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Overview of current Danish e-Justice projects

The Danish Court Administration is currently working on a wide range of projects concerning e-justice.

Three of the major projects under implementation are:

(1) Digitalization and automation of the land register. The aim of the project is to allow users to digitally handle registration of property via an online portal or a system-to-system interface. The handling of a wide range of regular cases will be fully automated enabling a substantial reduction in case processing times. The solution will be based on digital signatures, java and service oriented architectures (SOA).

(2) Modernization of the case management system. The current IT platform used to support the handling of all major types of cases (civil, criminal, etc.) is based on a now outdated IT technology. The existing system thus hinders further development and digitalization of especially the external communication and it is therefore necessary to replace it. As part of the modernization programme we aim to implement a secure online system enabling parties to access case relevant documents and administer aspects of the legal process over the internet. The new system will be based on SOA and standard “.Net” technology.

(3) Installation of videoconferencing equipment. As a result of a successfully completed pilot project on the use of videoconferencing there is now equipment installed at about five district courts. During 2009 we aim to install videoconferencing equipment at an additional set of courts as well as in a number of prisons and prosecutor offices as part of an initial pilot implementation and evaluation of proposed new legislation on the use of video meetings in cases concerning extension of remand periods.

Alongside these projects we are also working on:

(4) Electronic web forms. The aim of the project is to replace the current PDF files on the courts’ web page with dynamic forms which can be filled out online and transmitted to the courts over the internet. The solution will be based on Microsoft InfoPath and Sharepoint technology as well as XML and digital signatures.

(5) Electronic data exchange in criminal cases. The aim of the project is to enable the courts to receive penal cases from the public prosecutor using a common XML format and secure e-mail.

(6) Digital audio recording of testimonies in civil and criminal cases. A pilot project is currently underway and the initial results are positive.

(7) Establishment of an online legal database with decisions from all first and appeal instance courts as well as the Supreme Court. Access to the database is planned to be free of charge and the decisions will be made available in anonymous form.