

General URI recommendations

Conciseness: Do not describe the resource via its URI, use labels and comments instead (rdfs:label, skos:prefLabel..)

Separate URI namespaces:

Vocabulary terms URIs

Data URIs (Instances, individuals)

Dataset descriptions

Define clear patterns (path structures): Allow introduction of new type of resources without interfering with existing identifiers

- [1] Patterned URIs, Hierarchical URIs..

TWC RPI URI Design: Goals [1]

- Able to easily be **re-hosted**
 - e.g. from demonstrator portal to agency host
- **Concise** URIs with as little “cruft” as possible
- URIs able to **span many domains** including:
 - *National* identifiers (e.g. governmental agencies, states, zip codes)
 - *State-level* identifiers (e.g. counties, congressional districts)
 - *Agency-level* identifiers (e.g. EPA facilities)
- TWC RPI's URI Template:

```
'http://' BASE '/' 'id' '/' ORG '/' CATEGORY ( '/' TOKEN )+
```

[1] See <http://logd.tw.rpi.edu/instance-hub-uri-design>

TWC RPI URI Design: Notes

- TWC RPI's URI Template: `'http://' BASE '/' 'id' '/' ORG '/' CATEGORY ('/' TOKEN)+`
 - In TWC RPI's case, **BASE** would be *logd.tw.rpi.edu*
- **id**
 - Required, to avoid "polluting" the top namespace of BASE with identifiers.
 - Prefer **id** over other alternatives to keep token as short as possible. The id token doesn't add any semantics, it is just a syntactic way of distinguishing these URIs from others.
 - Also, consistency with data.gov.uk URIs here is a good thing.
- **ORG**
 - A short token representing the *agency, government, or organization* controlling the identifier space.
 - For US identifiers, token starts with 'us/', followed by a designation of either federal or state-level (e.g. 'us/fed', 'us/ny', 'us/ca')
 - Identifiers relating to Data.gov will fall under the federal 'us/fed' space.
 - For identifiers that aren't directly governmental, the ORG token should be suitably unique; for example, we use "usps-com" in examples for USPS-controlled zip code URIs.
- **CATEGORY** and **TOKEN**
 - These are **ORG**-specific values identifying the specific instance.
 - Use as many **TOKENs** as necessary to distinguish the instance.

TWC RPI URI Design: Examples

- **US Government agencies:**

`http://BASE/id/us/fed/agency/Department_of_Health_and_Human_Services/Centers_for_Disease_Control`

- **States and Territories:**

`http://logd.tw.rpi.edu/id/us/state/Vermont`

- **Counties:**

`http://BASE/id/us/state/Alaska/Bethel_Census_Area`

- **US Postal Codes (Zip Codes):**

`http://BASE/id/usps-com/zip/09510`

- **Congressional Districts:**

`http://BASE/id/us/ma/congressional-district/4`

- **EPA Facilities:**

`http://BASE/id/epa-gov/facility/110007995027`