TO:
Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology
Digital Industry (Directorate A)
Competitive Electronics Industry (Unit A.3)

TO: Andreas Lymberis
TO: Gökalp Gümüşdere

Reference: Smart Wearables: Reflection and Orientation Paper

First of all, a lot of thanks to Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology (Unit A.3) for organising this important consultation.

This opinion represents an opinion of an individual citizen, not any legal entity.

This opinion does not contain:

- any business secrets
- any trade secrets
- any confidential information.

This opinion is public.
PDF file of this opinion can be added to a relevant web page

Annex 1 holds information about previous consultations on the European Union level.
Annex 2 holds information about disclaimers and copyright.

Best Regards,

Jukka S. Rannila
citizen of Finland

signed electronically

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The same issues are repeated many times – check Annex 1

On the Annex 1 is information about my previous opinions. I guess that units of some Directorate-Generals have reviewed my previous opinions.

Here we can conclude that the same issues are repeated many times – even though several issues have been repeated in different order.

One reference / May & Andersen (2001)

Here we can note the following reference:

> May, M., & Andersen, P. B. (2001). Instrument Semiotics. In K. Liu, R. J. Clarke, P. B. Andersen, & R. K. Stamper (Eds.), Information, Organisation and Technology: Studies in Organisational Semiotics (pp. 271–298). Boston, MA: Springer US. doi:10.1007/978-1-4615-1655-2_10

May & Andersen (2001) use a figure (figure 3 in the article) to describe 14 different media classes. Here we can present a table based on 14 different media classes (based on May & Andersen 2001).

14 different media classes (16 minus 2 possible combinations)
(based on May & Andersen 2001)

		TEMPORAL			
		Static	**Repetitive**	**Sequential**	**Dynamic**
MEDIA	**Graphic**	static graphic	repetitive graphic	sequential graphic	dynamic graphic
	Acoustic	(not possible)	repetitive acoustic	sequential acoustic	dynamic acoustic
	Haptic	static haptic	repetitive haptic	sequential haptic	dynamic haptic
	Kinetic	(not possible)	repetitive kinetic	sequential kinetic	dynamic kinetic

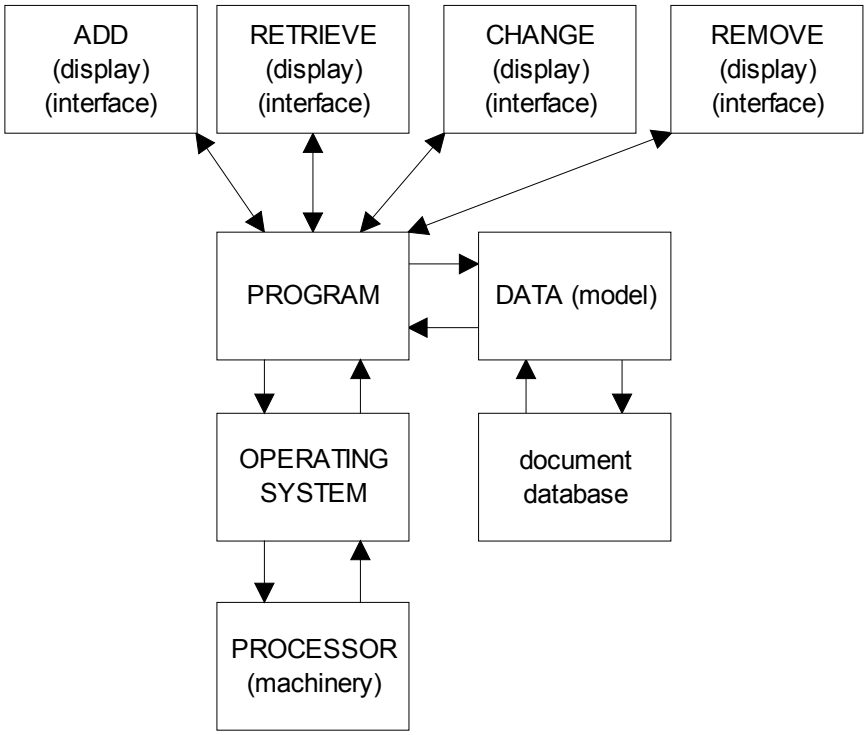
Here we can note that smart wearables can be linked to different (14) media classes.

Proposal 1: 14 different media classes could be assessed after this consultation.

Proposal 2: Different efforts for smart wearables could be linked to 14 different media classes after this consultation.

One presentation for information systems / About figure 1 on the reflection paper

Following figure on the reflection paper is one conception of information system. I have presented the following figure as one conception of information system.



Basic issues of an information system

Generally speaking we have different techniques on the information technology field. Here we can note that programs (most arrows) are in the middle of different information systems. Then programs handle the data in a system (documents and/or databases). However we have to have one specific program which is different – i.e. operating system. Operating systems handle connections with machinery and processors. Generally speaking programs can work with an operating system and developers of programs use different parts of an operating system.

What this means to information systems?

1) **There can be several processor (machinery) possibilities**
2) **There can be several operating systems possibilities**
3) **There can be several programs possibilities**
4) **Programs handle data in different ways**
5) **The data can modelled in different ways**
6) **There can documents and/or databases in different systems**
7) **There are always four basic functions (add, retrieve, change, remove).**
8) **There are several providers of different computer programs.**
9) **There are naturally competing programs.**

10) Different programs comply with different standards.

Based on figure 2 on the reflection paper we can conclude that these basic functions still exists even though there are several (new) technical possibilities.

Proposal 3: Future work on smart wearables could be divided to different classes based on presented basic functions/parts of an information system (previous 1 and explanation).

We have to note that data can have different models and data (models) are developed and/or used by different stakeholders (four basic functions). Especially in databases there are possibilities for several data models; depending on the modellers there can be different data models in databases. Generally speaking changing data models can be very difficult in many cases.

Here we can note that ownership, agreement and membership are interlinked in different ways. Generally speaking average usage of a system means an unique combination of ownership, agreement and membership. When everything works fine there are not problems. However changes with ownership, agreement and membership can result difficult situations.

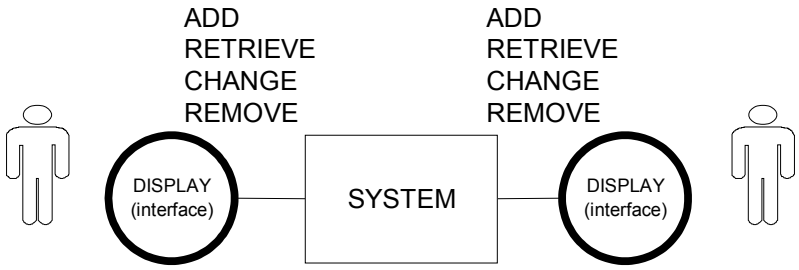
	Owner? Member? Agreement?	Standards?	OPEN	CLOSED
1. Device / Machinery				
2. Operating system				
3. Program(s)				
4. Data models / Conceptual models				
5. Documents				
6. Databases				
7. Communications				
8. Retrieve / Interface / Display				
9. Add / Interface / Display				
10. Remove / Interface / Display				
11. Change / Interface / Display				

Here we can note the difference between owners, agreements and members. In reality ownerships agreements and memberships cause very complex networks, and those networks are changing all the time: divisions, mergers, ownership changes, agreement changes, cooperation with other entities, life-cycles, etc.

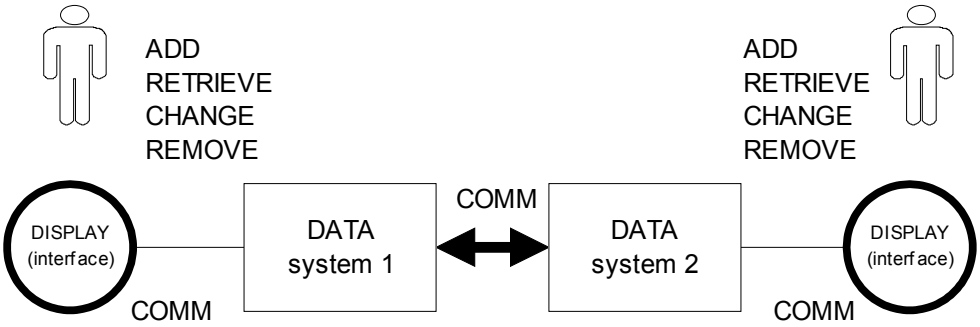
One information system only?

Generally speaking an information system contains displays and/or interfaces which can be used in different ways. There can be several users and/or user groups for an information system

Here we can note four basic functions for an information system: adding data, retrieving data, changing data and removing data.



Then we can note that different information systems can have some cooperation based on different communication methods (COMM).



Cooperation between systems can be direct system-to-system communication (COMM). Then we can note that cooperation between systems can be based on transmitting documents between different information systems. There is also different administrative (ADMIN) duties when different systems are used.

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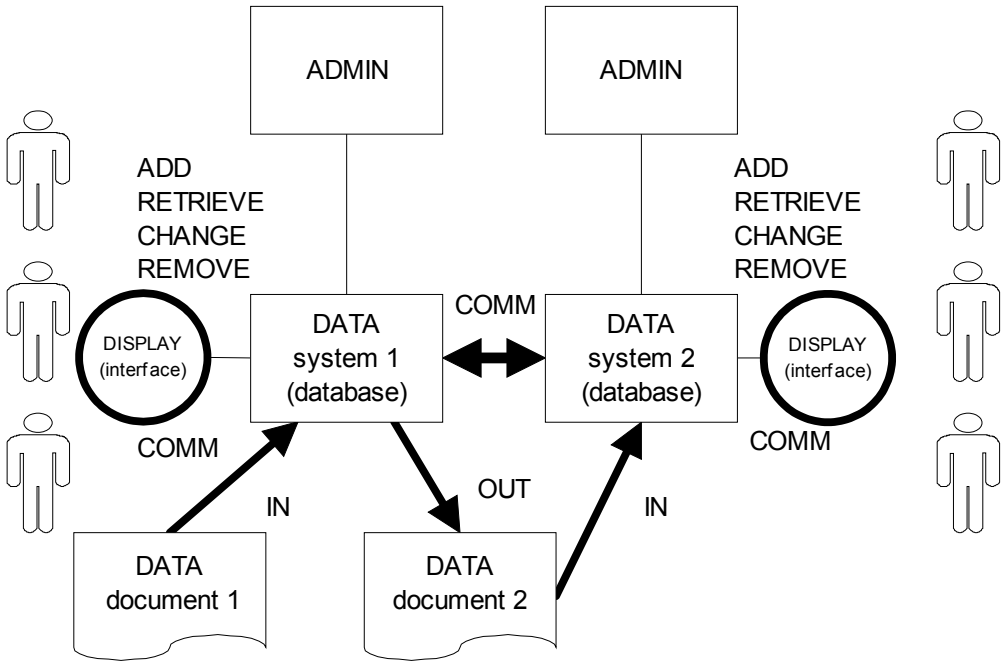

What this means to smart wearables?

11) There can be several users / user groups for an information system.

12) There can be several systems which can have direct system-to-system cooperation.

13) There can be several systems which can transmit documents between different systems.

Like the figure indicates, there are databases in different information systems. Then there are different documents for transmitting data between different systems. Here we can note especially following standardisation needs for different parts of different parts of an information system.

From this simple (figure) conception we can differentiate several standard classes.

1) Data (documents) standards
2) Data (database) standards
3) Standards for adding data to a system.
4) Standards for retrieving data from a system.
5) Standards for changing data in a system.
6) Standards for removing data from a system.
7) Display standards
8) Interface standards
9) Different communication standards.

Here we can note that ownership, agreement and membership are interlinked in different ways. Generally speaking average usage of a system means an unique combination of ownership,

agreement and membership. When everything works fine there are not problems. However changes with ownership, agreement and membership can result difficult situations.

Standards / "standards wars" or "format wars" / Standardisation organisations

There are different standards setting organisations on the information technology field. One list [1] of these standards setting organisations is provided by ConsortiumInfo.org.

What this means to information systems?

14) There are several standardisation issues.
15) There is a need for several standards on different levels.
16) There are several standardisation organisations.
17) Assessing and selection of standards mean more work.
18) This means constant reviews of different standards.
19) It is possible to implement "wrong" standards.
20) Part of selected standards can be failures.
21) This means constant work for implementing existing and new standards.
22) Constant modifications of software can result new security problems.

One warning can be said about standards setting organisations. All standards setting organisations are not successes based on several factors and there can may irrelevant standards setting organisations. Market situation on different vehicle markets varies a lot based on different factors.

Here we can note some problems:

* some systems are based on **de-facto** standards
* some systems are based on **de-jure** standards
* there can be confrontations between **de-facto** and **de-jure** standards
* there can be a monopoly situation in some domain
* some standards may inhibit possible actions of some stakeholders
* there can be a standard war on some domains
* standards have different life-cycles
* systems have different life-cycles
* there can be mismatches between different life-cycles
* there can be failed standards
* there can be deprecated standards.

It is quite normal situation in the information technology field that there are competing standards for some application field. Therefore there are all the time ongoing "standards wars" or "format wars". The information technology standards tend to be interrelated and one "standards war" or "format war" can lead to another similar situation.

What this means to smart wearables:

23) Different standards should be assessed carefully.

1 Standard Setting Organizations and Standards List, www.consortiuminfo.org/links/linksall.php

24) **There could be a catalogue of different standards**
25) **There could be some (new?) regulations for keeping the catalogue of different standards up-to-date.**

Proposal 4: Current standardisation (e.g. list provided by ConsortiumInfo.org) efforts by different organisations could be assessed carefully.

Proposal 5: Based on the assessment of different standards, there could be reasoned decisions to use some standards.

I have advocated open standards even though in some cases open standards are not de facto standards. In practice public sector has very important role, when some standards are competing in the market place. Because public sector has a considerable power when buying/developing information systems and therefore public sector can sometimes direct markets to certain standards. Therefore there should be serious vigilance when assessing different standards and "standards" in some application fields.

There are differences between horizontal and vertical standards. A simple example is naturally email solutions. There are several vertical standards when creating technically email solutions. Then there are horizontal standards which enable sending messages between technically different email solutions.

Proposal 6: There could be assessment of vertical and horizontal standards.

Proposal 7: Using horizontal standards could be favoured when creating different information systems.

Horizontal standards enables technological solutions which can work together. Horizontal standards hides different complexities in information systems.

Opinion: The number of redundant standardisation efforts should be minimal.

Proposal 8: There could be separation of horizontal standards and vertical standards.

Proposal 9: There could be different standardisation efforts to horizontal standards and vertical standards.

Personally I have advocated using different horizontal standards. For example email standards (horizontal) are implemented with very different technologies (vertical).

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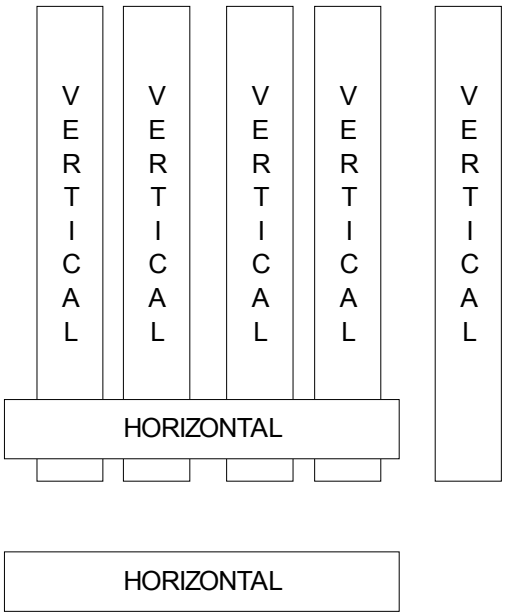

Proposal 10: Government(s) should especially concentrate on open horizontal standards.

Proposal 11: Some government agencies could apply for memberships of different standard setting organisations which develop especially open horizontal standards.

Proposal 12: Government agencies should not be passive by-standers when different open horizontal standards are developed.

Proposal 13: Government agencies could financially support development of open horizontal standards.

Here we can note that developing horizontal standards is very demanding compared to developing vertical standards.

What this means to information systems?

26) There can be different standardisation organisations which provide different standards.
27) There can be competing horizontal standards.
28) Some government agencies could join some standardisation organisations which develop especially open horizontal standards
29) Some government agencies could fund development of open horizontal standards.
30) Sometimes there are no open horizontal standards.
31) Development of new (open) standards means hired personnel and other monetary costs.

32) Absence of open horizontal standards means several problems.
33) Horizontal standards based on private solutions mean several problems.

Here we can note that developing horizontal standards is very demanding compared to developing vertical standards.

Proposal 14: Based on the results of this consultation new ideas for standardisation (smart wearables) could be assessed carefully – especially horizontal standards could be assessed carefully.

More and more new identifiers (ID) / Challenges to privacy?

In the previous consultations there has been discussion about different identifiers (ID) in different information systems. It can be noted from the previous opinions that there will be several and different identifiers (ID) for different levels.

Examples of these identifiers (ID) are following:

1) Facebook ID for an individual person
2) Facebook ID for the individual up-dates of individuals
3) Data Universal Numbering System (D-U-N-S)
4) Reuters instruments codes (RICs)
5) Social security code for individual citizens in the European Union member states
6) Business identity code for a company in an European Union member state
7) Value added tax code for a company in an European Union member state.

The examples of private identifiers (Facebook IDs, Data Universal Numbering System (D-U-N-S), Reuters Instrumens Codes (RICs)) show, that persons and/or communities can use or even demand of using identifiers (ID) from privately owned information systems.

Proposal 15: There could be a systematic review of different identifiers (ID) on different levels.

Proposal 16: Possible systematic review of different identifiers (ID) should assess different situations.

Different information systems have also internal identifiers (ID) and external identifiers (ID) for (possible) public usage. The added value for different stakeholders is provided by combination of different identifiers (ID) in a specific information system.

Proposal 17: The could be some assessment(s) based on different versions of different identifiers (ID).

It can be possible, that there are some legacy identifiers (ID) in the near future. It can be possible, that gradually some legacy identifiers (ID) can be consolidated for more standardised identifiers

(ID), but this consolidation means some serious technical and administrative actions.

Proposal 18: Legacy identifiers (ID) could be assessed seriously.

When information about relevant identifiers is collected, there could be a serious assessment of possible (near) monopoly situation of some identifiers. Depending on the nature of an identifier, there may be a need for serious (anti-trust?) negotiations with providers of some identifiers.

Proposal 19: The nature of different identifiers (ID) could be assessed.

Proposal 20: There could be serious negotiations with some providers of identifiers (ID).

In the European Union there has been different anti-trust cases which are related to different private sector identifiers (ID), since some of those private sector identifiers (ID) have been used in several other systems. Some private sector identifiers (ID) can mean a (near) monopoly situation.

What this means to information systems?

1) **Number of different identifiers (ID) is increasing – not decreasing**
2) **New identifiers (ID) mean a lot work for creating and/or updating of different information systems.**
3) **There can new identifiers (ID).**
4) **There can public and private identifiers (ID).**
5) **Some private identifiers (ID) can limit actions of different stakeholders.**
6) **Different identifiers (ID) related to energy systems could be assessed carefully.**
7) **There could be some discussions with communities which provide private identifiers (ID).**
8) **Monopoly situation with some private identifiers (ID) could be assessed.**

3.3.2. Non-technological barriers / Pages 16-17 on the Reflection and Orientation Paper

The absence of standards and test methods?

Proposal 21: Based on the results of this consultation there could be a proposed roadmap for different standardisation efforts.

Proposal 22: Joining and/or funding some standardisation organisations could be assessed carefully after this consultation.

The development of an appropriate regulatory framework?

Proposal 23: Based on the results of this consultation there could be a white paper for legislative agenda for smart wearables.

More technical consultations?

Based on answers (this consultation) there could be more technically oriented consultations. Previously mentioned issues (this opinion) could be detailed for new technically oriented consultations.

Proposal 24: More technically oriented consultations could be organised after this consultation.

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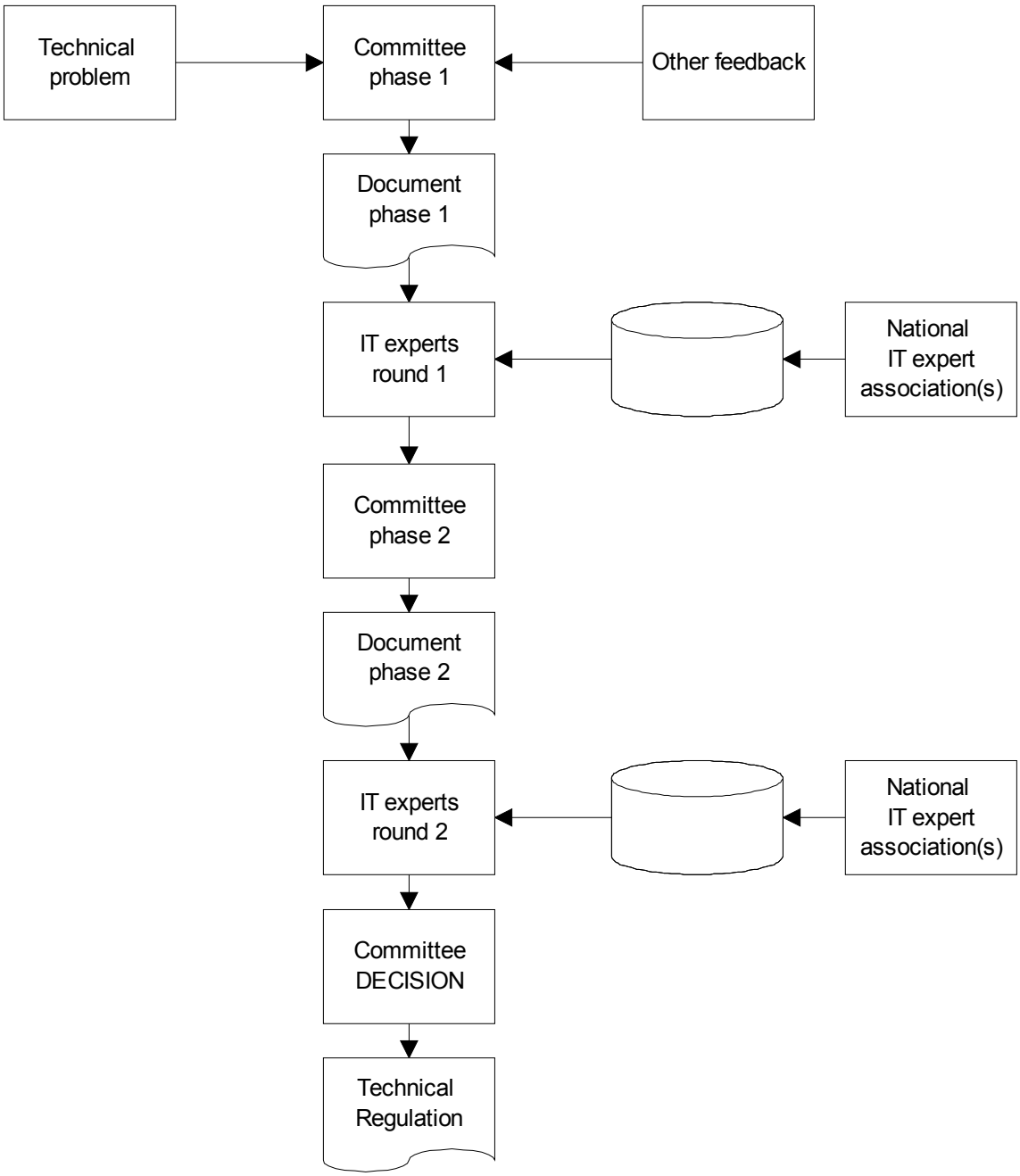


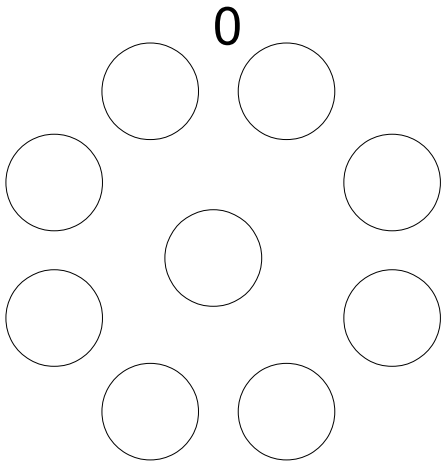
Based on previous opinions a process model for technical consultations can be presented. It could be possible to inform members of different (national) information technology experts associations about different technical consultations. There can different technical problems when developing different information systems.

Proposal 25: Members of different (national) information technology experts associations could be informed about different consultations based on different

technical problems when developing different (public sector) information systems.

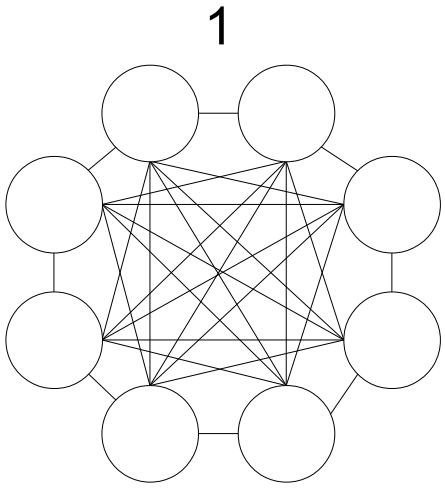
Possible reality / Several systems without connections to other systems

The current reality (0) is that there can several systems which are not connected to other systems. However in the future there can be several ways for cooperation between systems. The problem in the future may be very complex system-to-system (1) connections.



Possible reality: Several systems without connections

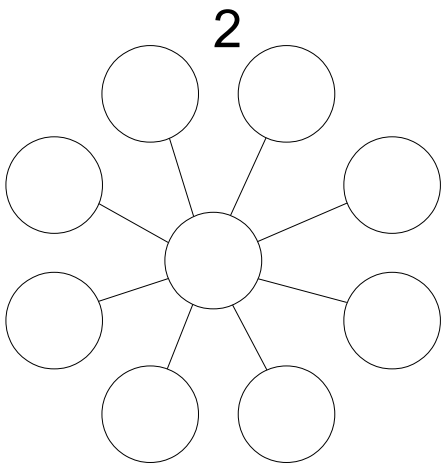
Possible future: Very complex system-to-system relations and/or several connections



Possible future: Very complex system-to-system relations and/or several connections

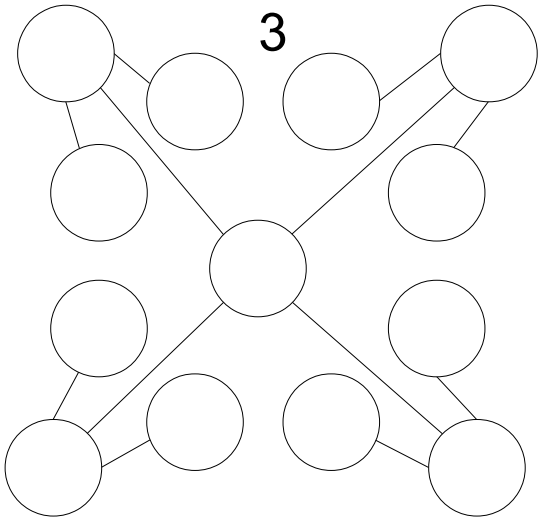
Generally speaking these many-to-many connections can work quite well when there are not changes in different systems. The problem arises when there are changes in one system since one change can affect several other systems.

Based this problem there are in many cases one central system (2) which can handle cooperation between different (sub)systems. The problem with this option is the failure of the central system and this can lead to unwanted outage of several (sub)systems.



One central system

One option (3) is to have a hierarchy between different system. In this way there cab some systems which are not connected to the central system. With this approach not all (sub)systems face the same problem with a failure in the central system.

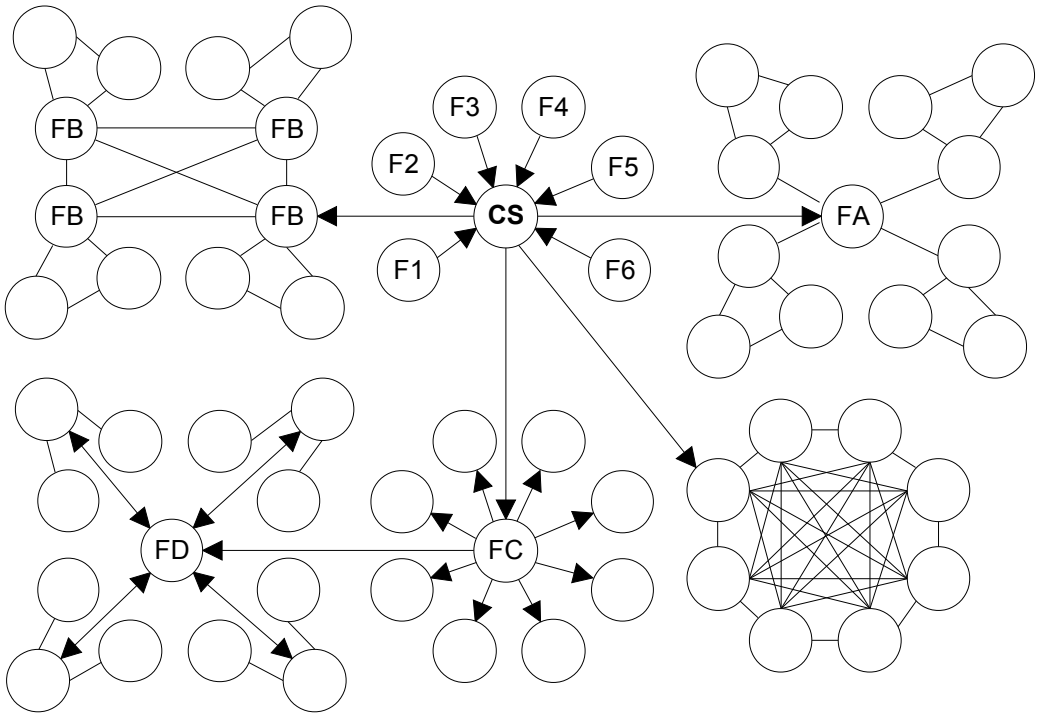


Possible future: Some systems are organised into a hierarchical structure

Complex networks of different systems?

The reality: There will be several layered systems developed by several stakeholder communities

(both for-profit and non-profit communities).



Here we can note that there can some central systems (CS) and information from those central systems can be distributed to several other systems. In reality the added value for users (citizens and different legal entities) is achieved by combining different systems to provide different services.

We can note that there can several formats (e.g. 1-6, A-D) for transmitting information from some central (CS) information system. Some formats may be non-standard or standard.

Proposal 26: There could be some efforts for developing some central systems.

The practical reality is that there will be several central systems – not all-powerful one central system.

Proposal 27: There could be some efforts for standardising different central systems.

Based on efforts for developing some central systems there could be better connectivity with different systems. I suppose that there can be private and public central systems in different application fields (smart wearables).

ANNEX 1

My opinions to the previous and relevant consultations – there consultations were mostly organised by the European Commission.

EN: Opinion 1: Review of the rules on access to documents
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_1

EN: Opinion 2: Schools for the 21st Century
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_2

EN: Opinion 3: The future of pharmaceuticals for Human use in Europe- making Europe a Hub for Safe and Innovative medicines
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_3

EN: Opinion 5: Consumer Scoreboard, Questionnaire for stakeholders
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_5

EN: Opinion 6: Consultation on a Code of Conduct for Interest Representatives
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_6

EN: Opinion 8: European Interoperability Framework, version 2, draft
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_8

EN: Opinion 9: CAMSS: Common Assessment Method for Standards and Specifications, CAMSS proposal for comments
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_9

EN: Opinion 15: Collective Redress
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_15

EN: Opinion 17: Opinion to Antitrust Case No. COMP/C-3/39.530
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_17

EN: Opinion 18: Opinion Related to the Public Undertaking by Microsoft
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_18

EN: Opinion 19: Official Acknowledgement by the Commission
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_19

EN: Opinion 20: SECOND Opinion Related to the Public Undertaking by Microsoft
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_20

EN: Opinion 21: Opinion about the European Interoperability Strategy proposal
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_21

EN: Opinion 23: Public consultation on the review of the European Standardisation System
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_23

EN: Opinion 27: Public Consultation on the Modernisation of EU Public Procurement Policy
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_27

EN: Opinion 28: Consultation on the Europe 2020 Project Bond Initiative
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_28

EN: Opinion 30: Internet Filtering
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_30
NOTE: Organised by the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) [2]

EN: Opinion 32: COMP/C-3/39.692/IBM – Maintenance services
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_32

EN: Opinion 34: REMIT Registration Format
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_34
NOTE: Organised by The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER) [3]

EN: Opinion 35: Exploiting the employment potential of the personal and household services
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_35

EN: Opinion 37: CASE COMP/39.654 - Reuters instrument codes
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_37

EN: Opinion 39: Registry options to facilitate linking of emissions trading systems
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_39

EN: Opinion 40: Media Freedom and Pluralism / audiovisual regulatory bodies
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_40

EN: Opinion 41: AT.39398: observations on the proposed commitments
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_41

EN: Opinion 42: Opening up Education
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_42

EN: Opinion 43: Publication of extracts of the European register of market participants
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_43
NOTE: Organised by The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER)

2 http://www.cen.eu/ (Accessed 2 July 2012)
3 http://www.acer.europa.eu/ (Accessed 2 July 2012)

EN: Opinion 44: Evaluation policy guidelines
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_44

EN: Opinion 45: About ICT standardisation
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_45

EN: Opinion 46: Review of the EU copyright rules
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_46

EN: Opinion 51: European Area of Skills and Qualifications
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_51

EN: Opinion 52: Trusted Cloud Europe Survey
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_52

EN: Opinion 53: Trade Reporting User Manual (TRUM) (Draft)
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_53
NOTE: Organised by The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER)

EN: Opinion 55: European Energy Regulation
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_55
NOTE: Organised by The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER)

EN: Opinion 59: Green paper on mobile Health
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_59

EN: Opinion 60: Cross-border inheritance tax problems within the EU
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_60

EN: Opinion 61: European Register of Products Containing Nanomaterials
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_61

EN: Opinion 64: Corporate Social Responsibility - European Commission
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_64

EN: Opinion 66: Net Innovation for the Work Programme 2016-2017
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_66

EN: Opinion 68: European Network Code Stakeholder Committees
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_68
NOTE: Organised by The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER)

EN: Opinion 71: Common Schema for the Disclosure of Inside Information
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_71
NOTE: Organised by The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER)

EN: Opinion 74: Enabling the Internet of Things
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_74
NOTE: Organised by Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC)

EN: Opinion 80: Mandatory Transparency Register
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_80

EN: Opinion 84: Revision of the European Interoperability Framework
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_84

EN: Opinion 86: 2016 Annual Colloquium on fundamental rights
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_86

EN: Opinion 88: Evaluation and Review of the ePrivacy Directive
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_88

EN: Opinion 89: BEREC Guidelines for net neutrality rules
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_89
NOTE: Organised by Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC)

EN: Opinion 93: Safety of apps and other non-embedded software
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_93

EN: Opinion 95: Targeted consultation on eForms
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_95

EN: Opinion 97: COM(2016) 882 final - 2016/0408 (COD)
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_97

EN: Opinion 98: Opinions related to six (6) co-decision (COD) proposals
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_98

EN: Opinion 99: COM(2016)0863 - European Union Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators. Recast
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_99

EN: Opinion 100: Protection of personal data (EU)
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_100

EN: Opinion 101: Governance of the Energy Union
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_101

My opinions to the previous and relevant consultations – there consultations were mostly organised by the European Commission. General page to all consultations – both in English and in Finnish:
http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html

ANNEX 2

DISCLAIMERS

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Use of broken English

This text is in English, but from a person, whose is not a native English-speaking person. Therefore the text may or may not contain bad, odd and broken English, and can contain awkward linguistic solutions.

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4 Based on the Finnish three-party system there is a phenomenon called extreme-centre in Finland. The 2011 parliamentary elections in Finland challenged the three-party system, since three “old” parties were not traditionally as the three largest parties. On 2015 this “new” party is part of the current Finnish Government. We all must be interested about this new development in Finland.