Repository Development Center (RDC)

Office of Strategic Initiatives

Babak Hamidzadeh, Director

What we do

- Build & deploy to production, processes and software systems that enable management of digital collections in their lifecycle.
- Digital Collections lifecycle includes:
  - Production
  - Selection
  - Transfer
  - Preservation
  - Access

Our Vision

- Build tools for librarians and archivists to operate (not for technologists to operate).
  - User interfaces become important
- Design & build to scale & to reduce cost
  - Less forensics & manual processing over time
- Human in many of the links in the loop (semi-automated?)
  - Workflows become important

Our Vision

- One monolithic system is unlikely to work for all content types, formats & uses
  - Interoperability, interfaces & standards become important
- Requirements come in small, varying packages, over time.
  - Iterative development & deployment become important
- Expose content (at item level)!
  - Websites, portals & access applications become less important

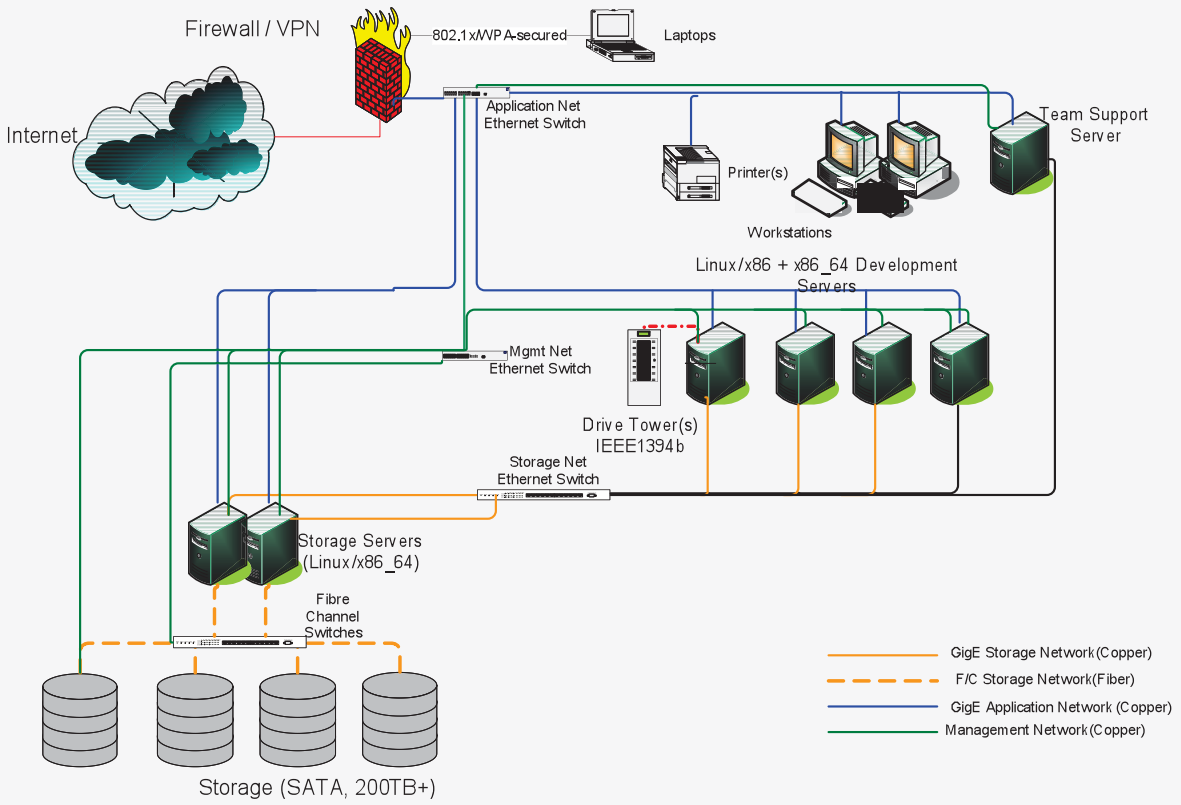
Team

- Technical project management
- Software development
- Software quality assurance
- System operations and maintenance
- System deployment

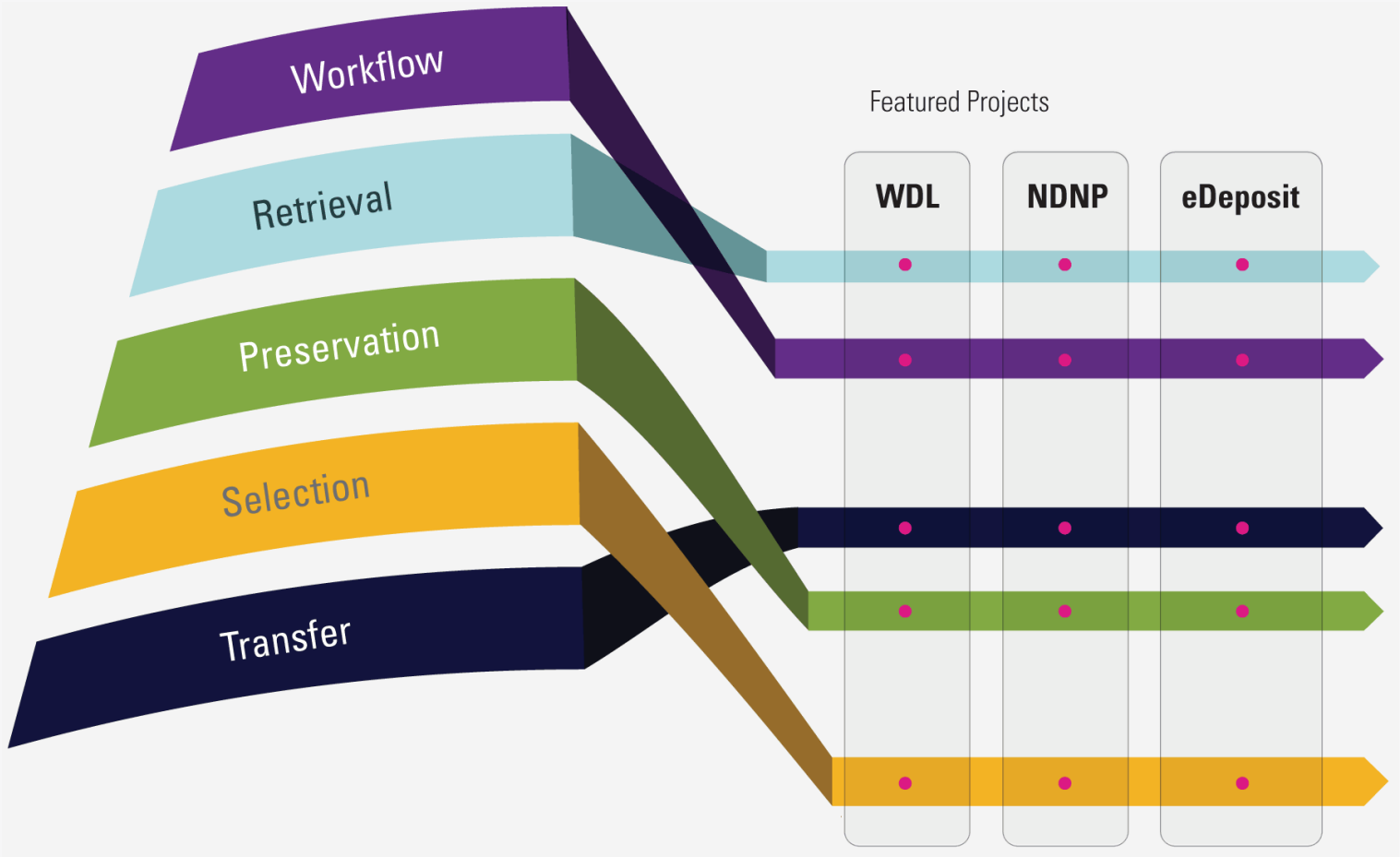
Process

- Project Charter
- Requirements Document
- Technical Development
- Deployment Plan

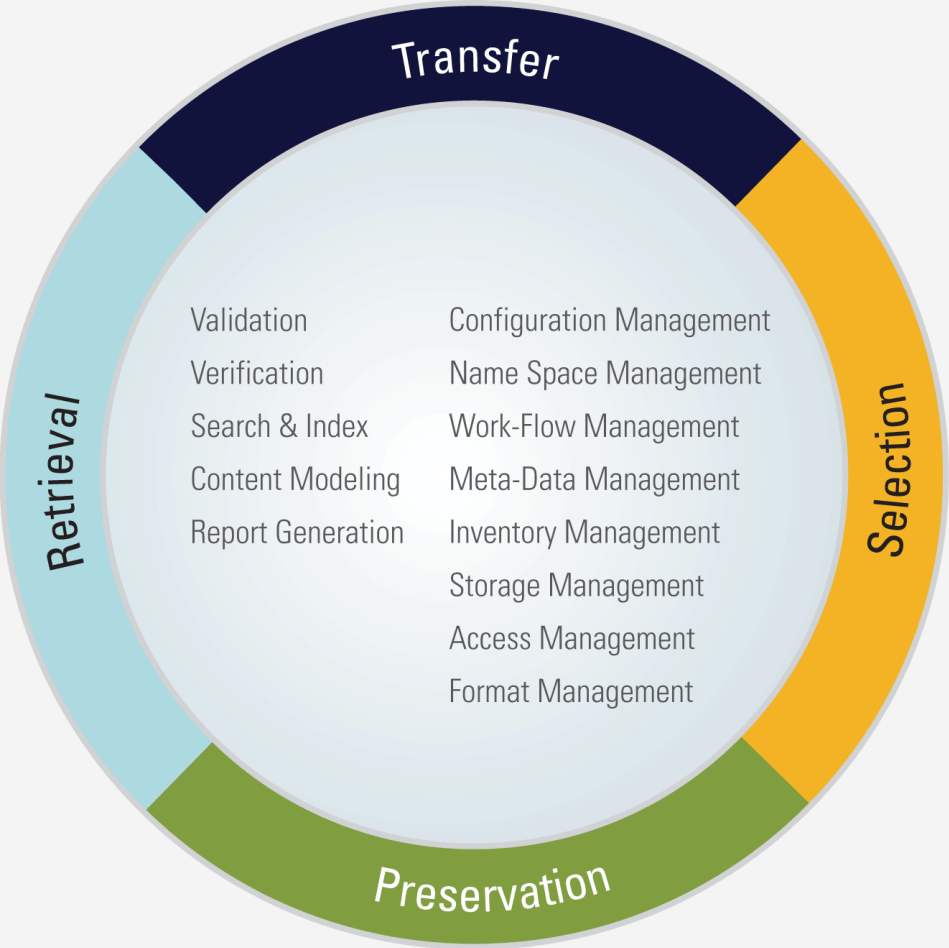
Development Environment



REPOSITORY SERVICES



REPOSITORY COMPONENTS



Repository Attributes

- Unique, consistent & persistent identifiers
- Consistent file system structures across collections
- Initially, tools using simple file & directory operations
- Inventory of all digital objects, their associated files & their integrity information
- Audits based on the inventory system
- In-severable, two-way link between items & their meta-data

Repository Attributes

- Ability to recognize & validate formats
- Semantic content models for preservation & access
- Ability to salvage files/objects independently of repository or other software
- Versioning for content, meta-data and identifiers
- Automated ingest in production, by operators
- Access vs Preservation: Separate mechanisms, formats

PROGRAMS

- Digital Content Transfer
- National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP)
- World Digital Library (WDL)
- eDeposit

Digital Content TRANSFER

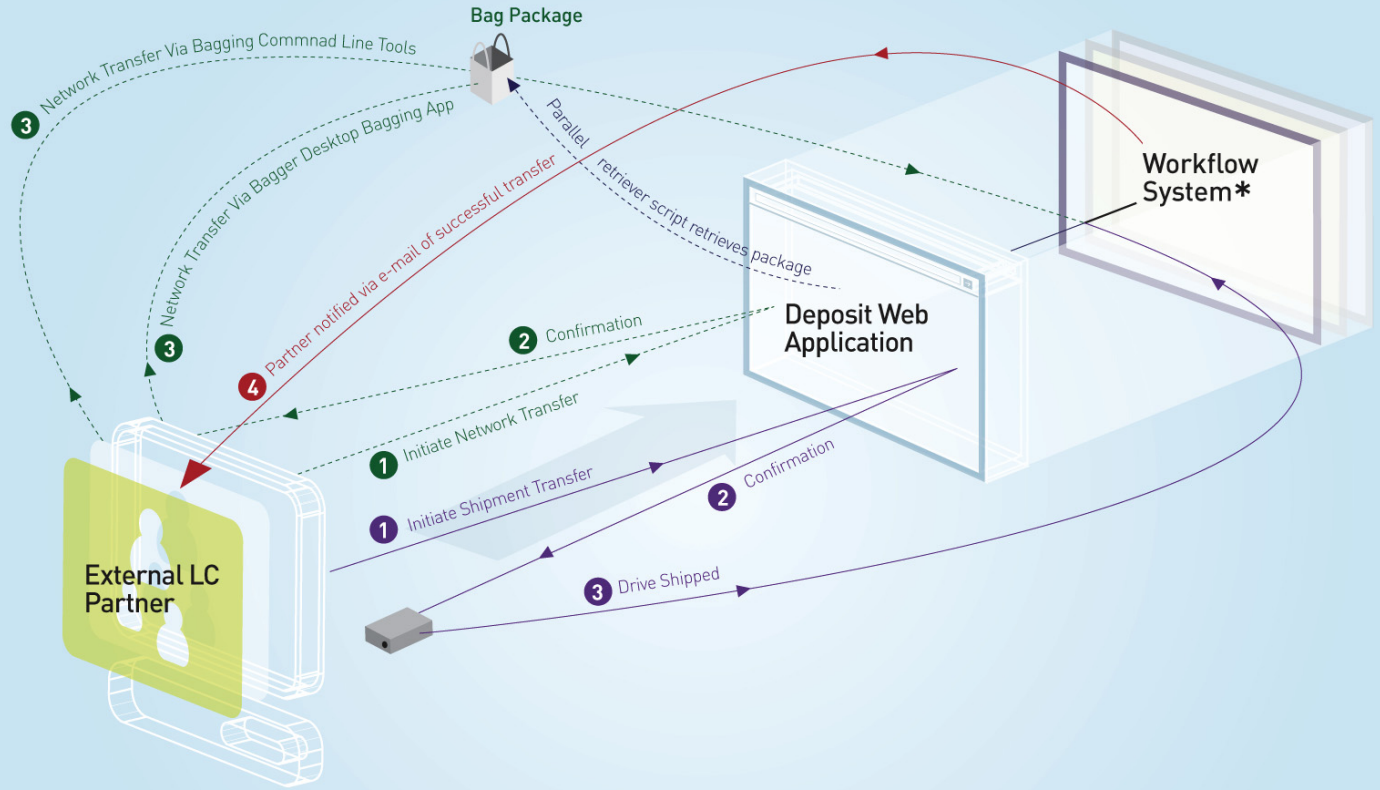
Overview

- Basic repository service to allow movement of large-scale digital content between entities (e.g. persons, organizations).
- Content type agnostic.
- Ensures content integrity.
- Maintains an inventory of content received.
- Does not require high technical capability from the sender.
- Accommodates organizations' workflows.

TRANSFER TOOLS

- BagIt: A content packaging specification for file transfers.
- Bagger: Graphical desktop application to create/update/validate Bags.
- LoCDrop: Web application to register transfers.
- Workflow System: Reconfigurable tool to capture & enforce various content transfer scenarios.
- Inventory System: Tool to inventory Bags, files, their locations, file integrity information, & lifecycle events (e.g. moving, copying, creation of derivatives).
- Parallel Retriever: Tool to exploit available network bandwidth for Bag transfer.
- VerifyIt: Application to verify file integrity during transfer.
- BagIt Library (BIL): Used for application & command line tool development.

Process & Control Flow



LEGEND

Network Transfer

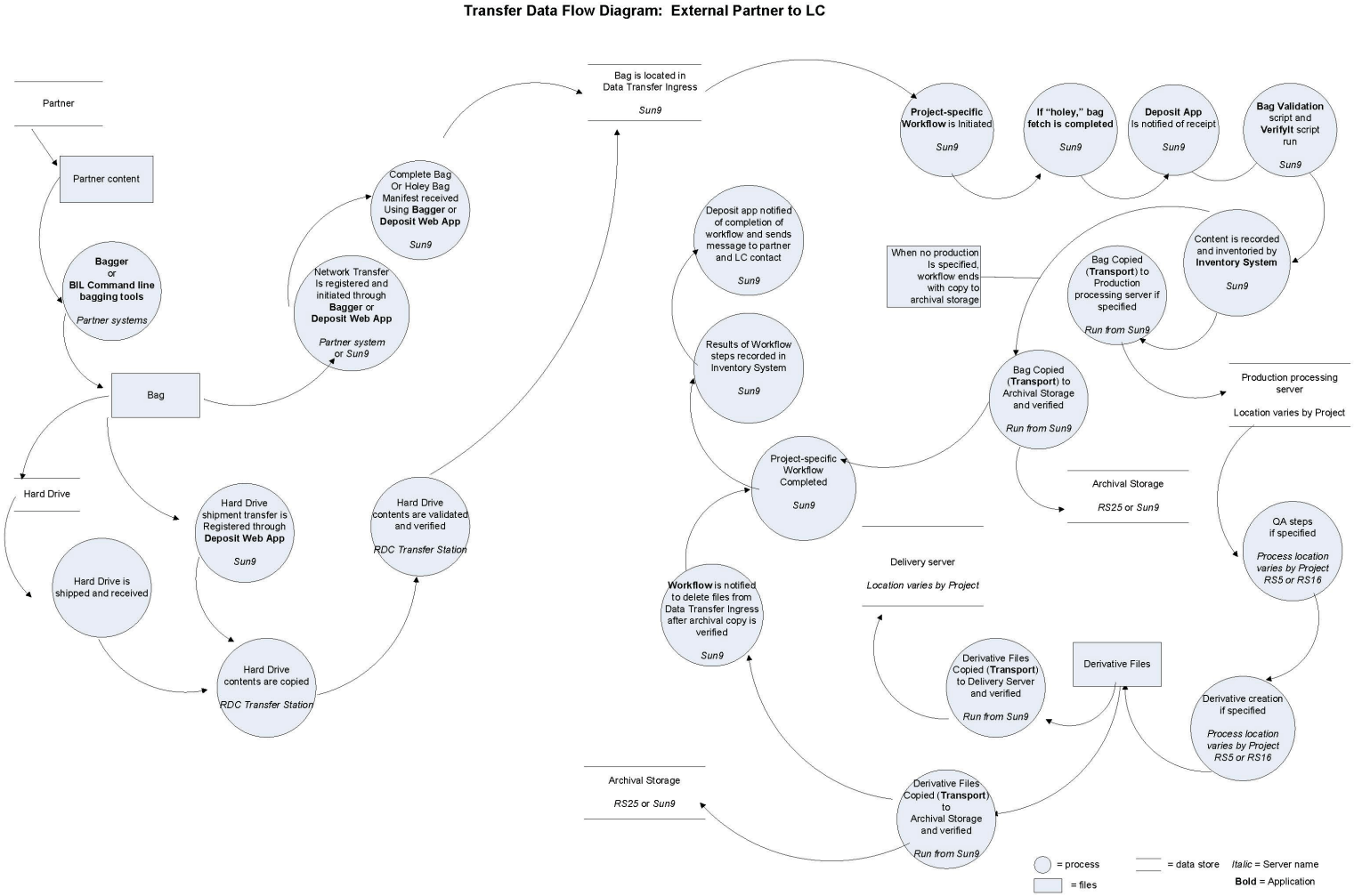
Shipping Transfer

*** Workflow System**

Appropriate project-based **Workflow UI** (NDNP, NDIIPP, Internet Archive Capture,eDeposit, etc) launched.

Tasks vary by project, but includes **Bag validation** using Bag Validator script, file fixity checking using **Verifyit** script, format validation using JHOVE or DW, transport of files to a production server, and transport of files to Sun29 for archival storage

DATA FLOW & WORK FLOWS



STATUS

- BagIt in use in several institutions (e.g. Portico, CDL, IA).
- LC's first Open Source software release via SourceForge.
- 30 Tb received from NDIIPP partners
- 20 Tb received in web crawls from the Internet Archive
- Dozens of hard drives received with licensed, partner & vendor-supplied content
- Content was in all types and formats.
- From 10 GB to over 2 Tb in a single transfer over the network.

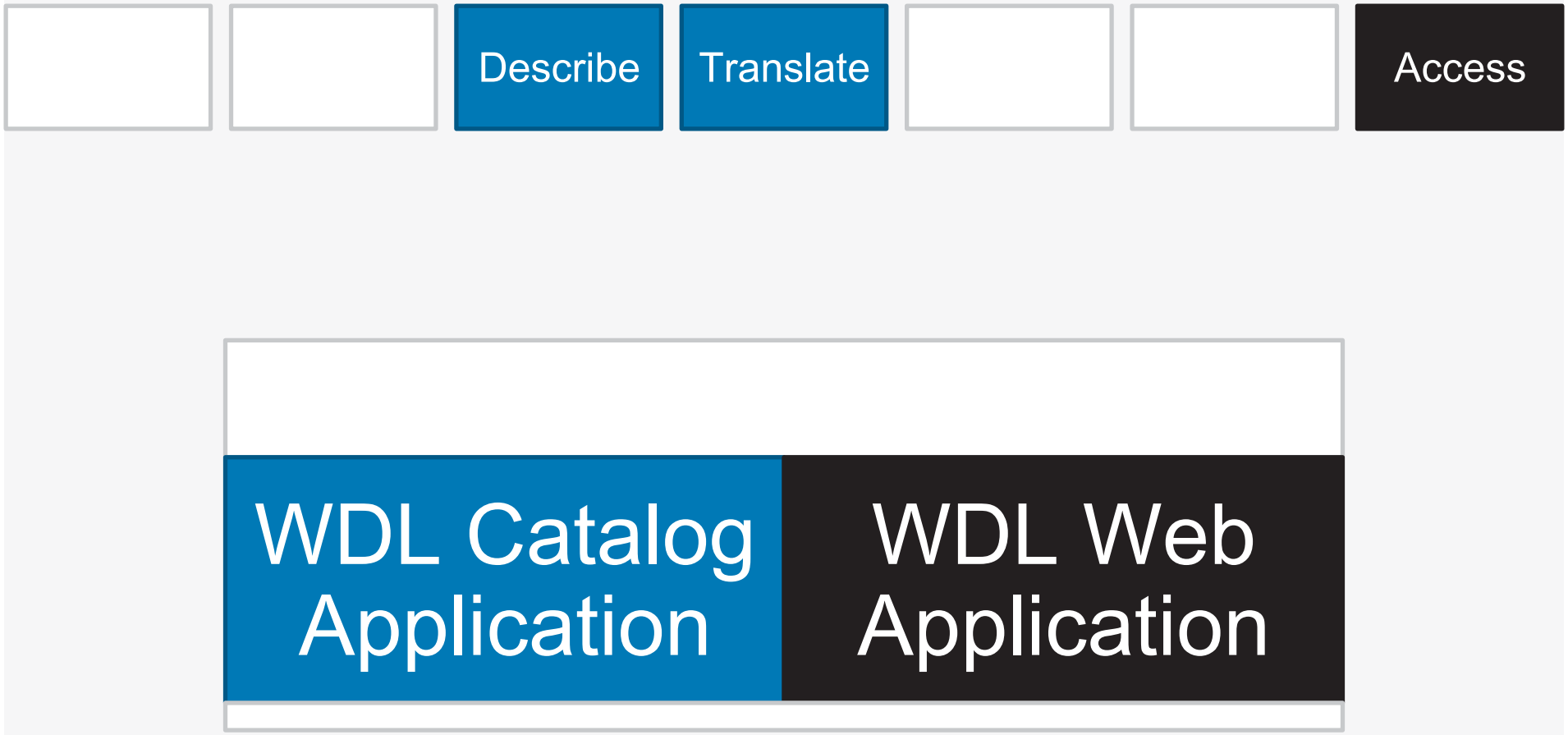
WORLD DIGITAL LIBRARY (WDL)

wdl.org

Overview

- Pubic access and preservation services to historically significant content from cultures around the world
- Content includes maps, prints, photographs, rare books, manuscripts, journals, sound recordings, motion pictures
- Multi-lingual (7 Languages) meta-data & catalog information
- Complex content processing workflows between external (*partners, translators, hosting companies*) and internal (*catalogers, content examiners, technical development*) organizations.

The WDL Architecture Overview



The WDL Content Pipeline

Transfer

Process

Assemble

Ingest

The WDL Catalog Application

Transfer | Process | **Describe** | **Translate** | Assemble | Ingest | Access

Describe

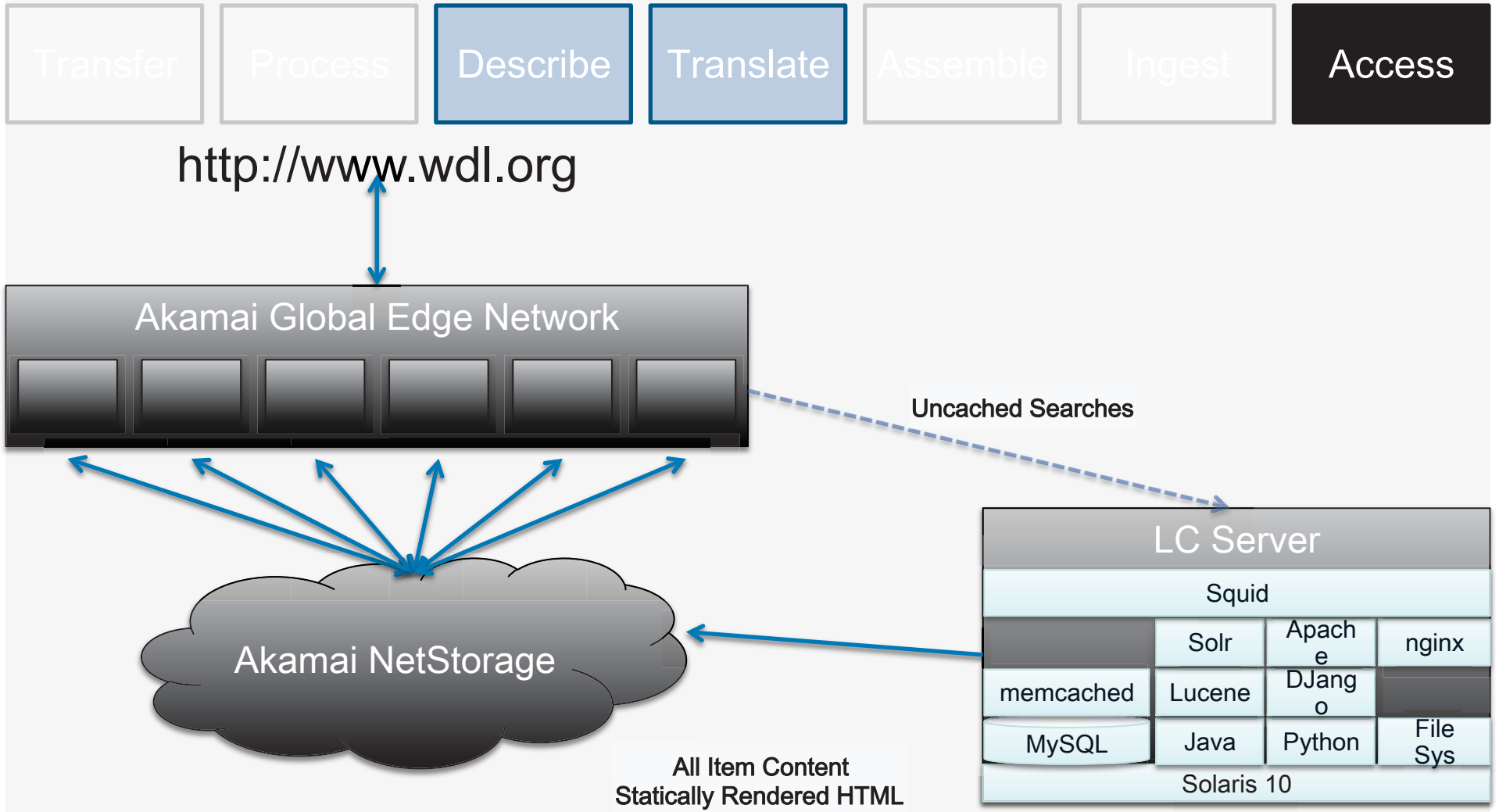
- Original Metadata Mapping
- Metadata Normalization
- WDL Descriptions

Translate

- Initial Translation to English if applicable
- Full Translation to all supported languages
- Continuing support for corrections

The WDL Web Application

Transfer | Process | Describe | Translate | Assemble | Ingest | Access



STATUS

- Public launch on April 21 at UNESCO
- 1,500 items, 1,000,000 files
- 15.8 Million page views and 1.4 Million visitors on the first 2 days.
- Peak Hits/Hour: 32 Million
- 56 international partner institutions

National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP)

chroniclingamerica.loc.gov

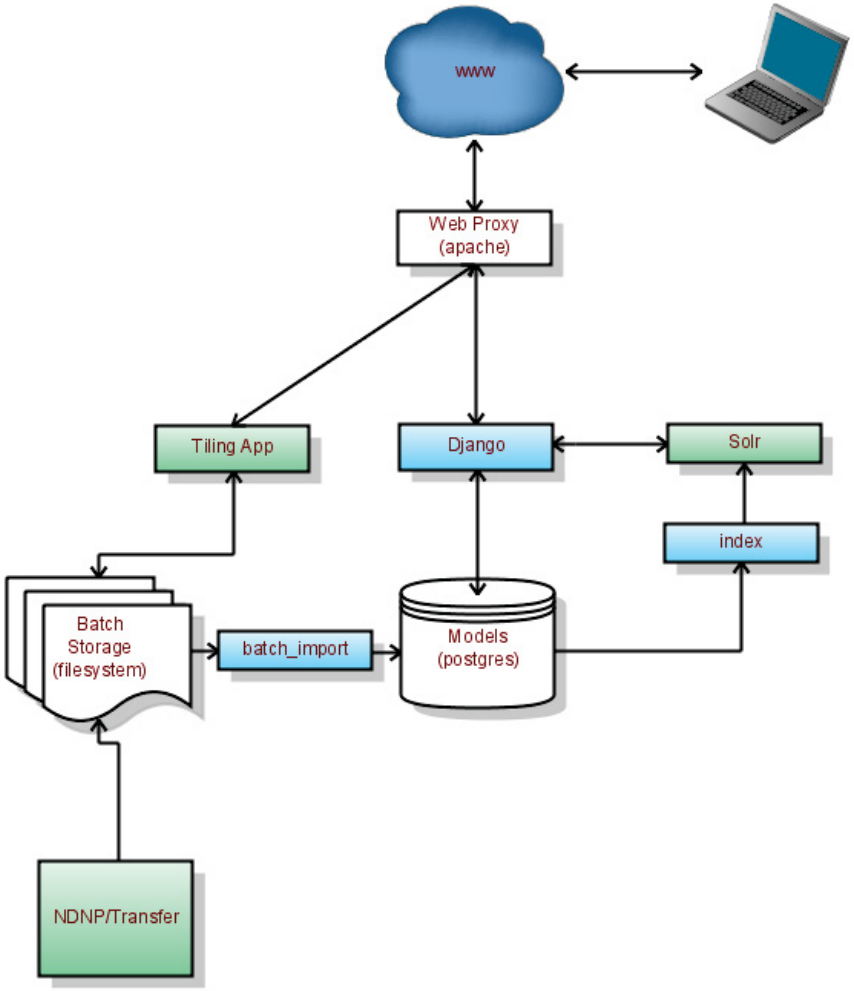
Overview

- Preservation of and access to historic U.S. newspapers
- Partnership with NEH
- Multiple content producers around the U.S.
- Content submission guidelines
- Digitization standards

FRAMEWORK

- Full-text search with hit-highlighting (Alto OCR)
- Metadata (METS, MARC, MODS)
- Uniform content submission specifications
- Validation at senders' side (Validation Library)
- Verification upon receipt

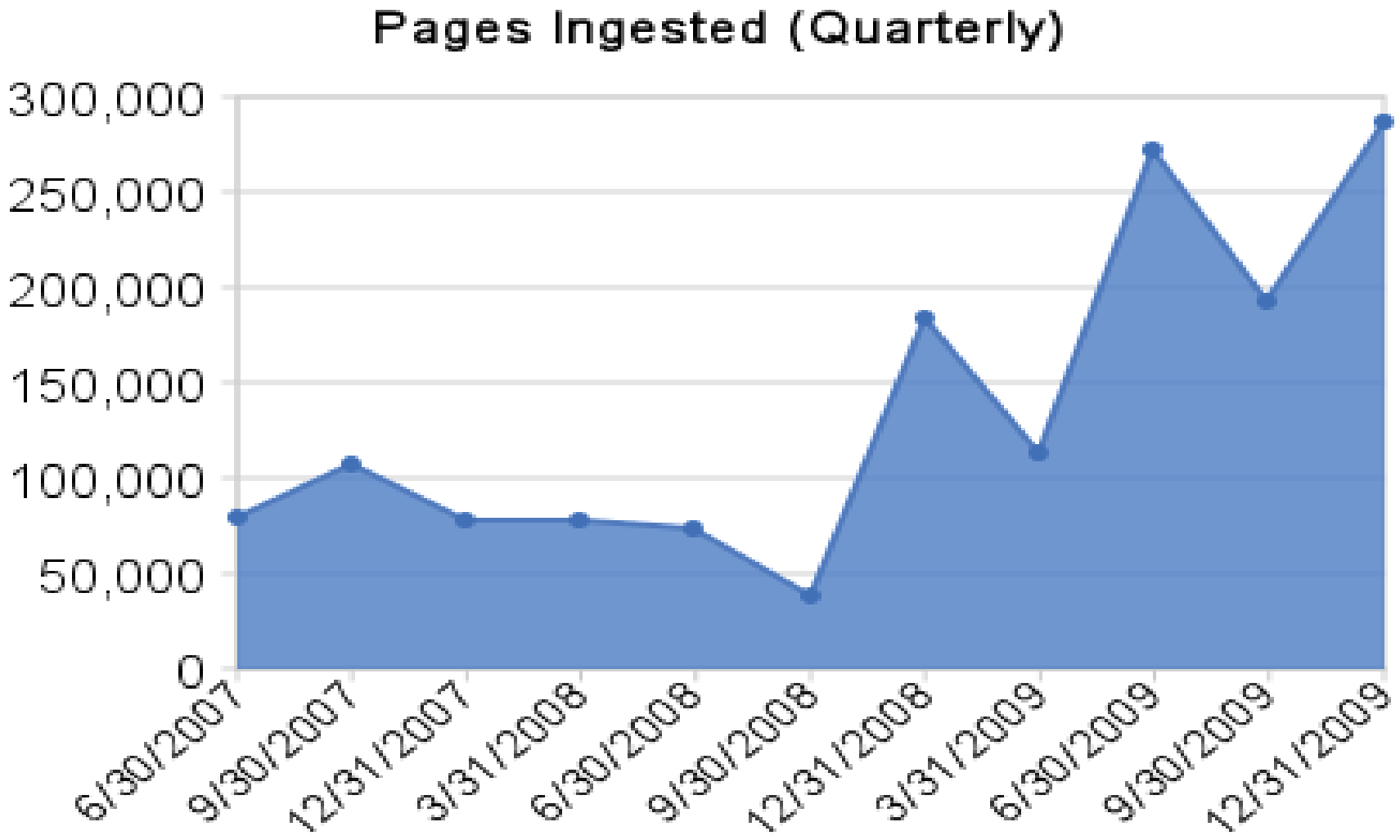
Technical Architecture



STATUS

- 20 U.S. State partners
- 1,700,000 newspaper pages ingested.
- 140,000 holding records.
- 3.6 million digital objects
- Automated ingest
- 50 Tb of content indexed and made available in few hours.
- 100,000 newspaper pages transferred and ingested per month
- Persistent identifiers and locators
- Enhanced discoverability: Open to crawlers & search engines
- Scalability and performance of access
- Content use: Flickr, Mashups, NSF's Digging into data

Ingest Throughput



Site Traffic

eDeposit

Overview

- Content in various formats from multiple sources (starting with eJournals)
- Capture and transfer content through Copyright Office
- Content accessible through LC Catalog Systems
- Integrated with various divisions' workflows
- Automated, scheduled transfer and ingest
- Does not require high technical capability from senders and system operators

STATUS

- Prototype successfully developed and tested
- Parts of curatorial access features transferred to NDNP
- Transfer system deployed and tested in production.
- LS workflows & system interfaces developed.
- Copyright workflows & system interfaces developed.
- New regulation on demand deposit published!

Next steps!

- Preliminary ingest services
  - Based on Bags
  - Semantic mapping of Bag files to digital objects (items)
- Bit preservation services
  - Applied to Bags initially
  - Applied to ingested files thereafter
- Access services
  - Item-level access
  - Persistent URL's
  - Repository API's

Challenges

- Managing expectations
- Repository infrastructure vs. content projects
- Software development process
- Resources
  - Priorities
  - Stability
- New technologies