



Vision and Implementation Plan for a National Clearing House for Print Disabled Canadians

December 8th, 2002

Version 3.0

Agenda

- Background
- Interviewed
- Current State
- Issues and Challenges
- Vision
- Implementation Plan
- Next Steps

Project Background

- The Task Force recommended that the Government of Canada establish and fund a clearinghouse for e-text to which Canadian publishers must make their works available

Project Background

- The project objective was to:
 - Develop a Vision and Implementation plan for a National Clearing House for Print-Disabled Canadians that:
 - Develops the framework for the overall strategy, identifies key issues and opportunities, and assesses overall readiness
 - Will act as the foundation for the pilot project for the clearinghouse for e-text to which Canadian publishers make their works available to alternate format producers

Interviewed

- National Library
- CNIB
- Industry Canada
- Association of Canadian Publishers (ACP)
- Canadian Publishing Council (CPC)
- AccessCopyright
- CAER
- Regroupement des aveugles et amblyopes du Québec (RAAQ)
- St. Mary's University
- McClelland & Stewart
- Key Porter Books
- Dundurn Press
- Pearson Canada
- Bob Fenton
- Learning Disabilities Association of Canada

Current State

- There are a number of different organizations producing alternate format material for the Anglophone and Francophone print disabled community
- All groups involved are moving to a digital text and book model
 - Still in its early stages of development
- All groups show an interest in participating in a National Clearing House program that:
 - Represents the interests of the print disabled community;
 - Protects the rights of the copyright holders; and
 - Streamlines the process for Alternate Format Producers to access digital files

Issues and Challenges

- Copyright Act in a state of change
- No national format for E-text
- Publisher's e-files are in many different formats
- There are 2 streams of books to be transformed
 - Straight text
 - Complex instructional material made up of text and graphics
- Digital Rights Management (DRM) is still in development
- There is no standardized process for accessing material from publishers
 - Publisher dependent
 - Alternate format producer relationships
- There is no standardized process for access to alternative formats for the print disabled community

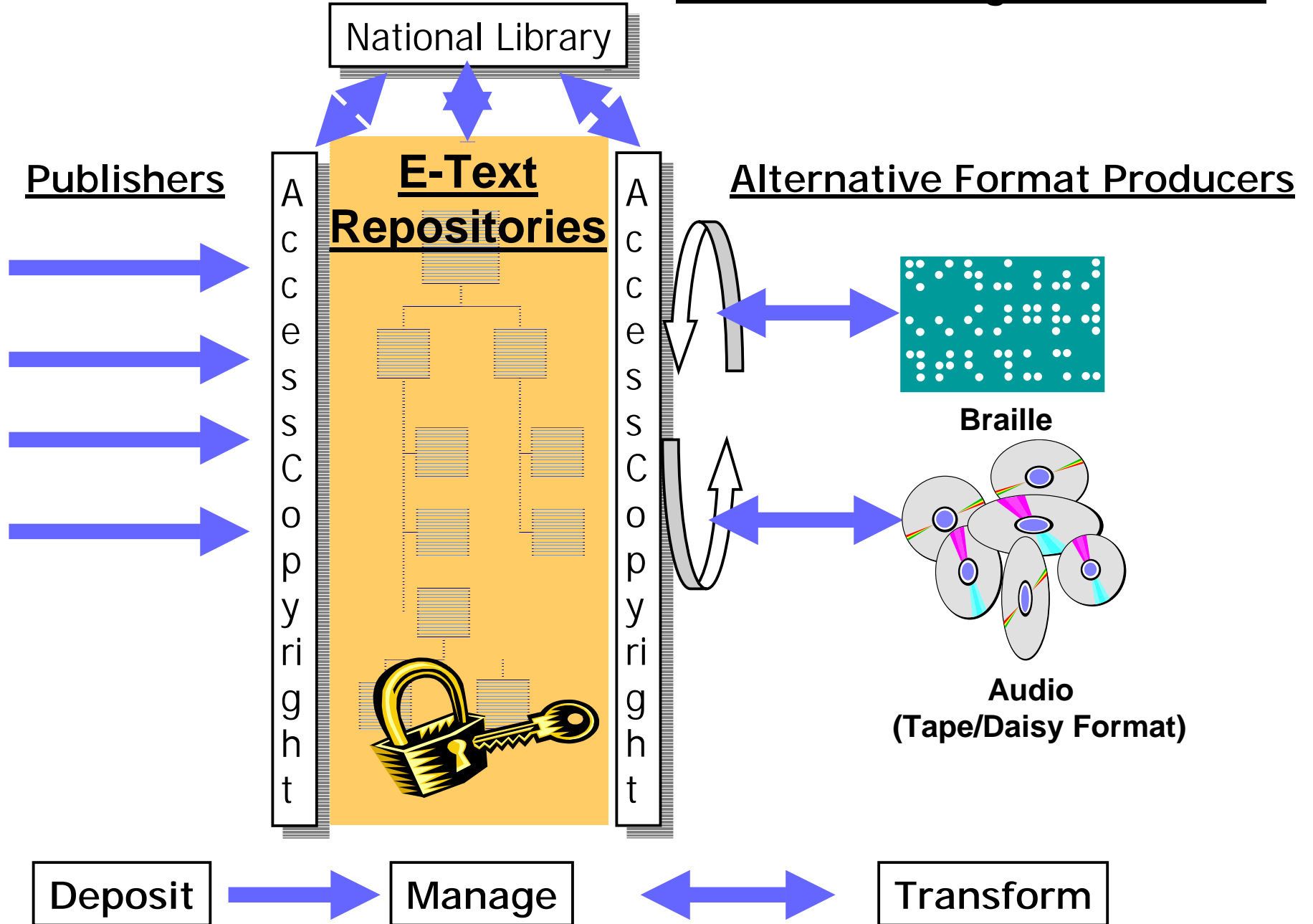
Vision

- Build a Publisher to Alternate Format Producer Clearing House
- Focus on building a Clearing House model that
 - Establishes a clear relationship for exchange of E-text between publishers and alternate format producers across Canada
 - Protects the licensing rights of publishers and authors
 - Deals with the Digital Rights Management of the E-text
 - Defines a standard format for E-text masters
 - Builds repositories for the E-text masters and the alternative formats
- Takes advantage of the early stages of E-text development
- Build a Partnership that is made up of a consortium of players
 - National Library – Partner in charge
 - AccessCopyright – Access provider
 - Alternative Format Producers as the storage and transformation agents

Vision con't

- Provides consistent access between the publishers and alternate format producers through AccessCopyright
 - Puts an agreement in place that ensures access to the alternative format producers via AccessCopyright
 - Develops the licensing and rights management necessary
 - Ensures that all publishers are represented
- Build digital repositories
 - Work closely with the Alternate Format Producers to build multiple repositories that that will act as the transforming and storage repositories
- Develops a National Format
 - Work with the standards community on the development of a national standard format (e.g. DAISY NISO)
- Builds the capability, in a later phase, for Print Disabled Canadians to access and pay for the digital books and E-text

National Clearing House Vision



Benefits

- The Vision provides the following benefits:
 - Includes all parties currently involved in the production of alternate formats and distributes responsibilities based on their mandate
 - Leverages work currently going on in the development and management of E-books/E-text
 - The National Clearing House can be built in phases
 - Costs can be minimized as the vision leverages the work planned or underway by the participants

Implementation Plan

- Implement over a two-year period
- Work with the current milestones of all of the participants and standards groups to establish
 - Copyright Act requirements
 - Digital Rights Management standardization
 - E-text format Standardization
 - Digital Libraries
- Put in place a funding model to support the coordination of the program and assist in funding the development of the Clearing House and the agreements

Implementation Plan con't

- Step One – Build the Agreements
 - Establish the consortium (governance)
 - Establish a team to coordinate and manage
 - Develop the legal agreements to:
 - Ensure publishers deliver e-text/e-files
 - Ensure AccessCopyright provides access to alternate format publishers and publishers

Implementation Plan con't

- Step Two – Design the Clearing House
 - Develop the design and process models of the Clearing House
 - Develop a pilot to test all of the components
 - Submission of files
 - Transformation
 - Storage
 - Access
 - Licensing
 - Format

Implementation Plan con't

- Step Three – Develop the Clearing House
 - Develop the full model
 - Build it in phases based on the readiness of the consortium partners

Next Steps

- Write the report on the National Clearing House Vision
- Detail the implementation plan and costing
- Develop the terms of reference for the consortium
- Establish a subcommittee to look at the access for print disabled Canadians