Estonian example of integration e-government services

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I Introduction

eGovernment in Estonia got started by developing a functional architecture that includes:

- secure data transport backbone X-Road,
- distributed information systems functionality and
- different hardware and software components like portals, elements of public key infrastructure (PKI), governmental databases and information systems.

This is the very basis of hundreds of services that have been created today. The recent success with eGovernment services and the common architecture of eGovernment will be given in our presentation.

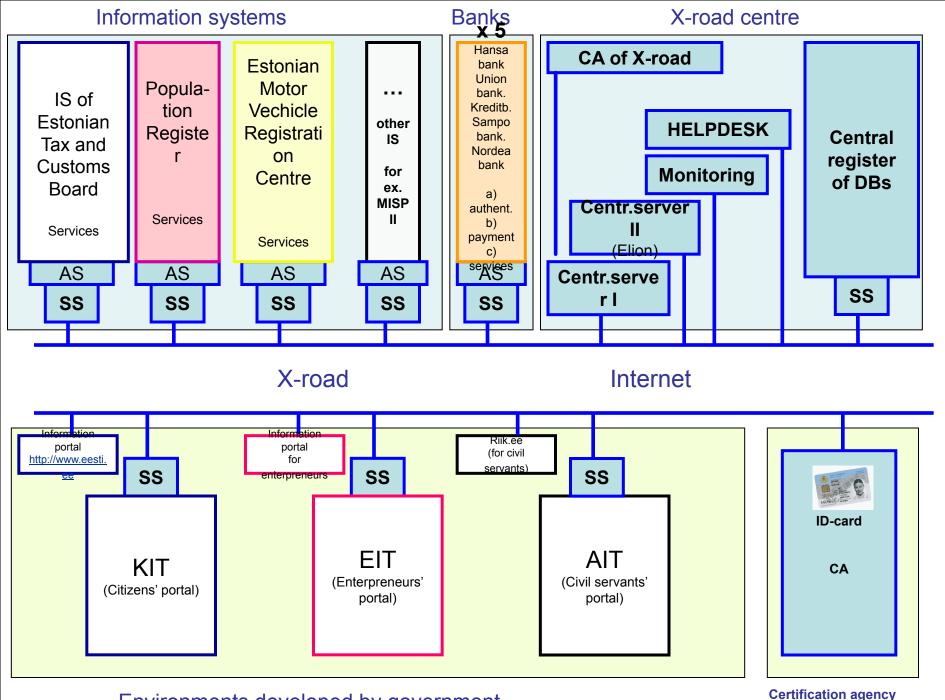
Il The general architecture of eGovernment environment in Estonia

The architecture of eGovernment was developed in the framework of the X-Road project.

X-Road project was preliminarily initiated for interconnecting Estonian governmental databases to the common data resource accessible over the Internet.

After the successful start of sending database queries and answers over the Internet, the X-Road environment was expanded to send all kinds of XML-format electronic documents securely over the Internet.

At the same time the X-Road started to become a skeleton of all the eGovernment services.



Environments developed by government

3-layers architecture I

Services

Data transport X-road

Databases

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Technology			Components
III layer	WSDL UDDI	Services	Parential benefit My vehicles My penalties
II layer	SOAP XML RPC LDAP	Data traffic X-road	Security server Central server MISP Citizen portal
I layer	Oracle Progres MySQL	Databases	Traffic register Population register Passports register

III Results of Estonian eGovernment projects

During the last 3-4 years we have finished different IT projects for implementing eGovernment architecture in the public sector of Estonia. As the result of the mentioned projects, the following service portals, environments and frameworks are now available in Estonia:

- Special citizens web portal with db-services. Portal has won an award
 Finalist with Honourable Mentions of the eEurope awards for
 eGovernment 2003. The portals eServices will step-by-step be added
 to the citizen portal (KIT) in the nearest future;
- Framework of the facilities for using Estonian ID-card (over 70% of Estonian population has already an electronic ID-card) with PKI technology for identification, authorization and digital signature operations;
- Citizens, civil servants and entrepreneurs web portals with almost 700 different eServices from different Estonian central and local governments.

Later we will describe some of these environments projects more precisely.

IV Special citizens web portal with db-services

All services available through the citizen's portal have a common user interface, which is not dependent on a database management system for back office.

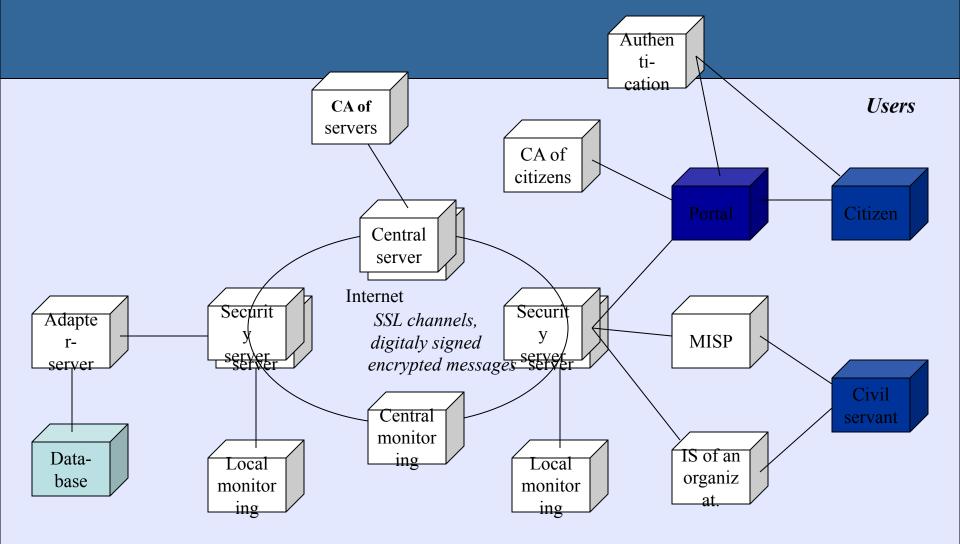
A standard authentication system for all citizens has been developed as well.

The set of standard services available include typical queries, such as:

"give me my data" from the population register;

"give me my data" from the motor vehicles register.

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Database processors

Functional scheme

V Estonian ID card and PKI infrastructure

The purpose of Estonian ID-card project was to use nation-wide electronic identity and develop a new personal identification card that would be a generally acceptable identification document and contain both visually and electronically accessible information.

The Estonian ID-card facilities:

- •The certificate inserted in the ID-card includes the personal identification code, which enables to identify the individual at once.
- A certificate, which enables to sign documents according to the Digital
- There signatures of ctimilar services in ellecanuntries (Belgium, Finland, Italy etc.), but using of ID-card services at large you can find in Estonia as in pilot country.

Estonian ID card



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VI eServices

The set of facilities for the IS, which are joined to the X-Road environment:

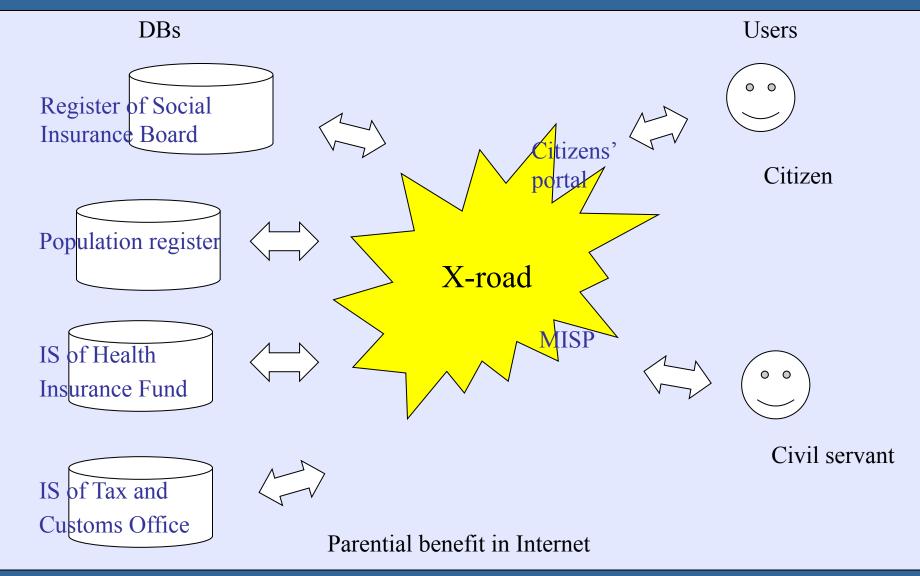
- Authentication (ID-card + 5 Internet bank services);
- Authorization;
- MISP (Mini Info System Portal) portal services;
- Simple queries to Estonian national databases;
- •The facilities for developing complex business model queries (queries to different databases and registers);
- The writing operation into databases;
- •The facility to send large amount of data (over 10Mb) from database

to database over the Internet;

- Secure data exchange, logs storing;
- Queries surveillance possibility;
- The integration with citizen portal for adding new services;
- •The integration with entrepreneurs portal for adding new services;
- Central and local monitoring;
- •The special databas and Pendrian services would descriptions.

VII Best practice

- Parential benefit in Internet
- 5 information systems interact the data
 - Citizens' portal
 - Register of Social Insurance Board (+MISP)
 - Population register
 - IS of Health Insurance Fund
 - IS of Tax and Customs Office



2nd Conf. on eServices in

eServices

- ePolice
- eHealth
- eElections
- •
- Internet-banking

Best practice for citizen

- Citizen can give applications over the Internet
- Citizen does not give data, which the IS knows anyway about the citizen
- Citizen does not fill long application documents and run from door to door
- A good example how the state has simplified the payment system

Best practice for civil servant

- Civil servant is free from revising mountains of paper documents (7)
- Civil servant is free from inputting the data from paper documents
- Civil servant is free from checking data in different databases
- Civil servant can start the process by inputting only the personal code of client
- There does not exist any paper applications at all

VIII Statistics

At the moment we have following clients:

Organizations: Number of agreements – ~366

Databases/Service providers:

All service providers: 69

Security servers:

Number of agreements for SS: 80

Statistics

Services:

The number services from all the X-road service providers ~700

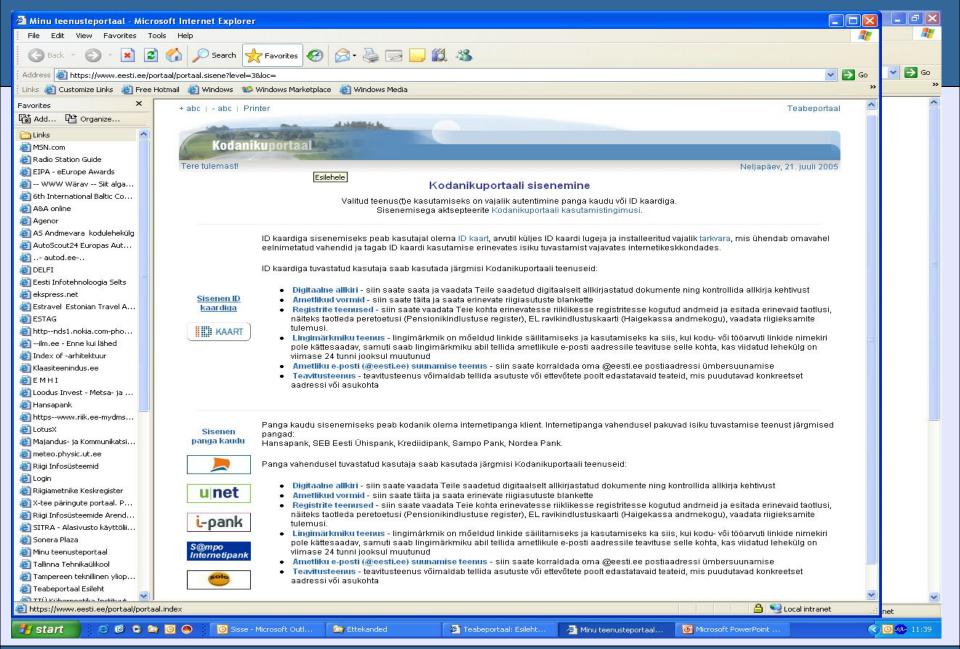
The statistics of usage:

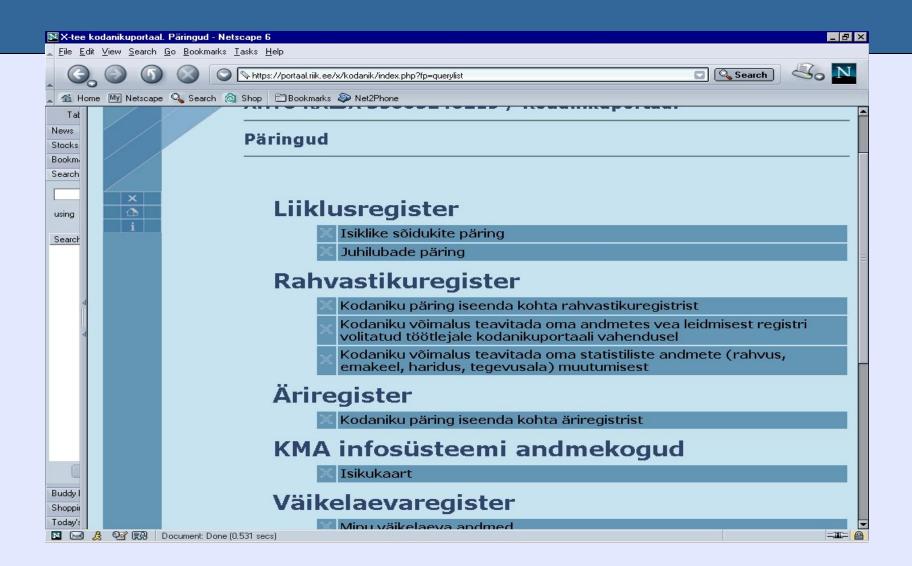
- During the year 2003, the total number of X-road queries was: 590 000.
- Number of queries made via the X-road in 2004: over 7.75 million
- Daily record of queries in 2004: 118 000 queries per day
- Number of queries made via the X-road in 2005: over 13.45 million

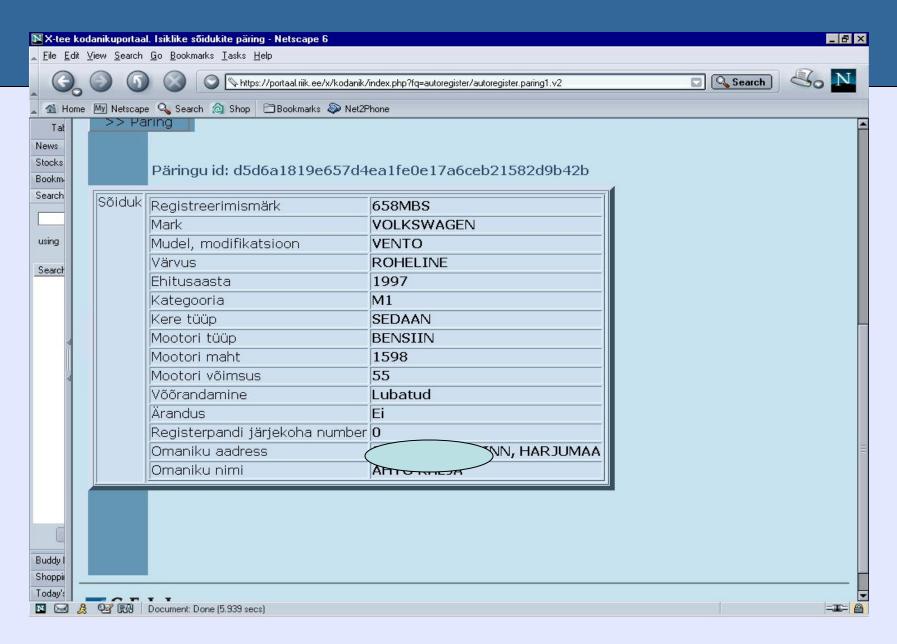
IX Conclusions

We are sure that our projects for eGovernment framework development and portals are making significant contributions to the process of moving towards the information society. Our environment represents Estonian and European best practice in the application and usage of new technologies in order to provide eServices to citizens, to civil servants and to entrepreneurs.

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Thank you!

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