DIFMET, soprano product dissemination system

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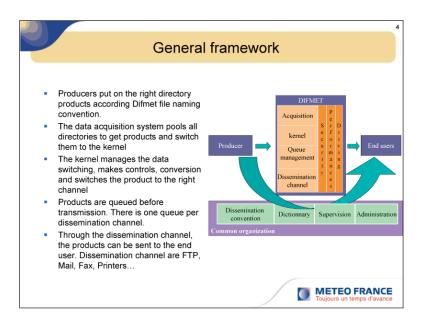
Sending many products in a very short time using e-mail, fax, ftp, sms, and voice messages is one of the main issues to be tackled by our production department. For a global answer, Meteo France has decided to develop a new product dissemination system, called "Difmet", with all these functionalities available at the same time. Difmet will be used by Meteo France central production system SOPRANO but also by the regional production systems.

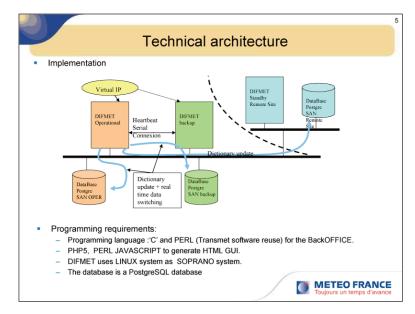
Difmet will be able to manage high volume of data with high availability. It will use a structured product identifier for an easiest control and sharp products identification. The main functions will be switching, queuing and priority management, data conversion, reemission, storage. The monitoring interface will offer facilities to control and prevent saturation, follow the production and the products delivery to Meteo-France customers.

Difmet should be in operation by the end of 2008.

Why a new dissemination tool? The new Production system SOPRANO needs features to send a high amount of products through the new protocols: SMS, E-MAIL, Voice messages... For a full production management, each product shall be followed during all its dissemination until the end user. For a faster reactivity, the new dissemination tool shall be able to offer producer features to set up itself this dissemination. The new framework has to offer flexibilities in the products file naming from one end to the other end. Our actual MSS does not offer these functionalities.

DIFMET main functionalities Used by Meteo France central production system SOPRANO and also by the regional production systems. - for all Product type (customized products, raw products) - in push mode, directly to the end user or through a provider (for example SMS issue) Allows high volume of data management with increased availability Allows sending of a lot of products in a very short time Difmet has to provide features to define a product identifier for an easier control and sharp products identification Difmet will be handling different priorities for the different reception files. Difmet will provide international language switching.



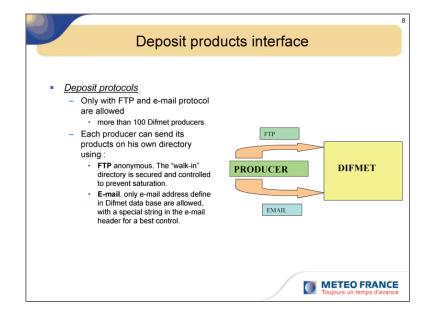




File naming convention

- To simplify the description by the producer, Difmet uses a simplified file naming ,WMO identifier compliant
- The Difmet file naming is structured as below:
 - < productidentifier >.[<checksum>].<extension>
- For example: fr-meteofrancetoulouse,SYNOP,MAIN+HOURS,200610000000,RRA.html
- Difmet file naming extension : txt,Html,Tiff,rtf,ps,pdf,gif,jpg,mpg,wav,png,mp3,xls,doc,avi,xml,Tar, zip, gz,zip,bin





Processing mode - dictionary

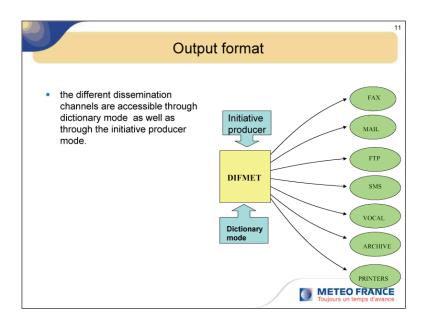
- Dictionary Mode : Products description is known in the Difmet data base:
 - Product identifier, product policies, archive time, special processing, end user description...
 - Same dictionary for all Difmet administrators but with different view according to administrator policies.
 - Each administrator could manage this dictionary view through a web interface.



Processing mode - Initiative producer

- The products are put on Difmet acquisition system with a command file
 - XML file (.met extension).
 - File and command file are "Tared" for an easier processing
- The command file contains all the routing description and Difmet directives to process and send products to the end user.
- The system will be able to process .tar and .zip files transparently.
 This information will be explicit in the associated command file.
- In initiative producer mode, the switching consistency is under producer's responsibility.



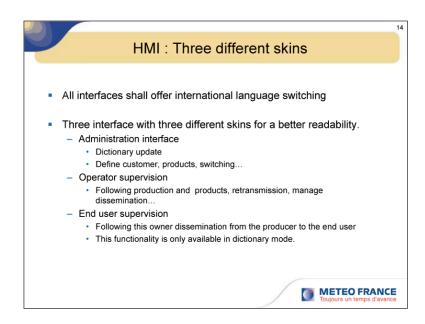


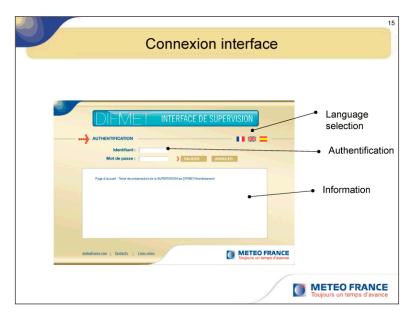
Supervision

- Diffnet system will be supervised in real time by operators from Meteo France central production but also by the regional production system operators.
- For example:
 - Incoming data flow
 - Conversion tasks,
 - Processing and archiving tasks
 - Dissemination multi-channels
- The « real time » supervision duration is around 1 minute but the update operator interface could be customized easily.
- For regional production issues, the supervision interface will provide features to consult and manage their production.



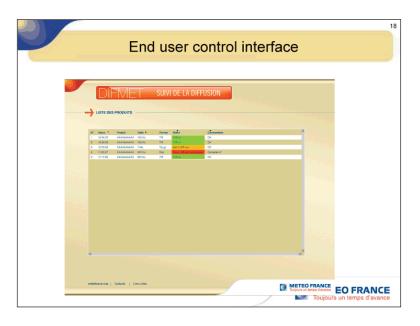
Administration interface Difmet offers features to manage the system with two administration levels A central administration for the main Meteo France production center with all rights on Difmet system, i.e. switching dictionary, end user directory, conversion tasks, different processing, storage... A local administration for regional production with features to manage the production within their area of responsibility.











Difmet Project

- All the requirements are defined and validated
- Difmet software development is started
 - For BackOffice
 - For FrontOffice
- Difmet should be in operation by the end of 2008
- By now, no expected delay on the development schedule.

