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DAVID GOES INTERPARES

The Flemish DAVID project was launched in January 2000 with the objective of producing a handbook containing guidelines for Digital Archiving in Flemish Institutions and Services. It very soon became clear, however, that the sort of expertise we were looking for was not to be found within the borders of Flanders (or even Belgium). Consequently, DAVID started looking at results achieved abroad, where people have been very active in the field of digital archiving for two decades. We were particularly interested in the internationally oriented InterPARES project. Moreover, Luciana Duranti, who leads it, is delighted to be able to involve the Flemish pilot project in the European research group working on e-government. For its part, DAVID hopes to derive a great deal of practical knowledge from this cooperation and to use it for the Flemish handbook, which is still the real purpose of the project. We will keep you up to date on further developments in this cooperation in subsequent newsletters.

REPORTS

F. BOUDREZ, *The digital recordkeeping system: inventory, information layers and decision-making model as the point of departure*, Antwerp, 2001.

Whilst revision work was being done on the report *Typology of digital government documents* it was decided that the report should be divided into two parts. The inventory of the digital information systems of the city administration, the OCMW (Municipal Centre for Health Care and Social Welfare) and the Antwerp port authorities was separated off from the more theoretical part that outlines an archiving strategy for digital archive documents. The inventory has since gone onto the website as a working document (under 'other publications'). As no typology has been devised as yet, an alternative approach was found whereby a decision-making model was shaped from the information layers. This was included in a DAVID report along with an overview of the archiving strategies. The report was re-

entitled *The digital recordkeeping system: inventory, information layers and decision-making model as the point of departure*. The report is now being translated in English and will be available on the DAVID website once translated.

S. VAN DEN EYNDE, *What should be archived and how? Defining the role of the PKI in digital archiving*, Leuven, June 2001.

An article appeared in the January 2001 issue of the 'Library and Archive Guide' about the role of the digital signature in archiving electronic documents. It put forward an argument for the technique of the digital signature as a solution to safeguard the integrity and authenticity of digital archive files in the long term. In this report we go a step further and examine how PKI (Public Key Infrastructure) can contribute to the digital archiving process. This we do by charting the complete life cycle of a digital record using the OAIS Reference Model. Depending on the chosen method of transfer and the archiving strategy, PKI ensures the whole archiving process proceeds in a secure manner. This report will appear on our website at the end of June.

ARCHIVING E-MAILS

One of the following DAVID case-studies will examine how e-mails can best be archived. An examination of the literature on the subject reveals that there are three different ways of doing this. One of them is storing e-mails digitally in a folder structure outside the e-mail system. These e-mails are best stored as an ordinary ASCII file or as a XML file. For further information and for the DTD of an e-mail: see website (cases: 3. E-mails).

WEBSITE

The website has been revamped. New information has been added to the website, including:

- digital archiving of the electoral register
- digital archiving of data from the population register
- archiving e-mails
- the archiving of websites
- a notice board: space is provided here for short announcements, descriptions, questions and comments. If you would like a message included, if you have a question about a report, etc., then send DAVID an e-mail.

Once translated, the reports will be available on the website.

The DAVID website will keep you up to date about Antwerp City Archive's use of XML as a standard archiving format. It provides recent information about:

- the use of XML for archiving e-mails: DTD

- the use of style-sheets for presenting XML files: with the help of style-sheets simple filter activities can be carried out and the disadvantages of not being able to use model DTDs offset (for examples, see website under cases (1. Electoral Register).

AGENDA

Reports

- F. BOUDREZ, *The digital archiving of websites*.
- S. VAN DEN EYNDE, *What should be archived and how? Defining the role of the PKI in digital archiving*, (June 2001)
- *Authenticity and integrity of digital archive documents: the use of the digital signature* (September 2001)

Newsletter

Next Newsletter: end August 2001. All the previous Newsletters can be consulted on the website.

Lectures:

28 June: STIP Environment Conference Brussels

F. Boudrez and W. Vanneste, *Digital archiving and administration*

21 September: Information 2001 Brussels

W. Vanneste, *The archival service on the internet: an interactive service*

F. Boudrez, *Digital archiving of websites*

23 November: Brabantse Archivarissendag (Oudenbosch, Nederland)

F. Boudrez, *The XML-archiving of the electoral register*