PRAGMA

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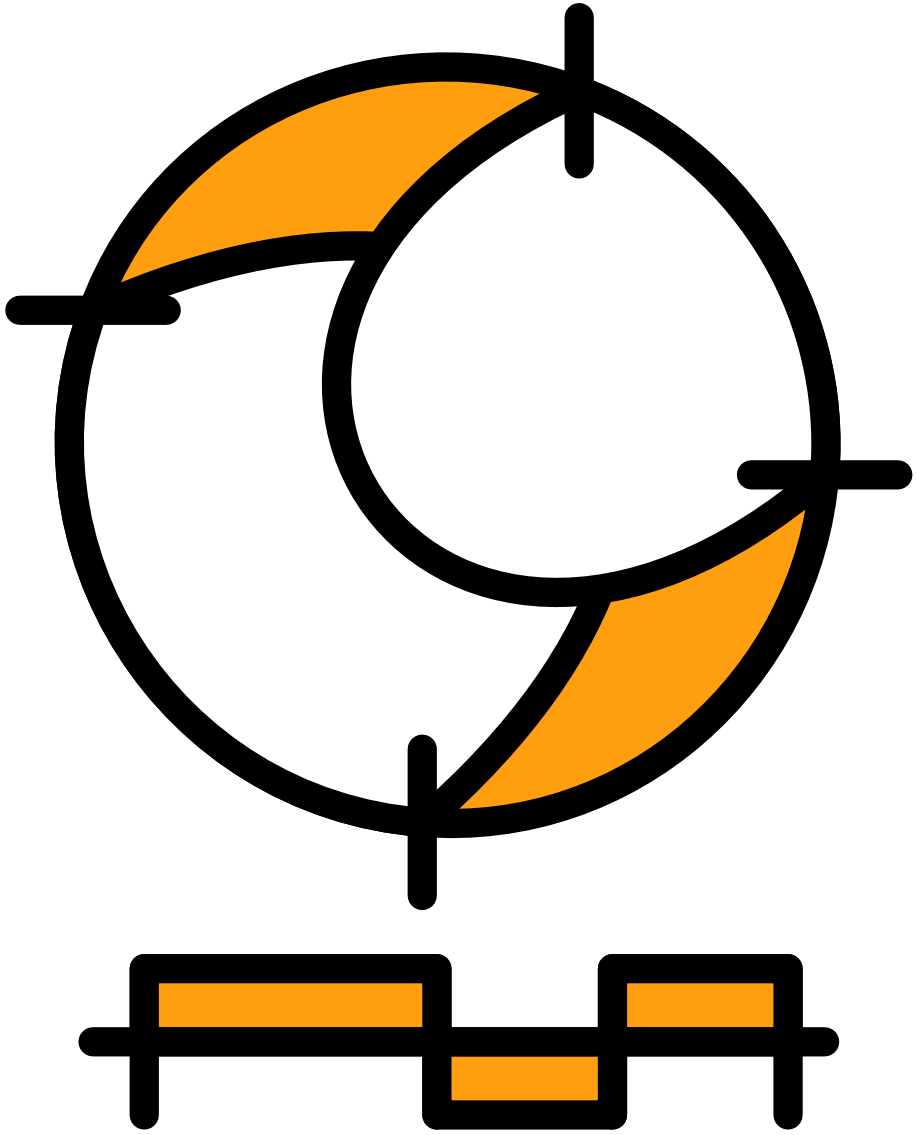

document

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engineering

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Your situation

You are a manager of information and you publish this information by means of extensive loose leave books and manuals and you supply your customers with frequent updates. Your customers appreciate your frequent updating of the content.

The desired situation

You don't want to publish on paper only, but you want to make use of the new technologies. You are thinking of information distribution via CDROM in combination with internet and intranet applications.

Your wishes

The distribution of the information on paper and electronically via CDROM, internet or intranet must have an informative and qualitative added value for your customers.

The requirements

You demand: ▸ a tagged source for your information ▸ a transparant production proces ▸ a paper and electronic version ▸ a frequent (daily) update of the electronic version ▸ an efficient electronic distribution format ▸ a simple method of maintenance ▸ a cost effective solution.

You recognize one or more of the following obstacles: ▸ The information is stored and maintained in some platform dependent format. ▸ Your organisation must learn how to cope with the new technologies and methods. ▸ The IT department understands your wishes but has no affinity with document management the way you do. ▸ Your earlier experiences with electronic publishing are very disappointing.

A solution

You contact PRAGMA ADE to discuss the possibilities for your information production and distribution.

The motivation

The electronic documents that PRAGMA ADE has developed thusfar are characterized by a high level of typographical output and a well defined screen layout. These documents are designed in such a way that the information can be retrieved quite easily. The documents contain built in interfaces, accessability and navigational tools.

PRAGMA ADE works with a document managment and production system that allows us to maintain the sources in a tagged format. The paper version that is generated from these sources is of a higher typographical standard than you are used to. The electronic documents are generated in a platform independent format and are ready for distribution on CDROM, internet and intranet.

PRAGMA ADE

PRAGMA ADE produces paper and electronic documents, like learning materials, quality manuals, technical manuals and periodicals.

The electronic documents are supplied in the PDF–format and therefore can be distributed on CDROM, computer networks and internet.

Examples of the electronic products that PRAGMA ADE has developed thusfar are: ▸ manuals ▸ learning materials and study books ▸ lawbooks ▸ word books and lexicons ▸ adress and telephone guides ▸ periodicals and magazines ▸ quality manuals and technical reference manuals ▸ product catalogi and ▸ information systems that contain several documents.

These documents are generated automatically from ML–sources, databases or —after a manual conversion— wordprocessors.

During the development of these products PRAGMA ADE takes care of the structure, the layout for paper and screen versions and the accessability (interactivity, hyperlinks). We also provide an optimal interaction between the user and the document content via well designed user interface.

For source managment, document production and maintenance PRAGMA ADE uses the document production system CONTEXT, the typographic programming language TEX and programs of the Acrobat–family of Adobe Systems Inc.

PRAGMA ADE develops the documents for third parties on a project basis and is also providing the service to maintain and distribute the products. PRAGMA ADE also supports an organisation when it decides to take care of maintenance of the sources.

The Portable Document Format

There are many formats to distribute the electronic documents but PRAGMA ADE has chosen for the Portable Document Format (PDF) of Adobe Systems Inc. This choice was made because the format: ▸ is (more or less) platform independent ▸ is a documented standard ▸ enables printing on demand ▸ enables high quality viewing on screen ▸ is efficient in electronic distribution ▸ supports layout and content integrity ▸ is editable (when necessary) ▸ supports some document security elements ▸ can be viewed by free software viewers ▸ has viewers that are extendable by Plug–Ins.

More information

More information on the issues that were mentioned above can be obtained from the PRAGMA ADE site. You will find there examples of the products PRAGMA ADE has developed. But you are also welcome to contact us directly by phone or email.

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