

Free Access to Legislation in Denmark

Advantages in Inter-institutional Cooperation
–
Design and Production

Legal information in Denmark

Innate advantages

- One language
- National provisions
- Legislative technique

α -version

- In mid eighties
- Totality in legislation
 - Primary and secondary legislation and treaties
- In force on 1985, January 1

Decisive decisions

- ① Datacapturing for the legal information system is linked with promulgation
- ① Folketinget volunteered for the legal information system
- ① Two decisions laying the basis of the success of today despite the fiasco of the system then

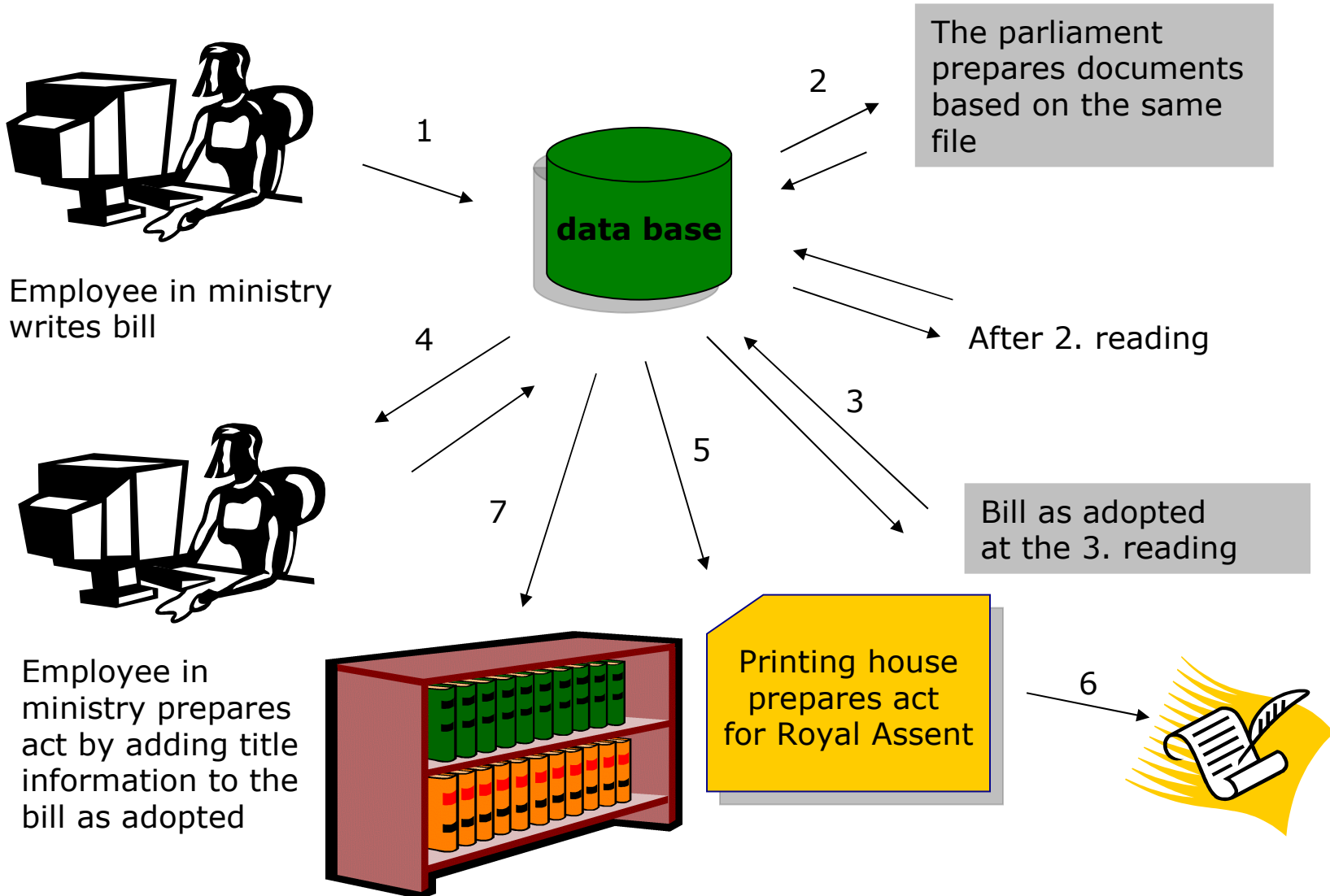
β-version

- ① Single system to produce, organize and publish all legislation
- ① The conditions were present
 - The organisation was there
 - Cooperation on legislative techniques was in place
 - Teamwork
- ① We can do it!

What did we get

- ① A new front-end – March 1996
 - In the end on the web and free of charge
 - But still on the same database and with the same query language
- ① A new back-end – December 1998
 - An editor
 - A client managing metadata, references, user administration and workflow
- ① Support of the old promulgation media

“The workflow slide”



Offspring of the β -version

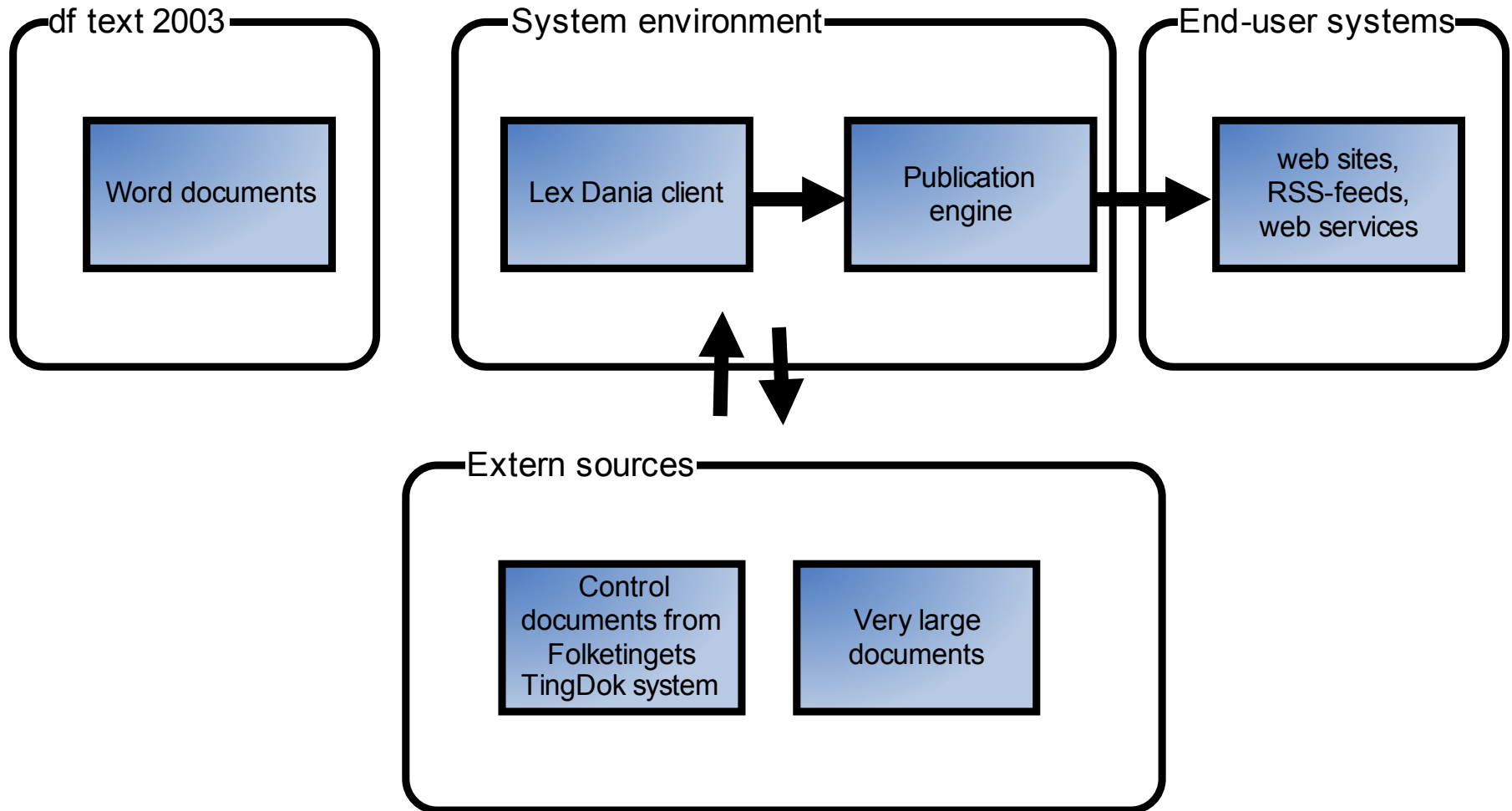
- ④ A very close cooperation between the Folketing and government
- ④ The Lex Dania xml project
 - A document standard supporting Danish legislation and debates in the Folketing
 - Improves the production system
 - Sustain the legislative technique in greater detail
- ④ Proof of concept regarding ePromulgation
 - The chain of confidence was established

Amendment of the Act on Lovtidende

- New requirements:
 - Authenticity,
 - Stability and
 - Security
- Legacy from the α and β versions
 - Datacapturing and workflow
- The platform was burning
- But the concept and the logic behind were still valid



Lex Dania production



Lex Dania client

- ① Client/server application in .Net 2.0
- ① Click once for seamless deployment
- ① VPN communication via the Internet
- ① Ribbon design
- ① Basically a re-engineering of the existing application
- ① But a lot of nice and elegant stuff

Drafting environment

- ① We wanted to use Lex Dania xml as the standard format
- ① We faced all the known challenges
- ① Updated our existing editor
- ① 44 Word 2003 templates and 44 XML schemas
- ① Lex Dania editor is going to be tested in 2009

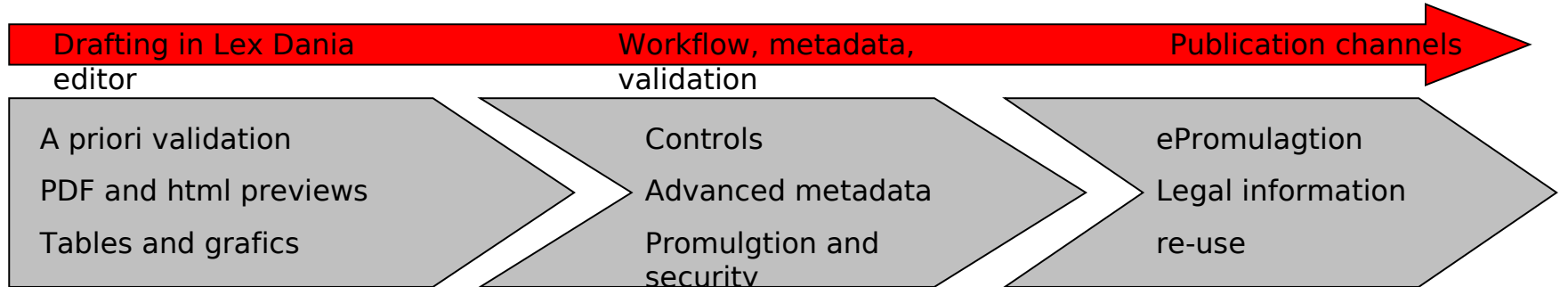
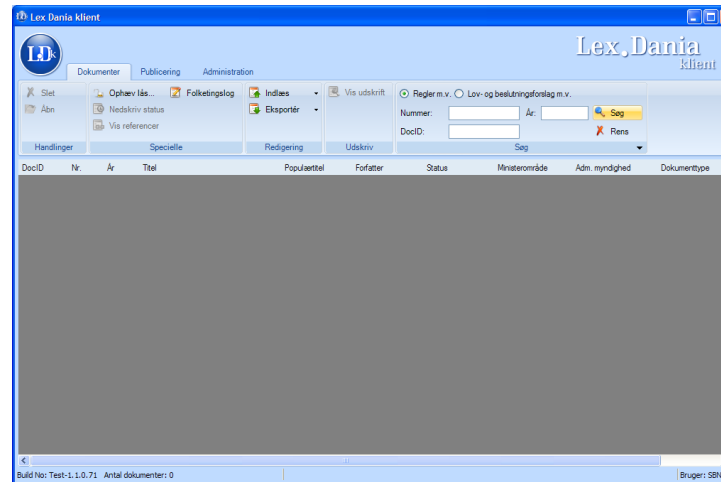
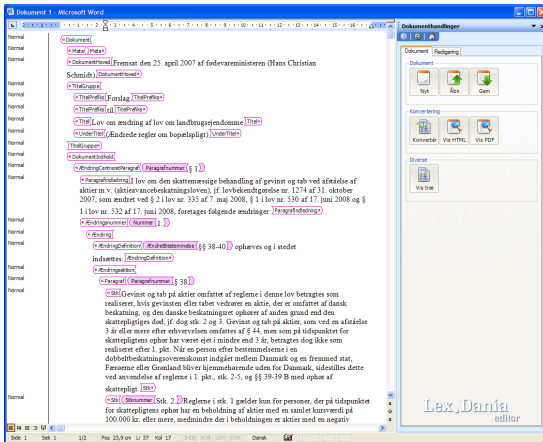
Lex Dania xml converter

- A separate module
 - Intermediate format ODF via OpenOffice
 - Rule based conversion with post processing
 - Web service enabled
- Servicing the Lex Dania system
- Online web validator
- Desktop converter

After the final human touch

- LDK generates the authentic PDF with server signature
- generates tiff from PDF for archiving purposes
- calculates updates to retsinformation.dk
- hands control on to the publication engine
- The publication engine
 - Merges data and metadata by

Working in Lex Dania production



Users channels

- ① retsinformation.dk
- ① lovtidende.dk (ministerialtidende.dk)
- ① RSS-feeds
- ① folketinget.dk
- ① N-Lex connectors (test)
- ① Web services

Thank you for your
patience !