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CRIMINAL SANCTIONS AGENCY

Current status of ICT and future development in the Finnish Criminal Sanctions Agency

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Current status of ICT



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Electronic services for prisoners



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Finnish imprisonment act:

Section 9a (393/2015) Use of internet

A prisoner may be given permission to use the internet for an important reason related to subsistence or attendance to work-related, educational, judicial, social or housing matters or another corresponding important reason.

A prerequisite for granting permission in a closed prison is that the prisoner's access to other websites than those determined in the permission is appropriately blocked.

A further prerequisite for granting permission is that the use of the internet does not endanger the order or security of the prison or the safety of the prisoner or another person.

If the prerequisites for granting permission to use the internet are no longer met after the decision has been made or if the prisoner violates the conditions of the permission, the permission may be revoked.



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Electronic services for prisoners

- All prisons have opportunity to provide electronic services for inmates

- Device and network
 - Laptops (hardened)
 - Mobile network (4g modems + sim cards)

- 120 laptops in use
 - 50 more will be provided by the end of the year

- What services are available for inmates?
 - Skype
 - Internet
 - Approximately 200 pages whitelisted
 - All new web page requests are controlled by security department
 - Moodle -system for education



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- Authentication and controlling
 - Offender must apply permission to use electronic services beforehand
 - All Skype communications are closely monitored in real time by prison personnel

- Challenges
 - Organizing support services
 - Keeping whitelist up to date
 - Closed and Open prisons
 - practices and needs differ

ICT and Education for prisoner in Finland

Background

- 3,000 prisoners and 2,500 staff
- The current studying is done through laptops which are maintained manually
- Earlier the laptops were maintained by one person from Criminal Sanctions Agency. Since the beginning of 2018 the laptops are maintained by the Finnish Government's ICT Centre, in this way the local support can help faster
- Teaching is done with Adobe Pro Connection (AC)

Currently happening & goals

- Moodle -system has been moved to a new environment
 - goal to have a secure access control
 - soon a migration from old Moodle to new Moodle environment
- Manually maintained laptops → maintained remotely in 2019 and after that increase the number of laptops which is required
- Adobe Pro Connection (AC) → more training for the teaching staff

Currently happening & goals

- One clear teaching environment (Moodle) which is functional and easy to add teaching material
- Aim is to increase the number of students by offering more and better ICT learning tools.
- Finnish matriculation examination is going to be fully digital in 2019
- There is a vocational school and primary school reform going in Finland which effects the prisoner students as well

What will be done in the future

- Pilot the use of Moodle in three prisons for primary school and vocational school education: pilot is going to start in autumn 2018
- Cooperation with the Ministry of Education with an aim to increase cooperation with the schools involved
- Creation of a multi-professional work group (safety, ICT, education) to support the goals mentioned above



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New ICT -control groups



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Goal is to increase discussion and information exchange with central administration, prisons and other reference groups



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IT-steering group

- Permissions to launch new IT-systems
 - Audits
 - Data security and protection
- Follow-up of emerging IT management projects
 - Also acts as project steering group for small scale projects
- Control of the development of existing IT-systems
 - Monitoring the implementation, prioritization and funding of development objects identified in the information systems.
- Follow-up of the annual budget, new projects and contracts.
- Handling of issues escalated from IT-user group
- Steering group has two subgroups
 - Coordination Group of the Security Information Systems
 - Prison and probation services IT-user group



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Prison and probation services IT -user group

- ❑ prison IT-user group with 90 members from all prisons and probation service offices.
- ❑ User group acts as a news channel for different departments and units in current security and information management issues
- ❑ Its objective is to support and coordinate local ICT –contact persons to increase interaction between central administration and prisons.
- ❑ The user group meets 6-8 times a year.



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Current status of electronic monitoring system and future development

Background

- Current system has been in use since 2011
- Current usage:



GPS-device about
540 persons/daily



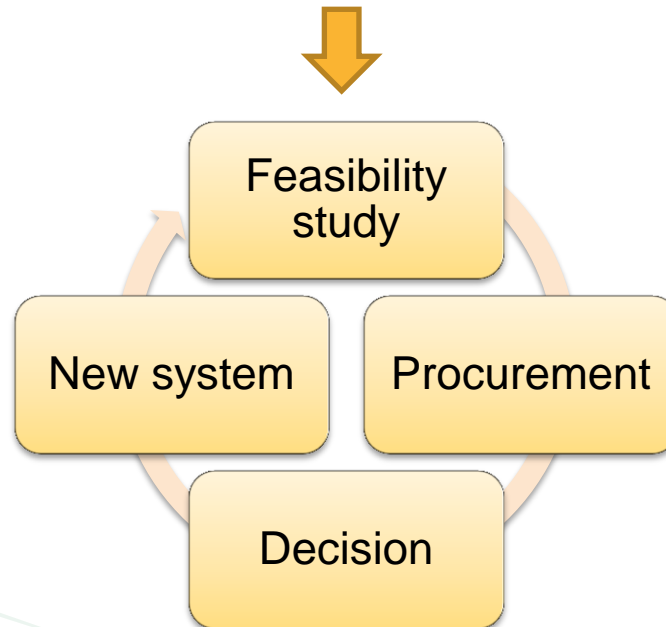
RFGS-home detention units
about 65 persons/daily

■ GPS-device in use:

- Under supervised probationary freedom 220 persons/daily
- Open prisons release units 185 persons/daily
- Study and civilian work permit, attending rehabilitation outside the prison 100 persons/daily
- First leave from closed prison with high risk 30 persons/daily

Future plans

Can new OMS system provide needed functionality?





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Smart Prison 2020

Current state

Prisoners currently use workstations (as described earlier) that enable the use of limited internet and controlled video calls. There are 1-5 workstations per prison and work stations are not allowed to be taken into the cells.

Target state

We want bring in solutions that enable prisoners to use electronic services in the cells and when possible anywhere in the prison. The aim is to activate prisoners and to improve the internal processes of prisons through digitization.

A technical solution to meet the set targets

The goal is to find a technical solution for bringing electronic services to the prisons. Such services could be, for example, self-study, monitoring the sentence plan, obtaining various permissions, social care services, restricted email, etc.

The solution interface should be simple and hardware-friendly. It should be possible to build integrations, for example, to offender management system. In addition, the system should enable technical control of the usage.

The aim is to implement a proof of concept-type implementation and to test, for example, the suitability of two to three potential solutions. If PoC is a success, then the first institution in which the system would be introduced would be the new Hämeenlinna prison that will be completed in 2020.