding track. In order to avoid any indexing issue in Vericast it should be written in its official format.
- **Album artist:** the artist of the album of the corresponding track. Since in many cases (multiple artists' album, album including tracks with featured artists, etc...) the track artist may be different from the album artist, this field allows to correctly define the name of the artist associated to the full album.  
In order to avoid any indexing issue in Vericast it should be written in its official format.
- **Album UPC:** the *Universal Product Code* (UPC) represents a code of 12 numerical digits used to univocally identify the album. For example, *094638241713*.
- **Genre(s):** the music genre of the track. In case of multiple genres, they must be separated by semicolon.
- **Country producer:** a 2-characters code of the country where the producer comes from. The code follows the ISO 3166-1 code (Alpha-2 code). For example, *GB* (Great Britain), *AR* (Argentina), *ES* (Spain).  
[http://www.iso.org/iso/country\\_codes/iso\\_3166\\_code\\_lists/](http://www.iso.org/iso/country_codes/iso_3166_code_lists/)
- **Release year:** composed by 4 digits, it represents the year in which the track was first released. For example, *1996*, *2010*.
- **Version:** track version. Could be, for example, *album*, *explicit*, *live*, *radio edit*, *remastered*, *remix*.
- **Composer(s):** in case of multiple composers, they must be separated by semicolon. In order to avoid any indexing issue in Vericast it/they should be written in its/their official format.
- **ISWC:** the *International Standard Musical Work Code* (ISWC) represents a code of 11 characters used as a unique and permanent reference on an international level for a musical work (not phonogram). For example, *T0104342406*.  
<http://www.iswc.org/es/index.html>
- **Publisher(s):** in case of multiple publishers, they must be separated by semicolon. In order to avoid any indexing issue in Vericast the publishers should be written in their official format. For example, *Sony/ATV Music Publishing*.

- **Performer(s):** in case of multiple performers, they must be separated by semicolon. In order to avoid any indexing issue in Vericast the performers should be written in their official format.
- **Track internal ID:** the track ID used to univocally identify the track within the customer's database or whatever other code univocally associated to the track. Please, inform us if you want that identifier to be displayed in Vericast.
- **Work internal ID:** the ID used to univocally identify the musical work (not phonogram) within the customer's database or whatever other code univocally associated to the work (whose ISWC, when available, is the one reported in the ISWC column).
- **Album artwork:** the path of the image file of the cover art of the album. It represents the exact name of the image file preceded by the name of the subdirectories where the file is located inside the delivery folder, separated by a slash (/).

For example, if you have the image file placed in  
.../references/20100806\_0001/greatest\_hits/the\_beatles-greatest\_hits.jpg, where  
.../references/20100806\_0001/ is the delivery folder with the file  
.../references/20100806\_0001/metadata.xls, the *Album artwork* field must be  
***greatest\_hits/the\_beatles-greatest\_hits.jpg***.

### 3.2.3 User generated fields

If the user wants to integrate another type of information not included in the mandatory or the optional fields, they should contact BMAT ([content-support@bmat.com](mailto:content-support@bmat.com)) in order to study the possibility of adding other fields in the header. For example, we could study the possibility to include an internal clients ID for the track.



	A	B	C
1	<b>URL</b>	<b>track title</b>	<b>main genre</b>
2	Revolver/the beatles-yellow submarine.mp3	Yellow Submarine	The Beatles
3	Revolver/the beatles-eleanor rigby.mp3	Eleanor Rigby	The Beatles
4	lady_gaga/lady_gaga-alejandro.mp3	Alejandro	Lady Gaga
5	pink/pink-there-you.go.mp3	There You Go	Pink
6	Lonestar/my_front_porch_looking_in-lonestar.mp3	My Front Porch Looking In	Lonestar
7			

*Image 1: Example of metadata.xls file. Each row refers to an actual audio file and each column to data field.*

## 4 Revision and upload of the file

Once the metadata file is completed, before uploading it to BMAT, the following should be **revised in order to check if it meets the system requirements** as described in this user guide:

- Is the metadata file called *metadata.xls* or *metadata.xlsx*?
- Is the metadata file saved in MS Excel 97/2000/XP/2003 (.xls) or 2007/2010 XML (.xlsx) format?
- Does the first row of the Excel sheet represent the header?
- Does the header contain all the mandatory and optional fields with their respective titles as described in this guide?
- Is every cell of a mandatory field filled?
- Does every reference in the delivery folder appear in the metadata file, one per row?
- Does the delivery folder contain every audio file listed in the metadata file?
- Do URLs in the metadata file point correctly to the reference files?
- Are the directories from the path of the audio files in the URLs separated by slashes (/)?

After verifying that the metadata file meets all the aforementioned requirements, it is **ready to be uploaded**.

Be sure to place the file in the root of the delivery folder. For example, if the delivery folder is *.../references/20100806\_0001/*, where the audio files for this delivery are located, the metadata file will be placed in *.../references/20100806\_0001/metadata.xls*.