



Stadsarchief Antwerpen
Venusstraat 11,
B-2000 Antwerpen
**Interdisciplinair centrum voor
Recht en Informatica (ICRI)**
Tiensestraat 41,
B-3000 Leuven

DAVID project bimonthly Newsletter, No. 1, August 2000

What is DAVID?

DAVID stands for *Digitale Archivering in Vlaamse Instellingen en Diensten* – or Digital Archiving in Flemish Institutions and Agencies – and is a project initiated by the Fund for Scientific Research Flanders (*Fonds voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek Vlaanderen*) as part of the Max-Wildiers Fund. DAVID is a joint project between the Antwerp City Archives (*Stadsarchief Antwerpen*) and the Interdisciplinary Centre for Law and Information Technology (*Interdisciplinair Centrum voor Recht en Informatica* or ICRI) of the University of Leuven (KUL). The ultimate purpose of this four-year project is to produce guidelines for the handling and preservation of digitally produced documents. Special attention will be paid to the sealing and authenticity of digital documents. Various interim reports will provide the material for this handbook. Additional information about the aims of this project can be found on our website: <http://www.antwerpen.be/david>

The project is led by mrs. Inge Schoups (Antwerp City Archives) and prof. dr. Jos Dumortier (ICRI). They are assisted by Roeland Verhaert and Willem Vanneste (Antwerp City Archives) and Sofie van den Eynde (ICRI).

Practical information about this Newsletter

This Newsletter is available in Dutch and in English. The Dutch Newsletter has been sent out to all the institutions which indicated in our questionnaire of March 2000 that they would like to receive more information about the DAVID project.

If you would like to receive this newsletter in the future on paper or in digital form, please send us an e-mail to david@antwerpen.be.

State of play vis-à-vis the project

Tasks in hand:

To gain experience with regard to digital archiving, work has begun in the following areas of the Antwerp municipal administration:

- the archiving of the electoral lists
- the archiving of the official reports of the Antwerp police
- the archiving of the register of births, marriages and deaths.
- the archiving of the decision-making process of City of Antwerp (city council, bench of Mayor and Aldermen, etc.).

Questionnaires:

In March 2000 a first questionnaire was sent out to 1,162 Flemish institutions to gauge their experience vis-à-vis the archiving of digital documents. 450 questionnaires were returned to us; 315 institutions asked us to keep them up-to-date about developments in this project; 170 institutions expressed an interest in a second questionnaire. This 'Follow-Up Questionnaire' went out in July. If there are other institutions interested in contributing to this 'Follow-Up Questionnaire', they can download it from our website (<http://www.antwerpen.be/david/Aankondigingenquête2.htm>) and return it at the address for correspondence specified on the site. This questionnaire is only available in Dutch but can also be filled in by non-Flemish or private institutions. A report on the needs of Flemish archival services in the field of archiving digital documents will be drawn up on the basis of these questionnaires. This report is planned for the end of October.

Agenda

Planned documents:

10/2000: report on the needs of archival services

12/2000: inventory of existing standards and guidelines (interim report)

02/2001: report on the legal framework

02/2001: inventory of digital files Antwerp with appraisal of records

Congress:

11/2000: DAVID congress for all interested parties at which the project and the initial achievements will be presented. There will also be a number of lectures. Further information will follow in September 2000.

Website:

The lay-out and content of our website will be thoroughly revamped during the course of 09/2000, after which the site will up-dated on a permanent basis. Most of the texts will be translated into English.

Next Newsletter: end October 2000