

Annex 5

Implementation of proposed solutions through *eContentplus* projects: the ARROW project as an example.

It should be noted that a consortium of stakeholder representatives has filed applications under the European Commission *eContentplus* program to *inter alia* implement solutions developed by the Copyright Subgroup for the i2010 Digital libraries initiative. One such project application is referred to as ARROW (Accessible Registries of Rights information on Orphan Works for the EDL). It focuses on print material and has been shortlisted by the European Commission for negotiations of a final contract. Subject to a contract being signed project start is anticipated between July and September 2008.

The Arrow consortium involves six National and one University libraries; three publishers' associations; one authors' association; three technology developers and ISBN agencies; seven Reproduction Rights Organisations (RRO); and the three international organisations European Digital Library (EDL), Federation of European Publishers (FEP) and International Federation of Reproduction Rights Organisations (IFRRO). In addition the European Writers Congress (EWC) has been invited to attend the steering committee without being a formal partner.

The project takes as a starting point challenges posed by the fact that national solutions vary according to different criteria such as cultural and economic requirements, commercial practices, publishing arenas, library infrastructure and legislative frameworks. Also, current resources are not interoperable, neither nationally nor across borders, and rarely include information on rights ownership and status.

Key aspects of the ARROW project include the enabling of interoperability of resources *inter alia* based on the key principles for databases and rights clearance centres proposed by the Copyright Subgroup and the deployment of different tools. The project aims to deliver an interoperable right information and clearance structure across Europe that will facilitate the identification of rightholders and the status of intellectual property rights to works. Test beds are provided for the out-of-print Model Agreements, for the criteria for diligent search to rightholders to orphan works as well as registries and rights clearance mechanisms for orphan and out-of-print works.

The project is based on a broad stakeholder involvement, private-public partnership and a true pan European dimension. It also involves a broad specter of European Union Member States. It will enable to try out in practice the solutions proposed by the Copyright Subgroup with the view to later refine them and adopt them better to the requirements revealed through the implementation of them in actual and real situations.

The link between the work of the Copyright Subgroup and the ARROW project may be illustrated as follows:

EC i2010 Digital Libraries

- A summary



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