

stenoNet®

Interconnection of Dictation Technology with Cases and Projects over Global Networks
 Today's requirements for recording of individual audio information by Public Authorities go far beyond centralized capture, storage and typing reports at all levels of State Governance. Working in local and transregional communication networks is no longer the domain of private corporations and global players: State owned companies, ministries, public services, legal prosecution, law courts, hospitals and clinics, universities, governmental agencies and embassies also want to get the benefits from today's innovative, mobile communication technology, because the necessary prerequisite to a well performing governmental organization is the availability of real-time reporting in its precise wording, within the shortest time possible, allowing for immediate distribution of the results of personal investigations, individual decisions and specific case studies.

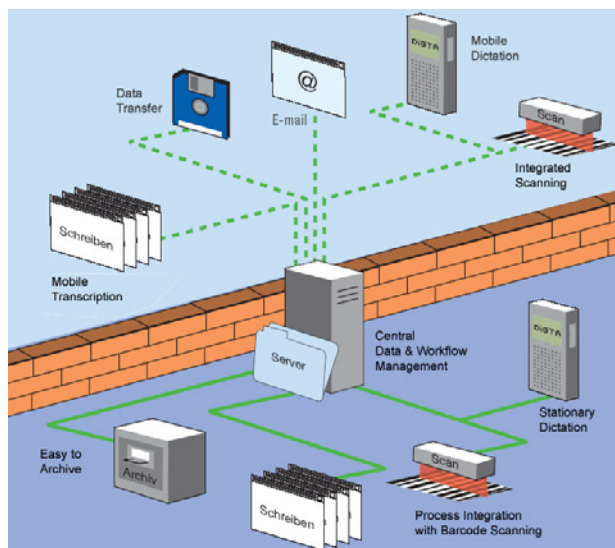


Figure 1: Connecting dictation with cases and projects

The integration of personal voice recording into governance processes fulfils two basic goals:

Effectiveness of the internal workflow by means of:

- Integration of voice recording into existing or planned information systems without any organisational discontinuity,
- Online recording of personal dictations, and
- Underplayed simultaneous transcription into text form.

Efficiency of publication by means of

- Multimedia information systems,
- Automated typesetting,
- Continuous publication of recorded data into an Intranet and/or the Internet, and
- Automatic publication of recorded texts as brochures or CD-ROMs, thus allowing for enhanced quality and actuality of the information recorded.

To fulfil these goals one had to find an advanced system allowing for transcribing and publishing recorded statements, as only digital recording and publication systems enable the archiving of audio data in conjunction with the associated hyperlinks, as well as their transcription into text form and a targeted search for next passages by means of keywords or search engines.

In its endeavour to find the most qualified supplier of any of its systems' building blocks, **eGovern** was in search of a company being in a position to provide dictation equipment not only as a user-friendly stand-alone system but also as part of a fully comprehensive information and communication infrastructure. **eGovern**, therefore, had to look out for a company with a well established technical background focused on innovation, quality and design to satisfy the needs of the most demanding Public Management users.

In its "Search of Excellence" in digital audio recording, **eGovern** was lucky to meet with **GRUNDIG Business Systems**, the leading European developer and producer of digital (and analogue) dictation systems and to pass an agreement entitling **eGovern** to distribute **GRUNDIG Business Systems'** dictation solutions worldwide to any of its governmental customers, which covers a wide range of users, such as:

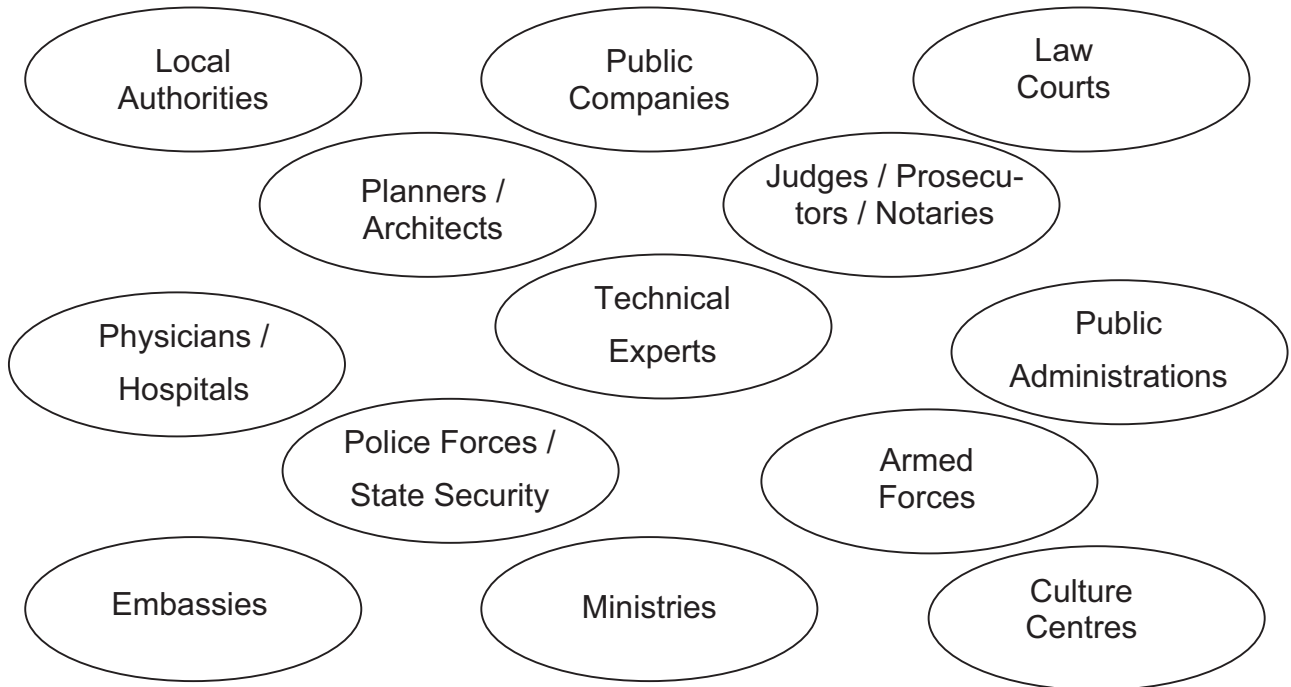


Figure 2: The wide range of typical government users of dictation equipment

stenoNet[®] is a network-oriented dictation system which is based on a modular architecture, offering suitable modules for every requirement. A combination of network connectivity allows for linking-up existing, customer-specific infrastructures such as LAN or WAN based networks with the central **stenoNet**[®] system administration. Depending on the user's requirements, he can dictate from either a fixed workstation or from a portable dictation device. Author and typist have a number of user-friendly functions available, e.g. work comments from the author to the typist, which can be transmitted in parallel to the dictation. By introducing user-specific format templates, typing can be better organized.

stenoNet[®]'s Communication Architecture

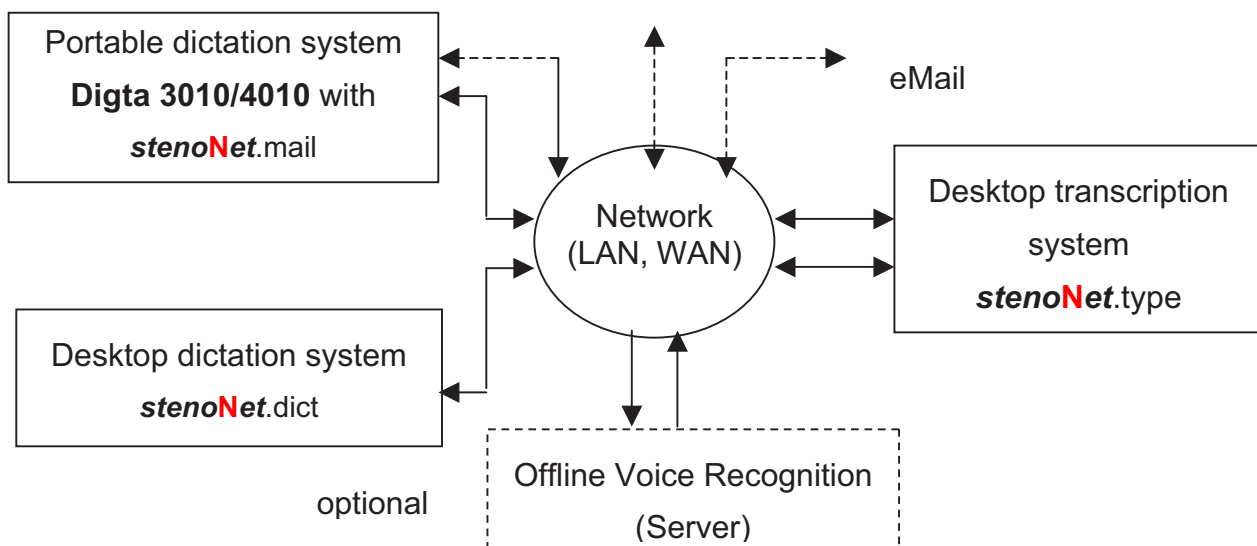


Figure 3: A combination of network connectivity and hardware

By means of additionally data compression according to the “**DSS**” format (**D**igital **S**peech **S**tandard, developed by **GRUNDIG Business Systems**), **stenoNet**[®] guarantees the long term usability of software and hardware investments by means of its upgrade capability via the Internet.

Examples of Application Cases

Health organisations

- In medical hospitals or at the doctors' dictation is a key process. After examination of the patient and profound analysis the MD has to write down and to integrate his findings and medical recommendations into patient files
- Imagine a hospital of hundreds of MD's who dictate at least hundred times per week and see the importance of professional digital dictation support in this sector
- Hospitals often employ more than 200 MDs. To equip MDs and secretaries in such hospitals with dictation sets and transcriptions sets can easily generate sales of € 150.000.

Law firms and justice

- In law firms dictation is a key process as well. Lawyers often spend most of their time dictating and thus doing their correspondence to clients, counter-parties and the court. Dictating hundreds of pages per week is very common
- Imagine the sales potential to a law firm with branches in several towns with up to 150 lawyers and 250 transcriptionists. Sales can easily sum up to € 150.000
- ... and the same with the ministry of justice, federal, regional and local courts: daily hundreds of attorneys and judges dictating...

Service and industrial companies

- In large companies dictation helps to increase efficiency. Expensive top managers typing down their correspondence themselves is like burning money. Having the writing process or organised as professional dictation and transcription process reduces cost and frees top managers to do the job the are really paid for, which is definitely not typing
- Imagine the sales potential to a large organisation like an insurance or banking company or a large industrial company with some 150 managers and 150 secretaries. Sales can easily sum up to over € 100.000
- ... same with large organisations in the public sector...