



The electronic signature as an
enabler for digital certification
processes in aviation
Intermediate results from the BDLI working group

HELICOPTERS

Dr. Jörg Wirtz,
IAQG supplier forum Berlin 18th October

AIRBUS

Agenda

1. Status quo in Aviation
2. Concepts & building bricks of digital trust
3. Results of BDLI WG:
 - a) how to apply electronic signatures on TC-documents
 - b) how to archive digitally signed TC-documents
4. Implementation of digital signature at Airbus Helicopters
5. A proposal how to include authorities, supplier and partners in digital signature processes
6. Outlook: model base engineering
7. Next steps

Status quo in Aviation

Aircraft development and production



Aircraft certification



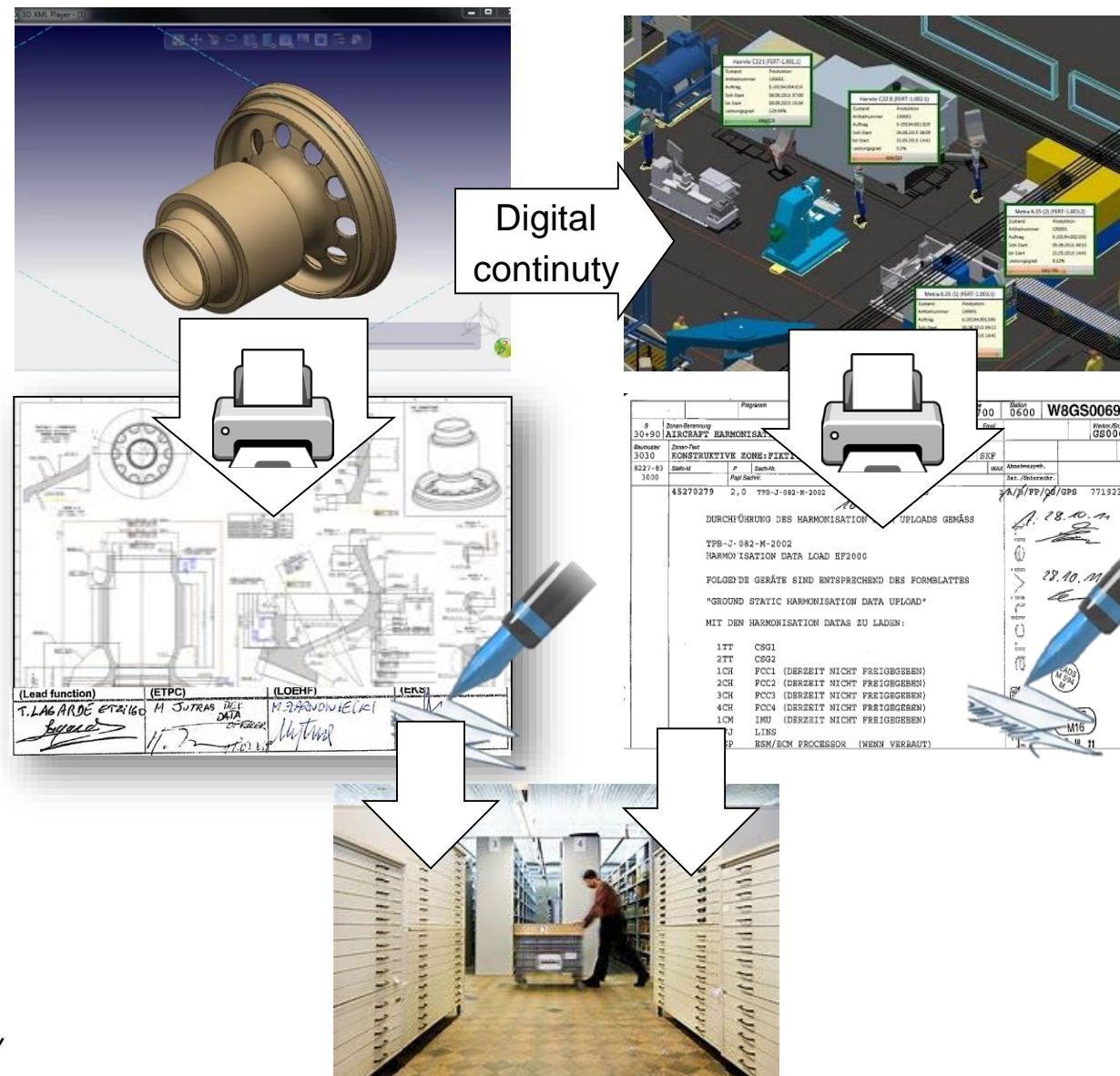
Status quo in Aviation

- In digital tools, all product and production process data are defined and processed in the process chain
- However, signatures on released data in the digital environment are still not fully accepted by regulatory agencies.
- Therefore for all certification purposes, paper based documents have to be printed out, wet signed and finally archived
- The missing confidence results from:
 - Missing accepted industrial best practice on applying digital signatures = digital trust service on aviation certification documents
 - Missing accepted industrial best practice on Long Term Archiving of digitally signed type certificate documents
 - Missing accepted industrial best practice on including authorities, supplier and partners in digital signature processes

This led to building of the BDLI-working group in 2018

Industrie process

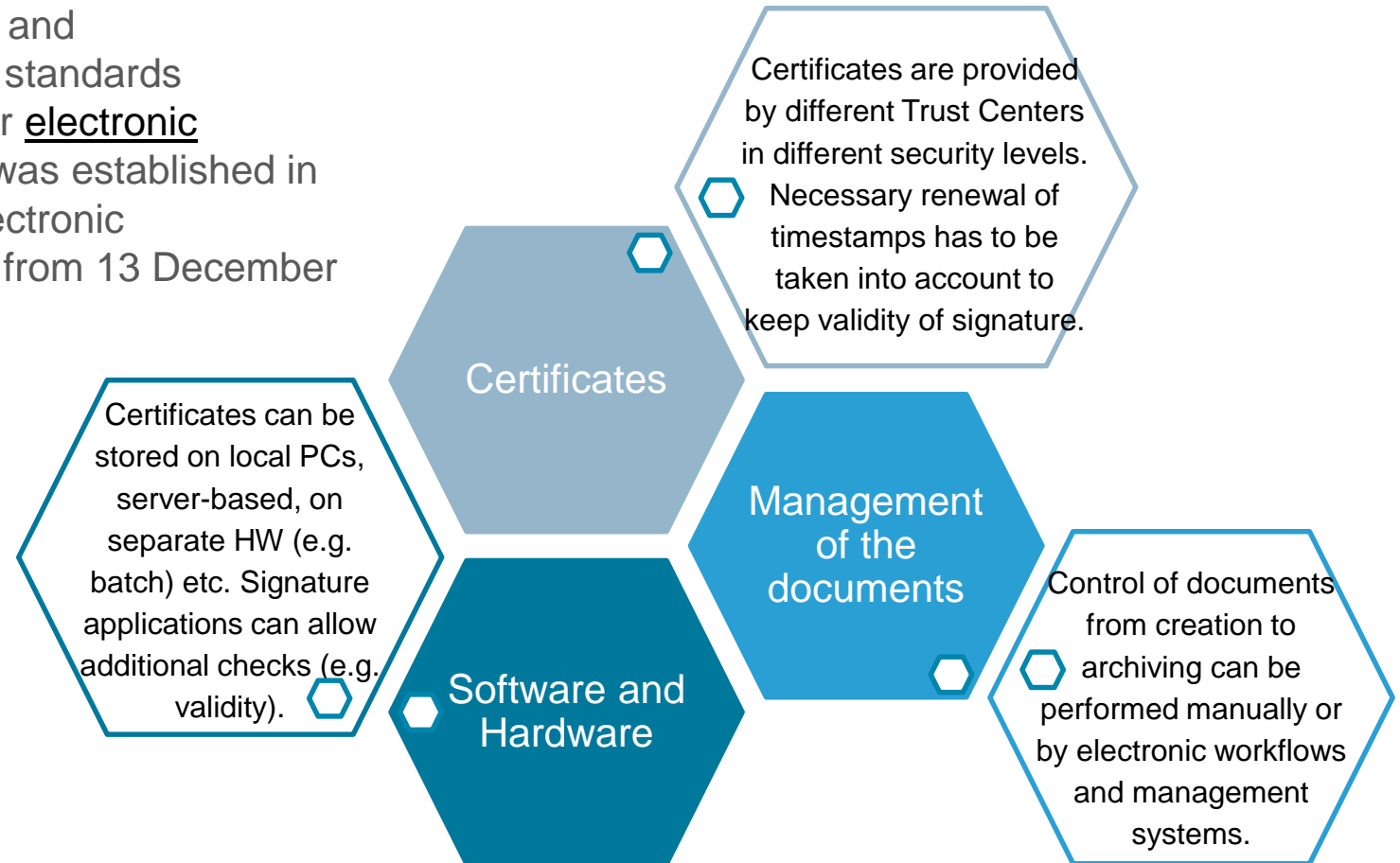
Certification process



Concepts & building bricks of digital trust : The eIDAS regulation

eIDAS-Verordnung

eIDAS (electronic Identification, Authentication and trust Services) is an EU regulation on / a set of standards for electronic identification and trust services for electronic transactions in the European Single Market. It was established in EU Regulation 910/2014 of 23 July 2014 on electronic identification and repeals directive 1999/93/EC from 13 December 1999..



Concepts & building bricks of digital trust

Die EIDAS Verordnung defines in Art. 3 Nr. 10–12 the following types of electronic signatures:

simple electronic signature

Any digital declaration of intent: e.g. Signature under an email

Advanced electronic signature (certificate based):

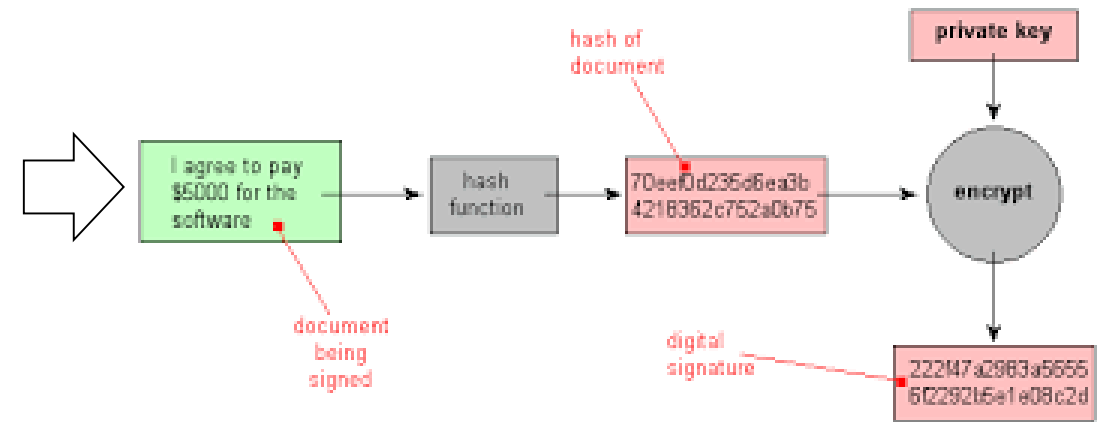
- There is a certificate for electronic signature, electronic proof that confirms the identity of the signatory and links the electronic signature validation data to that person.
- It provides unique identifying information that links it to its signatory.
- The signatory has sole control of the data used to create the electronic signature.
- It must be capable of identifying if the data accompanying the message has been tampered with after being signed. If the signed data has changed, the signature is marked invalid.

Qualified electronic signature (certificate based)

an advanced electronic signature that is created by a qualified electronic signature creation device based on a qualified certificate for electronic signatures.

Certificate based digital signature

Private key= certificate from Trust center linked to identity of signee



Results of BDLI WG :The BDLI working group & approach

Authorities

Thomas Glose, Bundeswehr ;
 Bichtemann, Bernd, Bundeswehr;
 Wiener, Sarah, Bundeswehr
 Müller , Andreas LBA;

Industrie

Kubon, Rene ESG;
 Kotziok, Alexandra ; Airbus Defence & Space;
 Schumann, Andreas; Premium Aerotec
 Geisenberger, Anton; Premium Aerotec
 Prassek, Arnd.; MTU
 Mayr, Claus MTU;
 Friese, Daniel; Airbus Defence & Space
 Krueger, Eike; Airbus
 Frank Müller Hensoldt;
 Fichtner, Frank Hensoldt;
 Godde, Hans. Diehl;
 Groth, Harald. Jenoptik.;
 Bracklo, Holger; Position Elbe-Flugzeugwerke
 Wirtz, Jörg; Airbus Helicopters
 Poerner, Marc; Airbus Helicopters

Kochs-Kämper, Markus (RUAG Aero
 Albrecht, Michael, MT-aerospace;
 Loges, Michael Rolls-Royce.
 Wojahn, Michael Rolls-Royce
 Fischer, Michaelpeter; Jenoptik;
 Haarmann, Robert Hensoldt;
 Salbach, Holger Northrop Grumman LITEF;
 Kläsner, Sascha; Liebherr.;
 Tietsche, Volker; Northrop Grumman LITEF;
 Wolski, Timo;Siemens
 Fischer, Lena; Northrop Grumman LITEF;
 Huber, Rebecca; MTU;
 Zebib, Ursula.DIEHL;

Working Group coordination:

Wirtz, Jörg -; Airbus Helicopters
 Zwiener, Axel; BDLI

The BDLI working group has set itself the goal of developing a proposal as to which requirements with regard to electronic signature are to be placed on which document / data types of the type certificate process

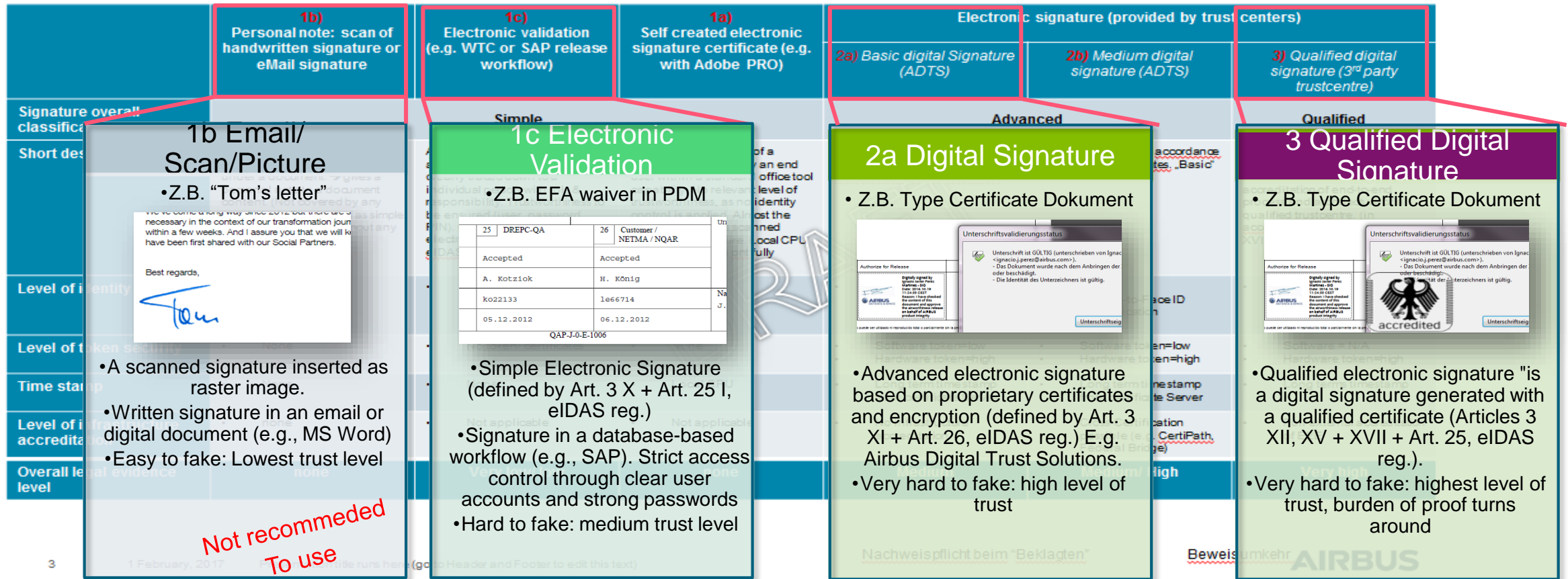
Results of BDLI WG :how to apply electronic signature in TC documents

Initially, various electronic signature types and existing processes from industrial practice were identified and described

	1b)	1c)	1a)	Electronic signature (provided by trust centers)		
	Personal note: scan of handwritten signature or eMail signature	Electronic validation (e.g. WTC or SAP release workflow)	Self created electronic signature certificate (e.g. with Adobe PRO)	2a) Basic digital Signature (ADTS)	2b) Medium digital signature (ADTS)	3) Qualified digital signature (3 rd party trustcentre)
Signature overall classification	Simple			Advanced		Qualified
Short description	A re-production of an handwritten signature (scanned) and copied under a document. → gives a personal note to a document content. (Not covered by any regulation). Considered as simple electronic signature without any trustworthiness.	An approval of a content (e.g. in a tool workflow), which can be clearly traced down to a individual person with role & responsibility. Trustworthiness to be ensured (user, password, PIN). Considered as simple electronic signature (§3X & §25 I eIDAS)	Uncontrolled creation of a signature certificate by an end user within a standard office tool capability. No relevant level of trustworthiness, as no identity control is applied. Almost the same low level as scanned cut&paste signature. Local CPU timestamp is also not fully trustworthy.	Different implementations of advanced digital signature (in accordance §3 XI + §26, eIDAS). Based on Digital Trustcentre certificates. „Basic“ with less trustworthiness than „medium“.		Highest trustworthiness for trustcentre certificate based digital signature thanks to accreditation of end-to-end process and architecture of a qualified trustcentre. (in accordance with §3 XII, XV + XVII + § 25, eIDAS Reg.)
Level of identity control	• None	• Very LOW (no link with HR process, just potentially LDAP and application user/ role)	• NONE	• LOW Linked to HR Process	• HIGH Face-to-Face ID Verification	• HIGH Face-to-Face ID Verification
Level of token security	• None	• No token/ certificates	• None	• Software token=low • Hardware token=high	• Software token=low • Hardware token=high	• Software = N/A • Hardware token=high
Time stamp	• None	• None	• Local CPU	• Long term timestamp from certificate Server	• Long term timestamp from certificate Server	• Long terms timestamp
Level of infrastructure accreditation	• none	• Not applicable	• Not applicable	• No infrastructure accreditation	• Cross-Certification possible (e.g. CertiPath, Federal Bridge)	• Full external accreditation of E2E
Overall legal evidence level	none	Very low/ low	none	Medium	Medium/ High	Very high

Results of BDLI WG : how to apply electronic signature in TC documents

Finally 4 electronic signature types were taken into account for the mapping with aviation type certificate documentation



Evaluation of wet & electronic signature types in terms of process costs and process reliability

Types of electronic Signature

0 nasse Unterschrift
 • Z.B. "Tom's letter"

1c Electronic Validation
 • Z.B. EFA waiver in PDM

2a Digitale Signatur
 • Z.B. Type Certificate Dokument

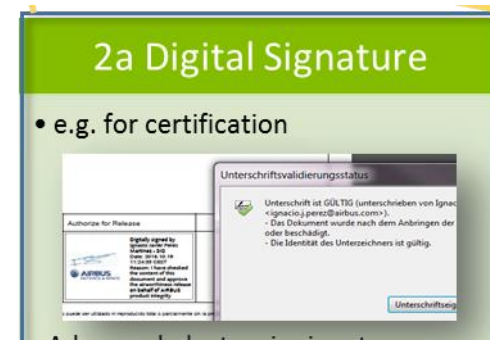
3 Qualifizierte Digitale Signatur
 • Z.B. Type Certificate Dokument

Document process	0 nasse Unterschrift		1c Electronic Validation		2a Digitale Signatur		3 Qualifizierte Digitale Signatur	
	Effort/costs	Security/reliability	Effort/costs	Security/reliability	Effort/costs	Security/reliability	Effort/costs	Security/reliability
Control Signing authority	2	1	2	3	3	4	4	4
Create / edit document	2	1	2	4	2	4	2	4
Document approval	4	1	2	3	3	4	4	4
Document distribution	3	2	1	3	1	4	1	4
Archiving	2	4	1	3	3	4	4	4
Document retrieval	4	3	1	2	3	3	4	4
assessment	2,83	2,00	1,50	3,00	2,50	3,83	3,17	4,00

Preferred for documents with medium trust level req.

Preferred for documents with high trust level req.

Results of BDLI WG : how to apply electronic signature in TC documents



Recommendation of BDLI WG:
Set of TC documents, where digital signature type 2a shall be applied

Applicability						Content Type	Minimum Type of signature		Retention Period (years*)
DNA	PO	MO	CAM	EN910 0 ISC 01	Lega		Simple / Advanced / Qualified	Non-exhaustive list of typical examples	
▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	1a/1b/1c / 2a/2B/3	▼	
X						Design Data and Certification Compliance Data (related the type certification)	2a	* Declaration of Compliance (to TC/STC or change /abschluss der Nachweisführung)	Until TC revocation by Aviation
X	X					Documents for Product Conformity Inspection (*Stückprüfung*)	2a	· EASA Form one	Until TC revocation by Aviation
X	X	X		X		Inspection and Test Records incl. Development and Production Flight Test	2a	Flight Conditions, Permit to Fly for Development Aircraft	3

Results of BDLI WG :how to archive digitally signed TC-documents

Problem of long term archiving digital signatures

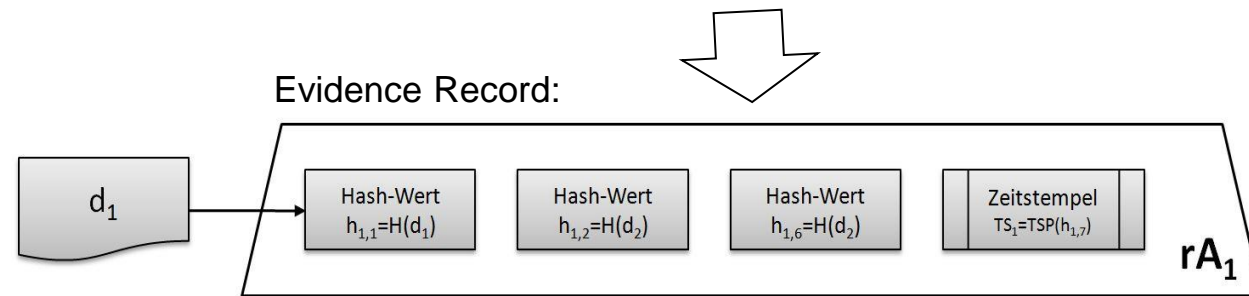
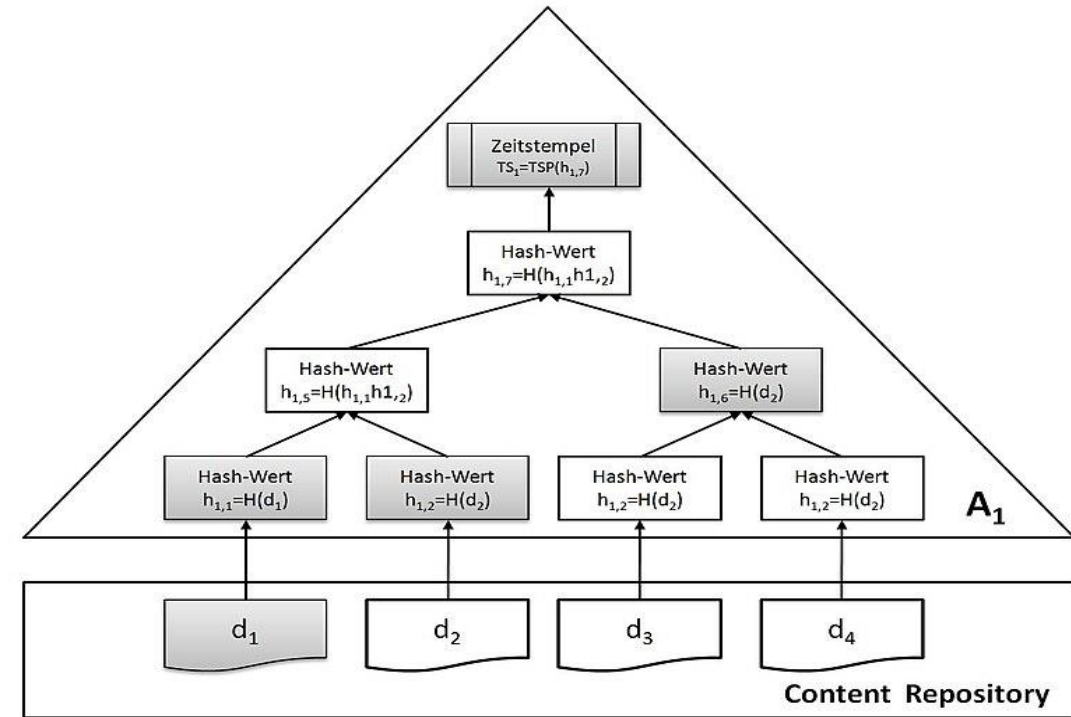
The problem is the aging of algorithms used to generate an electronic signature. With age, the algorithms are vulnerable, i. H. With enough computing power, someone could spend for another or create another document to the previous hash value.

From working group recommended

Solution in archiving system

For each newly saved document in an archive, a **hash value** is calculated based on the most recent, strongest hash algorithm and recorded in a **hash tree** at the first level

Now, if one of the documents is needed for evidence in court, a copy of the document is retrieved from the Content Repository and its **Evidence Record** created, which contains a so-called reduced archive timestamp and in addition to the test results of the signatures.



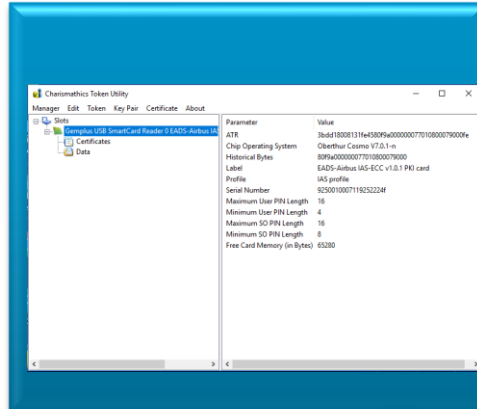
Implementation of digital signature at Airbus Helicopters

DSignIT



- **Application to digitally sign documents**
- Client solution for local digital signature without document uploads.
- Available in SW center for installation (Win7/10).
- Re-deployment of solution from ADS with additional capabilities for AH.

CSSI & MyID



- **Middleware to allow usage of smartcards (badge) with HW certificates**
- Packaging of Win10 versions of middleware required for usage of hardware certificates
- Action taken over from Win10 project as additional scope due to inactivity.

VeraPDF



- **Client solution of PDF/A format checker to allow end users pre-checks.**
- Same solution is put in place in BFLOW PDF archiving workflow.

BFLOW



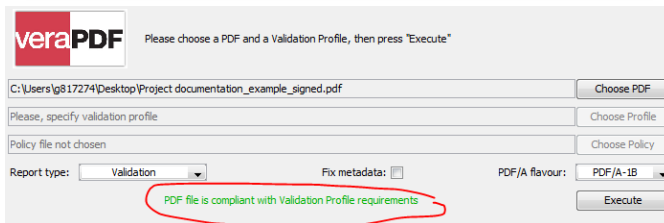
- **PDF/A archiving incl. format check with PDF check server solution**
- **Evidence records solution** by usage of Airbus commercial API (software as a service) to ensure long term preservation of digitally signed documents.
- AH/ACA solution already raised interest of ADS.

AIRINA: Airbus Enterprise Information Archive (formerly ZAMIZ)

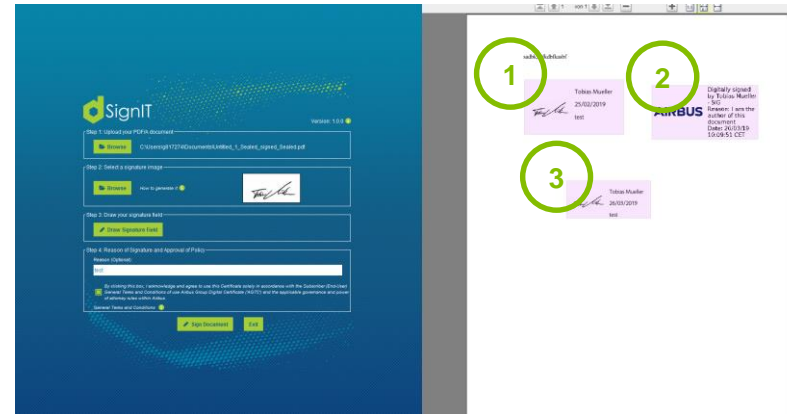
Implementation of digital signature at Airbus Helicopters

Signature process & Tools

Verify PDF/A



Sign PDF/A

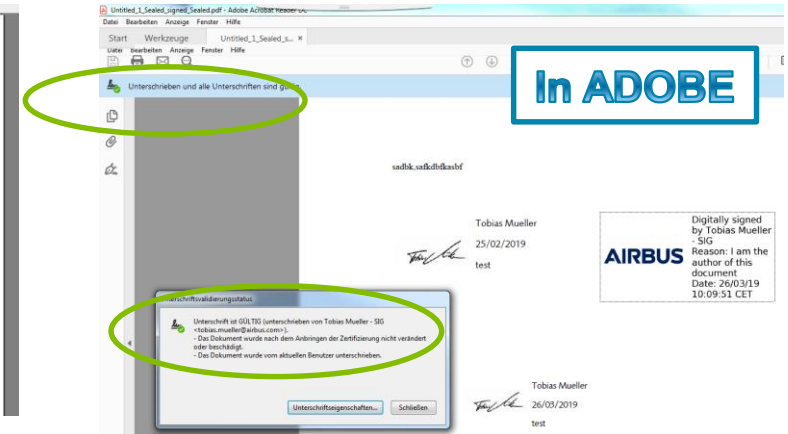


1. 1st Signature with DSignIT
2. 2nd signature with DSIg
3. 3rd signature with DSignIT

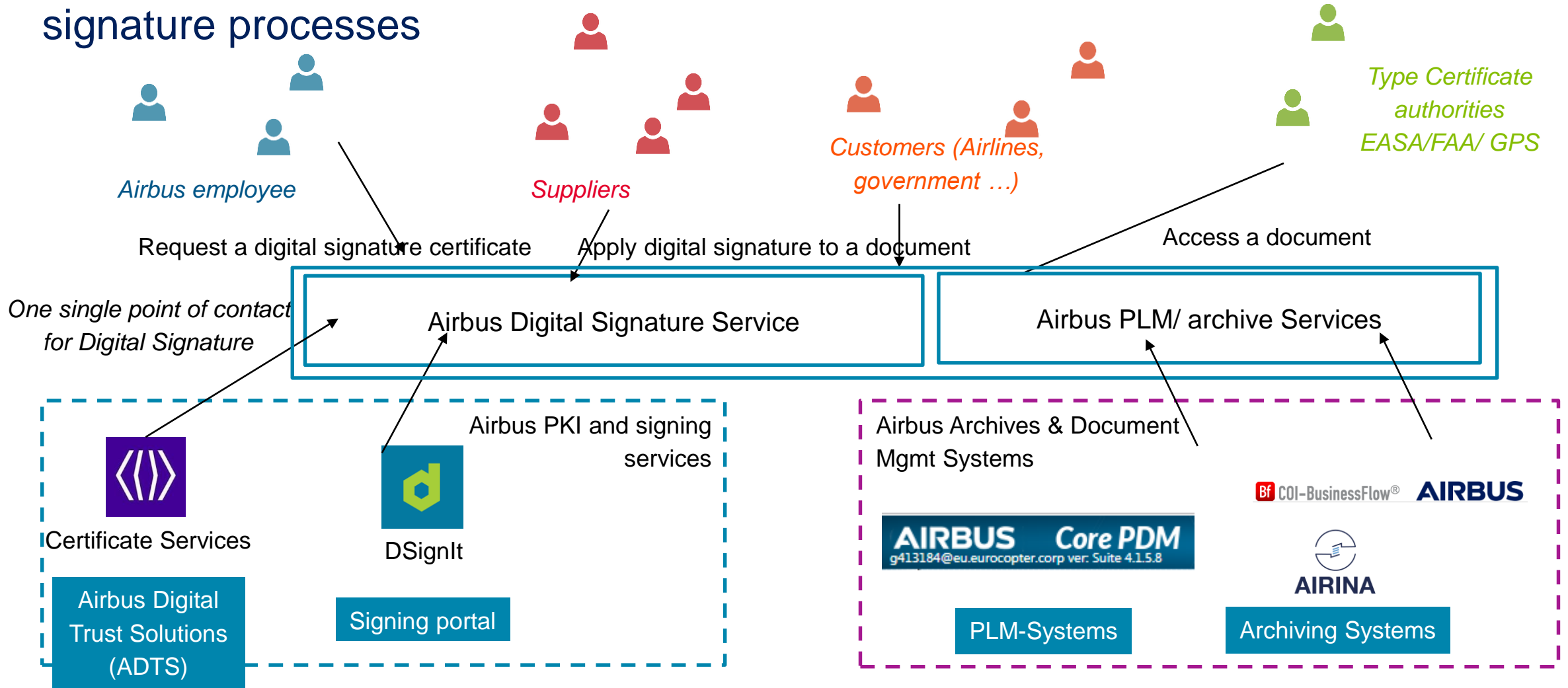


Adobe Acrobat Document

Verify signature



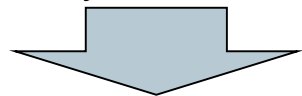
A proposal how to include authorities, supplier and partners in digital signature processes



Outlook: from document management to model based engineering

- **CAD: Computer Aided Design:**

The computer data model is a tool/mean for creating the delivery item document



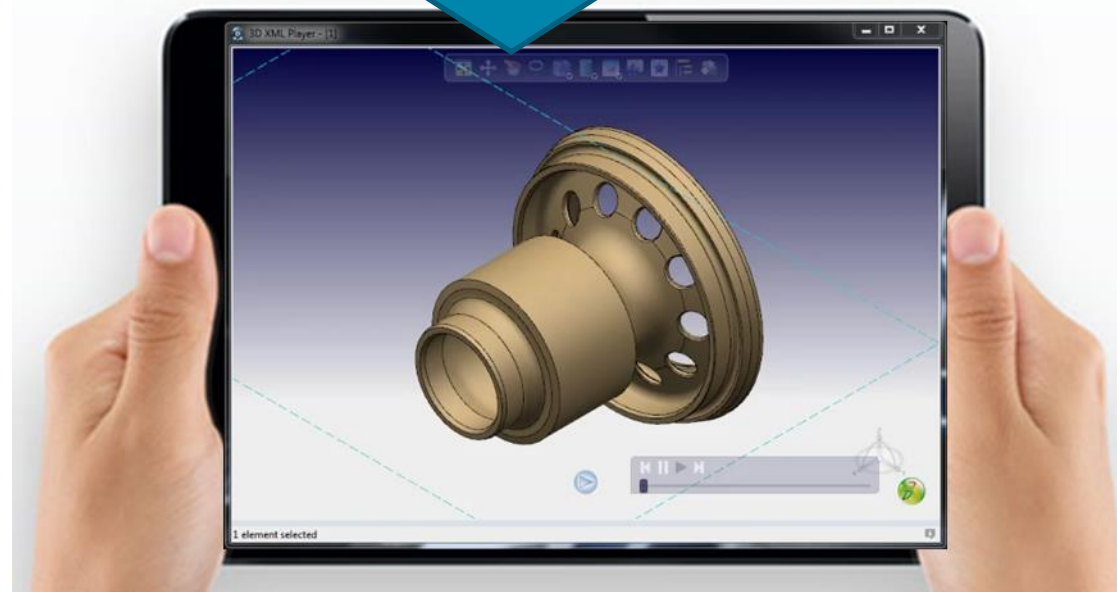
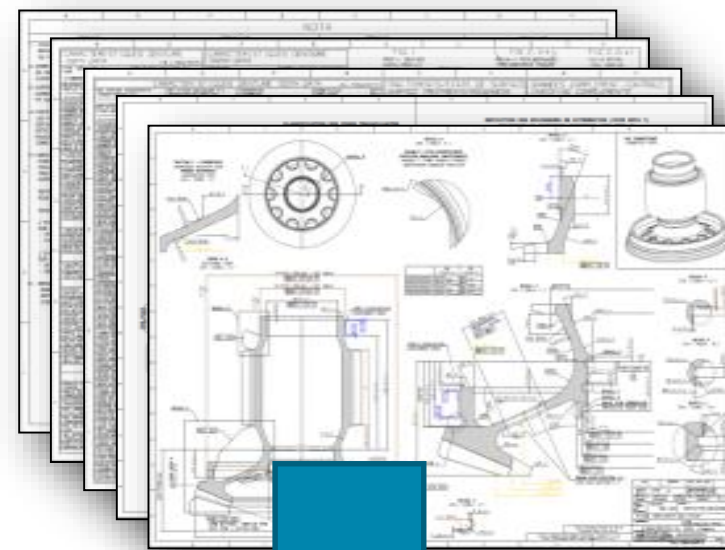
On digital data models you can not sign wet anymore!

In the context of an Industry 4.0, the electronic signature is inevitable!

- **MBD: Model based Design**
MBSE: Model based System Engineering

The computer data model is the delivery item

- Process efficiency through continuous product model enrichment instead of document sharing and media breaks



Conclusion & Next steps

Conclusions from last BDLI working group meeting

All participants of the last BDLI working group meeting with LBA and GPS in August agreed that a very good basis for a common understanding to use the digital signature was created. The recommendation to apply the advanced electronic signature for documents with a high Level of trust in an industrial environment was supported by the participants.

The same applies to the approach, to categorize documents after the required trust level and the corresponding level of the electronic signature (electronic validation or advanced electronic Signature= digital signature).

Next steps

- LBA /GPS - Evaluation of the working group developed document list for the Development company with the appropriate stage of electronic signature
- BDLI-WG - Development of a catalog of requirements for the industry on the basis of the work results, if necessary as the basis for an EASA AMC to use the electronic signature / digital signature
- BDLI - Extension of work results on Documents of the manufacturing / maintenance company
- Alignment on this digital signature approach with AIQG and FAA

HELICOPTERS

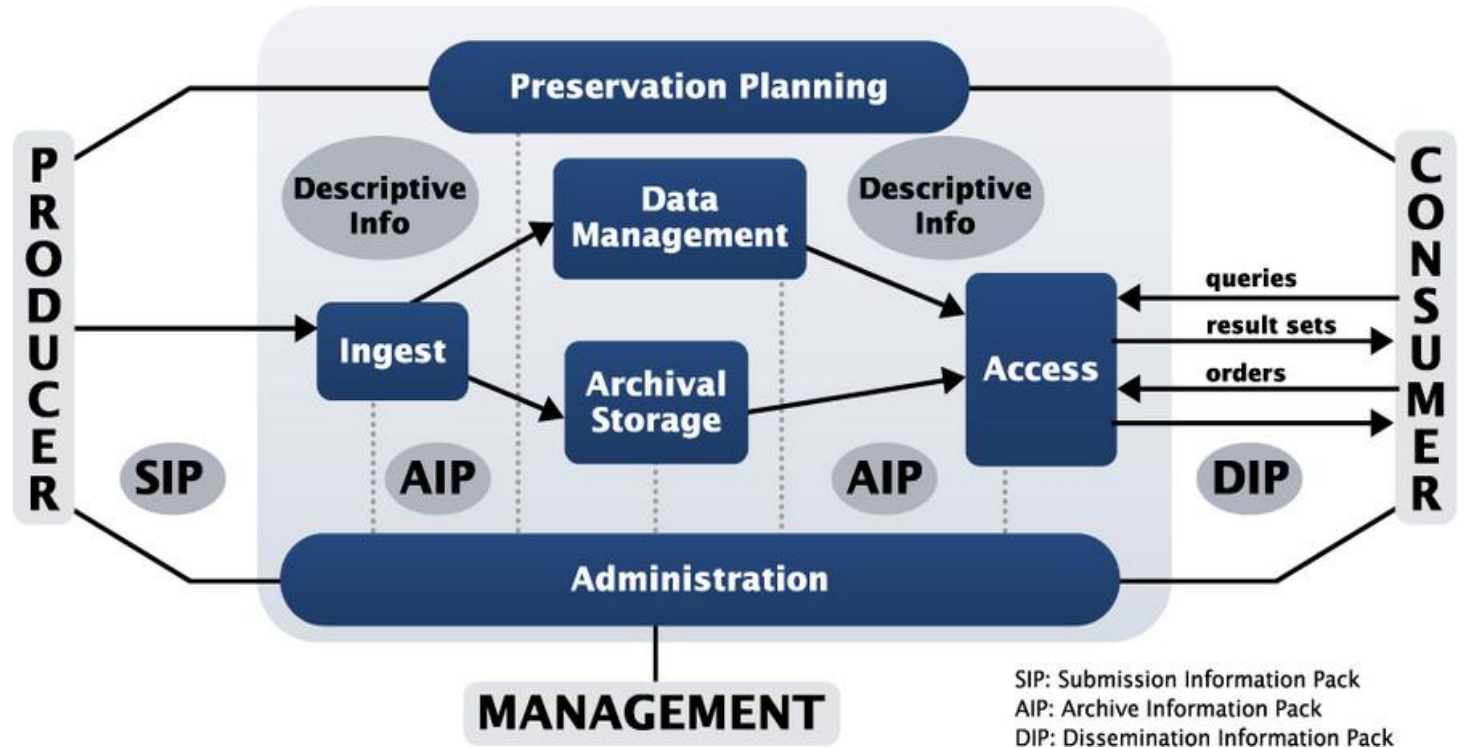
ANNEX

2. WORM & OAIS Referenzmodell für Archivsysteme

write once read many (WORM)
als technische Infrastruktur des Archivs



Offenes Archiv-Informationssystem ist ein Referenzmodell für
ein dynamisches, erweiterungsfähiges
Archivinformationssystem und der ISO-Standard 14721



Das OAIS-Referenzmodell und WORM-Speicher, müssen firmenspezifisch umgesetzt werden

Thank you