Title: **Policy on Private Metadata**
Source: **AMW ASSOCIATION**
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This policy describes the AMW Association's position on Private Metadata. For the purposes of this policy, the term private metadata is defined as metadata that is not currently described in an AAF Specification.

1. The AAF data model is extensible by design. In public documents, the AMW Association has stated, "AAF allows a base level of interoperability while providing a platform for innovation". The goal behind this statement is to allow companies to innovate, while requiring them to provide a base level of interoperability prescribed by the AMW Association.

2. The AMW Association, since its inception, has been moving to expand its Specifications so that they prescribe behaviours in a wider range of application areas. As a result, when the Association's Specifications are extended, there is a strong requirement that implementers move formerly private metadata to the new standard locations described in approved Specifications as quickly as practicable.

3. In areas where the AMW Association has not provided a prescribed behaviour, implementers are free to add defined extensions to the data model to meet their requirements. There is no requirement that these extensions be described in public specifications. Members should note, however, that the Edit Protocol, section 4.2.5 states, in part, that AAF may be used to interchange objects and data that is not defined in AAF Specifications as long as these objects or data "shall not invalidate, obfuscate or change the meaning of the core Edit Protocol data."

4. Implementers are strongly encouraged to propose additions to the AAF Specifications for data model extensions. This is especially critical when these extensions will prove to be generally useful to the Association and the industry at large. Extensions can be proposed in accordance with the AMWA Project Process Policy, which can be viewed at http://www.amwa.tv/about/policies/DocumentProcessPolicyV1.pdf.