

Legality of Electronic Signatures and implementation of electronic building permits in Republic of Macedonia



**CPD of ECEC
E-Building Permits and Electronic Signatures**

28th January 2016



Agenda



- Legal background on electronic signatures
- Electronic signatures in Republic of Macedonia
- How it all relates to engineers in Macedonia: E-Building Permits
- Future Chamber plans in this direction

Legal background - EU



EU Directive on Electronic signatures - 1999/93/EC.

Repealed and superseded by EU Directive 910/2014 - [Regulation on electronic identification and trust services](#) from July 2014, which has wider scope than the current directive.

New Directive shall apply from 1 July 2016, with some exceptions.

The new EU Directive Introduces:

- e-ID (no clear obligation to be introduced by member states...yet)
- e-Seals (for legal persons)
- more prescription on mutual recognition of qualified electronic signatures and cross border usage
- Qualification authority (QA) issuing qualified certificates shall submit a conformity assessment report to the supervisory body by 1 July 2017 in order to stay as QA

Most important things stay the same...



The EU Directives (old and new) guarantee that:

Advanced electronic signatures which are based on a qualified certificate (article 25 of the Directive)

(a) satisfy the legal requirements in the same manner as a handwritten signature and

(b) are admissible as evidence in legal proceedings

Electronic signature can not be denied legal effectiveness and admissibility as evidence in legal proceedings solely on the grounds that it is in electronic form

NEWs in the Directive International Usage and e-seals



1. More prescriptions on the International usage (art 25):

“A qualified electronic signature based on a qualified certificate issued in one Member State shall be recognized as a qualified electronic signature in all other Member States”

2. Introduction of electronic seals (art 25):

“Electronic seals should serve as evidence that an electronic document was issued by a legal person, ensuring certainty of the document’s origin and integrity.”

Legal background – EU and Macedonia



Macedonian law on E-Signatures from 2001 – full transposition of EU Directive 1999/93

In Macedonia there are 2 Qualification authorities (QA) licensed to issue digital signatures – The Macedonian Telecom and KIBS.

The price is approximately 15 euro per year with 30 euro one-off cost for the activation and USB token.

The Chamber worked with the QA's to train the engineers and signed a contract with MK Telecom for 30% discount for our members for e-tokens.

How it all relates to engineers in Macedonia



Since 2013, all building permits in Macedonia are issued electronically, based on a full electronic procedure.

All active engineers in Republic of Macedonia have qualified electronic signature (digital signature).

It is an imperative for them to do their daily work.

Macedonian e-permit for building licenses



All these are compulsory steps (no options):

- > Digitally signed design/project documents by engineers
 - >> Digital application - uploaded in centralized system
 - >>> Fully digital administrative/workflow management
 - >>>> Fully digital Inter-institutional communication with electronic notification on all remarks/issue

Main benefits:

- efficiency, transparency and fight with corruption

Macedonian e-permit in numbers



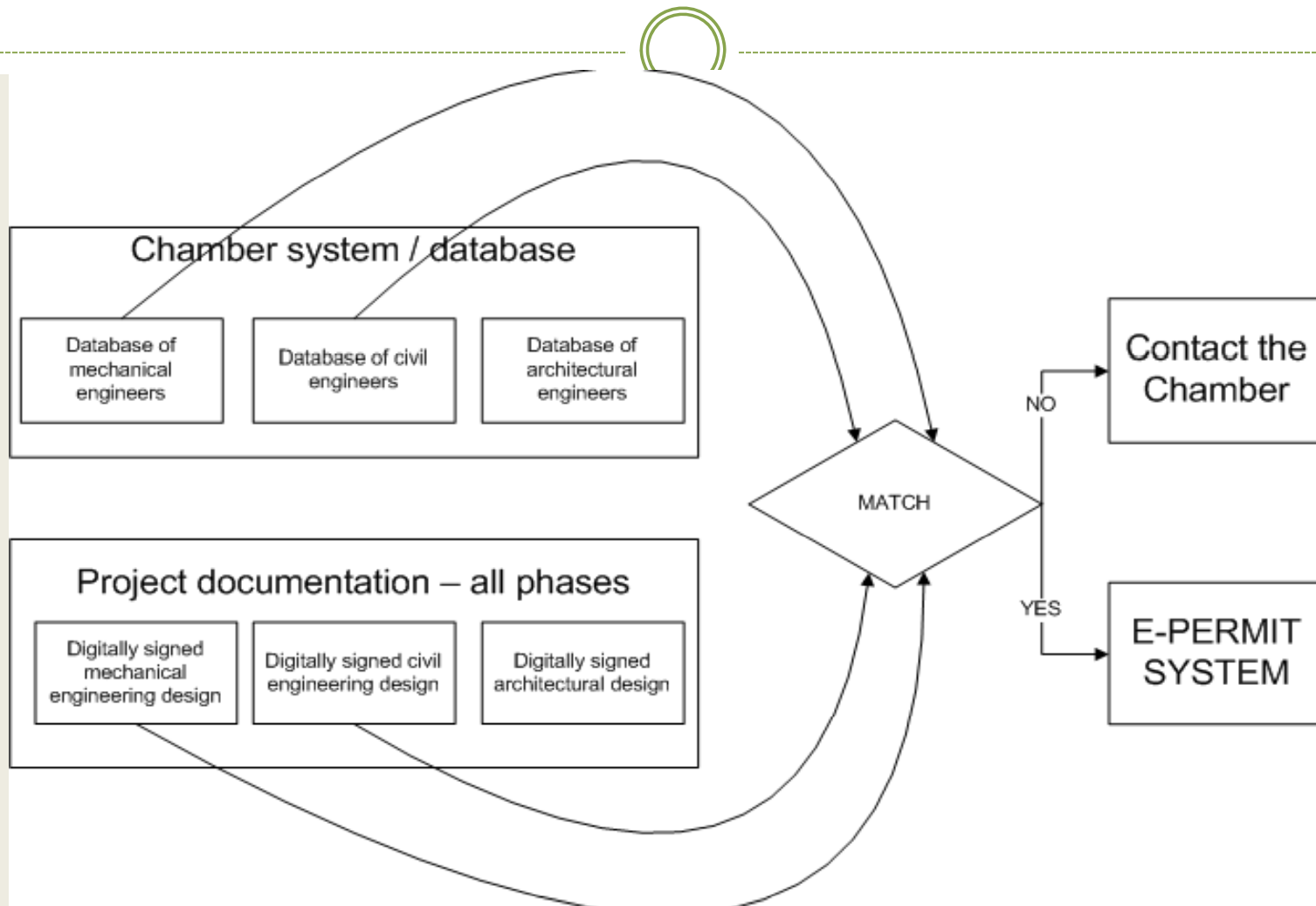
- Municipalities: 81 + City of Skopje
- Roles per municipality: 8 (different access level)
- 18 different types of procedures (Permit for new construction, extending of existing construction, reconstruction, adaptation, request connection to electrical network,)
- Over 200 institutions involved in the system (ministries, municipalities, power companies, water management, cultural heritage agency, cadaster etc)
- Submitted applications in system for 2 years: 8.700

Issues with implementing the system



- Resistance to change – especially from older engineers and less developed municipalities
- Recommendation to have a transitioning period
- Digital signature is a form of electronic authentication of an individual, not the type of engineering license the engineer holds....

Future Chamber plans: system integration with governments e-permit system



Waiting for government approval.....

Questions ?



Dimce Atanasovski

Secretary General of the Chamber of certified architects
and certified engineers of Republic of Macedonia

dimce@komoraoai.mk

+389-78-406-382

www.komoraoai.mk

Thank you