Bibliographic Cataloging: 086 SuDoc Number

Details
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Sources to Consult

GPO Classification Manual, 1993

Background and General Instructions

The SuDoc (Superintendent of Documents) classification system is designed specifically for Federal documents. It has been used by GPO to classify documents for over a century and continues to be developed as the Federal Government grows and changes. The unique feature of this system is the grouping together of publications of any Federal Government author, the various departments, bureaus, and agencies being considered authors. In the grouping, the organizational structure of the Federal Government is followed: subordinate bureaus and divisions are grouped with the parent organization. The class number consists of the class stem (representing the issuing agency) and the individual numbers, letters, characters, etc. following the class stem which represent individual publications. Each publication must have its own unique SuDoc number. (Different formats of the same publication may have the same SuDoc number.) SuDoc classes are recorded in the 086 field.: Ssubfield "a" is for the SuDoc classnumber, used by GPO., and subfield "z" is for canceled/invalid/incorrect SuDoc classesnumbers.

Follow the general number spacing policies as described in the Bibliographic Cataloging: Monographs Overview section for this field. In the past, lower case letters were used in SuDocs. When updating or touching a record which follows this old practice, always capitalize the letters in the SuDoc as well as any issues with spacing.

Subfield "z" is used when making class corrections. This subfield should be used when the SuDoc number was incorrectly assigned (e.g. the wrong agency stem was used) or incorrectly recorded (e.g. a transcription error was made by the cataloger). The incorrect class is entered in the $z and the new, correct class is entered in $a. A WebTech Note will also be published with the class correction. Subfield $z is repeated for multiple canceled or invalid classification numbers. Subfield "z" is used for classes that were assigned/recorded in error; it is not used for class changes that result from agency reorganizations.

When the SuDoc number for a title has changed due to agency reorganizations, each correct SuDoc number is listed in a separate 086 $a. The 086 fields must be recorded in the order of oldest number to the most current.

Examples:

086 0 FS 3.3:

086 0 HE 3.3/5:

086 0 SSA 1.22:

Multiparts

The SuDoc for an open multipart should end with a slash in the cataloging record. The volume or part numbers are not included in the 086 field. However, for a complete or closed multipart record the volume information may be added to the SuDoc number if known (ex. A 45.3:A 56/V. 1-15). Multiparts which contain multiple 086 fields for each part (as part of a numbered series, etc.) are an exception to these rules.

Examples:

086 0 FEM 1.209:080059/989/

086 0 A 45.3:A 56/V. 1-15

Serials and Integrating Resources

Only the SuDocs class stem is recorded. In most cases, this means recording the class up to the colon. In more complicated classes, such as the Y 3's, certain elements of the class after the colon must also be recorded.

Examples:

086 0 Y 1.1/8:

086 0 I 49.129:

086 0 Y 3.N 88:1

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