

RESO Unique Organization Identifier (UOI)

Upgrading RESO OUID to RESO UOI

RESO Unique Organization Identifier (UOI) Goal

All organizations should have one unique identifier. The organization's business practices and roles may change, but its unique identifier should not.

Primary Business Case

Organizations need unique identifiers for REALTOR® and MLS organizations. The identifiers add accurate information to data sets regarding which organizations are responsible for the creation, maintenance, update and deletion of real estate data.

Secondary Business Case

Organizations need these same unique identifiers for technology companies, brokerages and other organizations to improve the accuracy of their related data records.

Primary Limitation of Current OUID for Supporting Business Cases

- OUIDs have business types built into their identifiers (e.g., the A in A00000007 stands for “Association”). This brittle structure causes OUIDs to change when an organization changes, degrading the uniqueness of the IDs.
- Some organizations are both a broker and a technology company or both an association and an MLS. The current model requires two OUIDs for these organizations (having one OUID number that begins with a B and one with a T). This causes duplication of records and inconsistency for end users. They are not unique organization identifiers.

More on Limitations of OUID

- Associations are all grouped together as “A” organizations, while they should be separated into local (L), state (S), national (N) and international (I) organizations for clarity.
- Organizations cannot have two business types with one ID. Business roles should be separate, multi-select fields in a single organization record. An organization that's a broker and technology company should have one UOI for its organization and also signify that it is a **BT** in that same record. An organization that is both a local association and an MLS should have an **LM** in its record.

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- The OUID is not memorable (e.g., A00000007). A six-digit numeric identifier starting with 101 is easier to recall and transcribe.
- Pooled platforms (unique organizations created for data shares and non-MLS technology cooperatives) and commercial organizations are not uniquely identified in the OUID. The UOI would allow for P and C identifiers to add clarity (e.g., a primarily commercial MLS and local association would be **LMC**).
- The acronym OUID is inconsistent with RESO's identifier naming structure. The UPI (formerly PUID/UPID), the ULI (formerly ULID) and the UOI (replacement for OUID) provide RESO a consistent foundation for communicating and marketing these standards.

Limitations of the OUID API

- There are no credentials/security in the OUID API. RESO needs to track usage and communicate future system updates to users.
- Field names in the OUID database are not RESO Data Dictionary approved or compliant.
- Query functionality in the OUID API is not in line with RESO Web API standards.

Proposal for RESO UOI Model

The UOI is a six-digit identifier starting with 101. Fields for organization types will allow for multiple types per record. Individual organizations will get individual UOIs.

RESO has created new UOI numbers for all current OUID recipients and will create UOI numbers for all new organizations being added to the system. OUIDs will continue to be associated with these records for now. Example:

Single Organization with Association and MLS

- Current: San Antonio Board of REALTORS® MLS **OUID** M00000616, Association **OUID** A00001534
- San Antonio Board of REALTORS® & MLS **UOI**: 101462, **Type**: LM (L for local association, M for MLS)

Two Separate Organizations: Association and MLS

- Current Heartland MLS **OUID** M00000270
- Current Kansas City Regional Association of REALTORS® **OUID** A00000664

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- Heartland MLS **UOI**: 101213, **Type M**
- Kansas City Regional Association of REALTORS® **UOI**: 101949, **Type L**

Requirements

- A new field for UOI type that can include multiple letters for types.
- A field for a second OUID in a single record as these OUIDs are merged into one record per unique organization.

Continued Support of OUID

Individual records can include OUID fields for as long as OUIDs are needed by customers. RESO can consider setting a timeline for deprecation and communicate it to membership.

Creation of New UOIs

As new companies are added to the UOI database and other companies change roles, the rules for creating new UOIs would be:

- Organizations, not products or services, will receive UOIs.
- If a single organization creates a new service, the organization continues to have one UOI.
- If an organization spins off a uniquely separate organization, that new organization will have its own UOI created.
- If organizations merge, a UOI can take on a 0 for OrganizationStatus for the company that no longer exists.
- For tracking consolidated MLSs that were once uniquely part of a single association organization, the OrganizationStatus remains active as an association, but the M is removed in the business type. For example, a local association shuts down its MLS. The UOI of the association remains the same and active but changes from LM to just L.

Further Details

Business Type Expansion

L - Local Association (not necessarily REALTOR®; may include boards like REBNY as well)



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S - State or Provincial Association

N - National Association (NAR, CREA, et al.)

I - International Association

M - MLS

P - Pooled Platform (similar but distinct from MLS: data share company, tech listing platform)

C - Commercial (primary business)

B - Broker

F - Franchisor

T - Technology Company (Individual organizations, not pooled platforms)

X - Fully Defunct Organization (if a single component of a still-active organization is dismantled, that is made known in OrganizationComments)

Examples of Business Types

UOI 102157 with type L is a local association; Seattle King County REALTORS®.

UOI 103123 with type S is a state association; Texas REALTORS®.

UOI 102534 with type N is a national association; Canadian Real Estate Association.

UOI 101588 with type B a brokerage; eXp Realty.

UOI 101584 with types BT is a broker and technology company; Zillow.

UOI 101308 with type M is an MLS; MetroList.

UOI 102436 with type P is a pooled platform; Real Estate Board of New York (REBNY) (not a vendor or MLS).

Commercial organizations are potentially trickier to manage, because we do not certify most commercial organizations at this time. That could change. For now, so we don't muddy the waters of L and M labels, commercial organizations remain C only, as in:

UOI 101604 with type C is primarily a commercial association; Atlanta Commercial Board of REALTORS®. An M and L could be added later.

UOI 101603 with type C is primarily a commercial MLS; Commercial Brokers Association. An M could be added later.



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As part of the new UOI, several new fields will be requested for the Data Dictionary, including but not limited to:

OrganizationUniqueld1
OrganizationUniqueld2
OrganizationType1
OrganizationType2
OrganizationType3?
Uoi
AssnToMIs
RelatedUoi
OrganizationNameAssnLocal
OrganizationNameMIs
OrganizationNamePooledPlatform
OrganizationNameTechCompany
OrganizationNameAssnState
OrganizationNameAssnNational
OrganizationNameCommercial
OrganizationNameBrokerage
OrganizationNameFranchisor
OrganizationNameLegal
OrganizationCode
MIsVendor
SystemName
UniqueSystemId

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OrganizationWebsite
OrganizationLatitude
OrganizationLongitude
OrganizationMemberCount
OrganizationCertificationName
OrganizationDdVersion
OrganizationDdStatus
OrganizationWebApiVersion
OrganizationWebApiStatus

RESO Implementations of the UOI

The UOI implementation should be accessible both to developers who wish to access the API and nontechnical consumers who wish to search and manipulate the data on a website or in a spreadsheet.

RESO would incorporate the UOI into multiple services:

- RESO UOI API
- RESO Certification Map and API
- Downloadable CSV from reso.org
- Downloadable JSON from reso.org
- Searchable database via reso.org

Convention for Creating Multi-type UniqueOrganizationIdTypes

The UOI's primary business case is still MLS data. Business types that exist for an organization should be constructed in this order to create uniformity:



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If these business types exist for a single given organization: M, L/S/N, B, T, P, X, C

Then

Its UniqueOrganizationType would be created in a manner like these examples: LMC, ST, BTC, LP, TP

End users could consume business types as separate columns/fields or as a combined UniqueOrganizationId type shown above.