



# **Document Sharing: Installed systems throughout lower Austria and national roll out**

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# Who am I?

- Electronics Engineer
- 15 yrs Med. University of Vienna
- biosignal work, then standards



- Acting program director Biomedical Engineering Sciences (Master)  
Chairman of national CEN and ISO mirror, founding member of IHE Austria
- Consulting national EHR project

# IHE in Austria

- **2002** initial contact, Radiology General Hospital Vienna
- **2005** NÖGUS Patient index project starts in Lower Austria
- **2005** Austrian eHealth initiative recommends IHE for EHR
- **2007** political decision: IHE XDS base standard for EHR
- **2007** IHE Austria formally founded
- **2008** national EHR project (ELGA) in full swing, detailed specifications are worked out
- **2008** June, political decision, based on cost-benefit study, and available specifications, yes or no
- **2008, autumn** ELGA implementation phase 1 starts

# Implementation work in Austria

- NÖMED WAN Patientenindex
  - Master patient index in lower Austria
  - Already in operation
- Elektronische Gesundheitsakte (ELGA)
  - National EHR project
  - In detailed development
- Let us see how far they are!

# NÖMED WAN

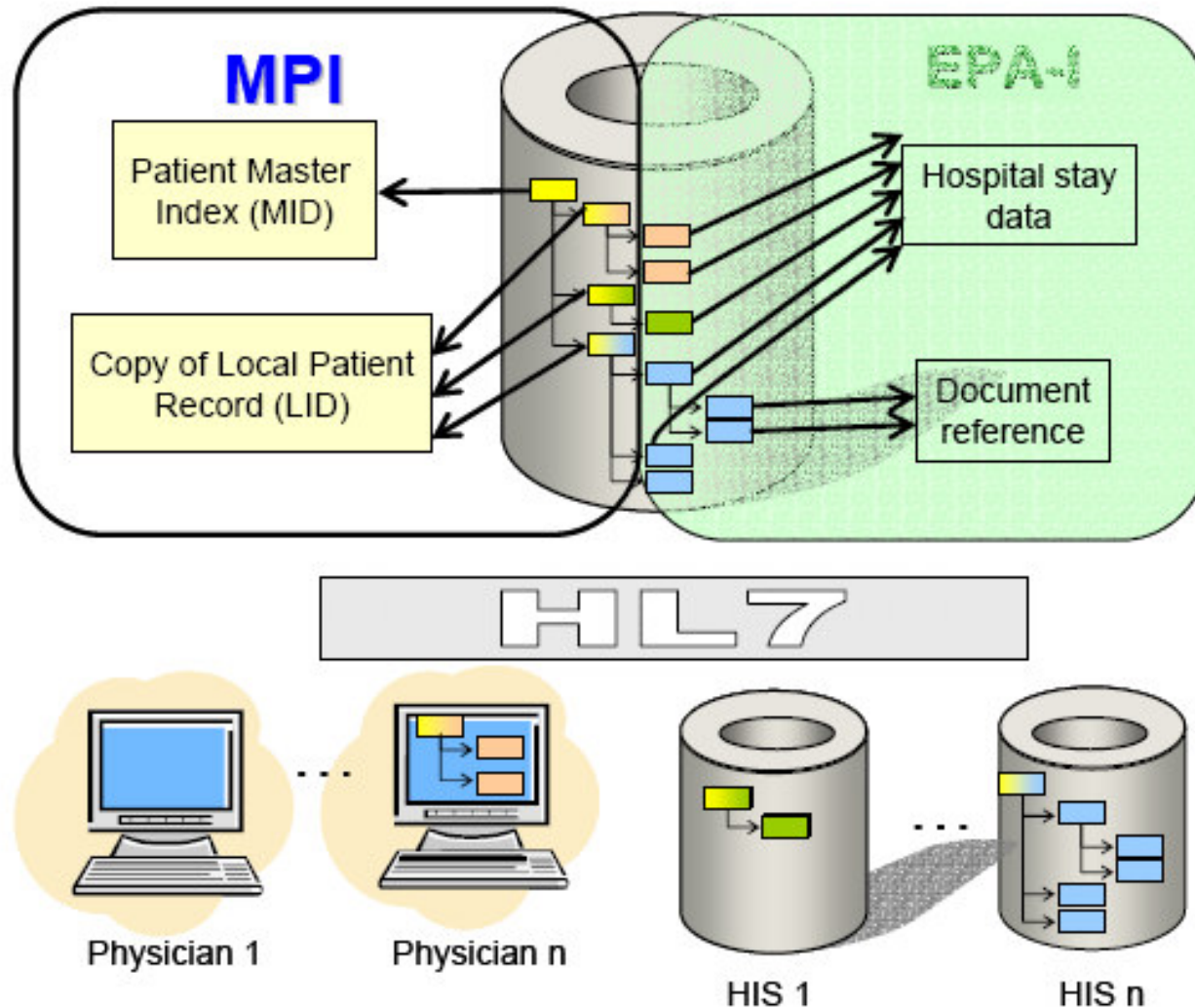
- Started in 2005
- Goal: integrate all 27 hospitals of the region
- building of a shared directory
  - patients' treatments, medical summaries, hospital stays and diagnoses

A N Stolba, A Schanner : eHealth integrator – clinical data integration in lower Austria. CIMED2007, Third International Conference on Computational Intelligence in Medicine and Healthcare 25-27 July 2007, Sherwell Centre, University of Plymouth, Plymouth, England

# Project ownership

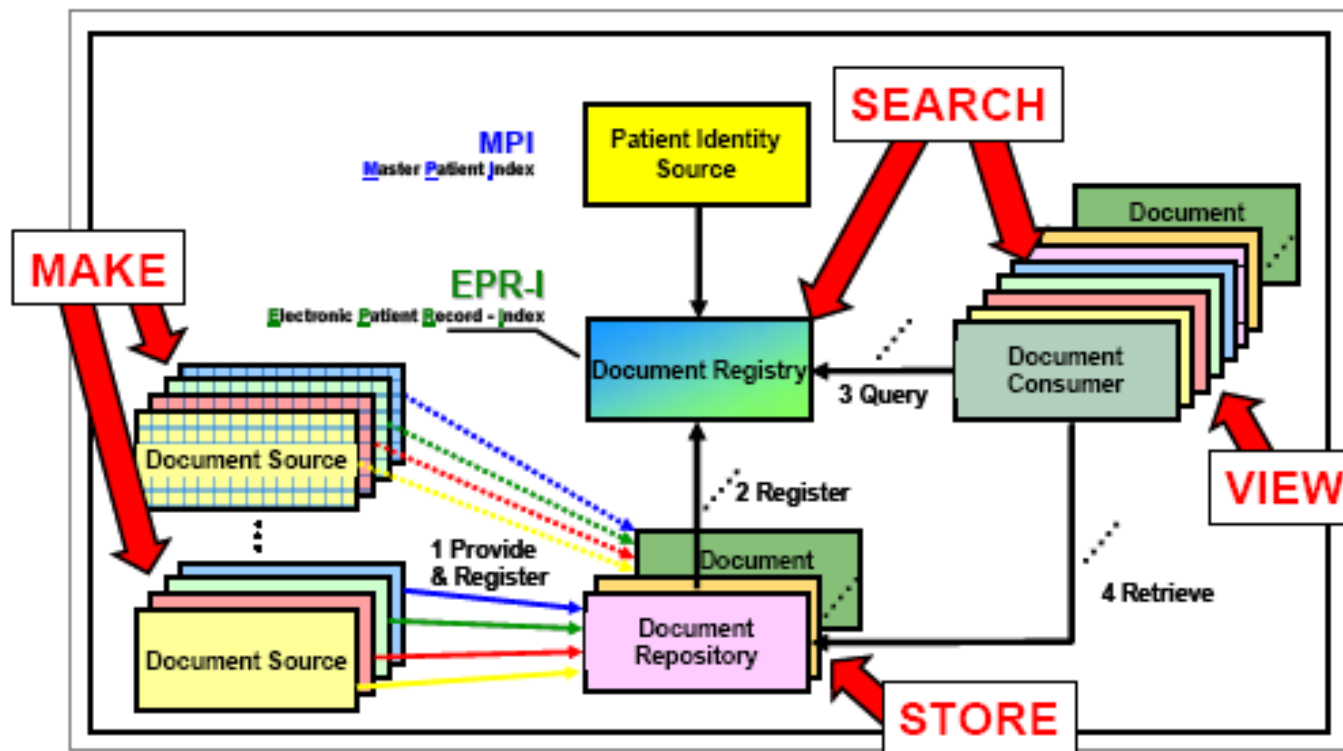
- The Lower Austrian Health and Welfare Fund Area of Health (NÖGUS)
  - “Public body”
  - in charge with financing, quality assurance and supply planning
  - In charge of 22 hospitals on 27 locations
  - approx. 8200 beds
- Additional partners
  - 3000 general practitioners
  - approx. 1.5 million inhabitants

# Architecture



Source: A. Schanner. "NÖ am Weg zur elektronischen Gesundheitsakte", NÖ Landeskliniken-Holding, 2006

# Architecture: inside



Source: A. Schanner. "NÖ am Weg zur elektronischen Gesundheitsakte", NÖ Landeskliniken-Holding, 2006

# Estimated quantities

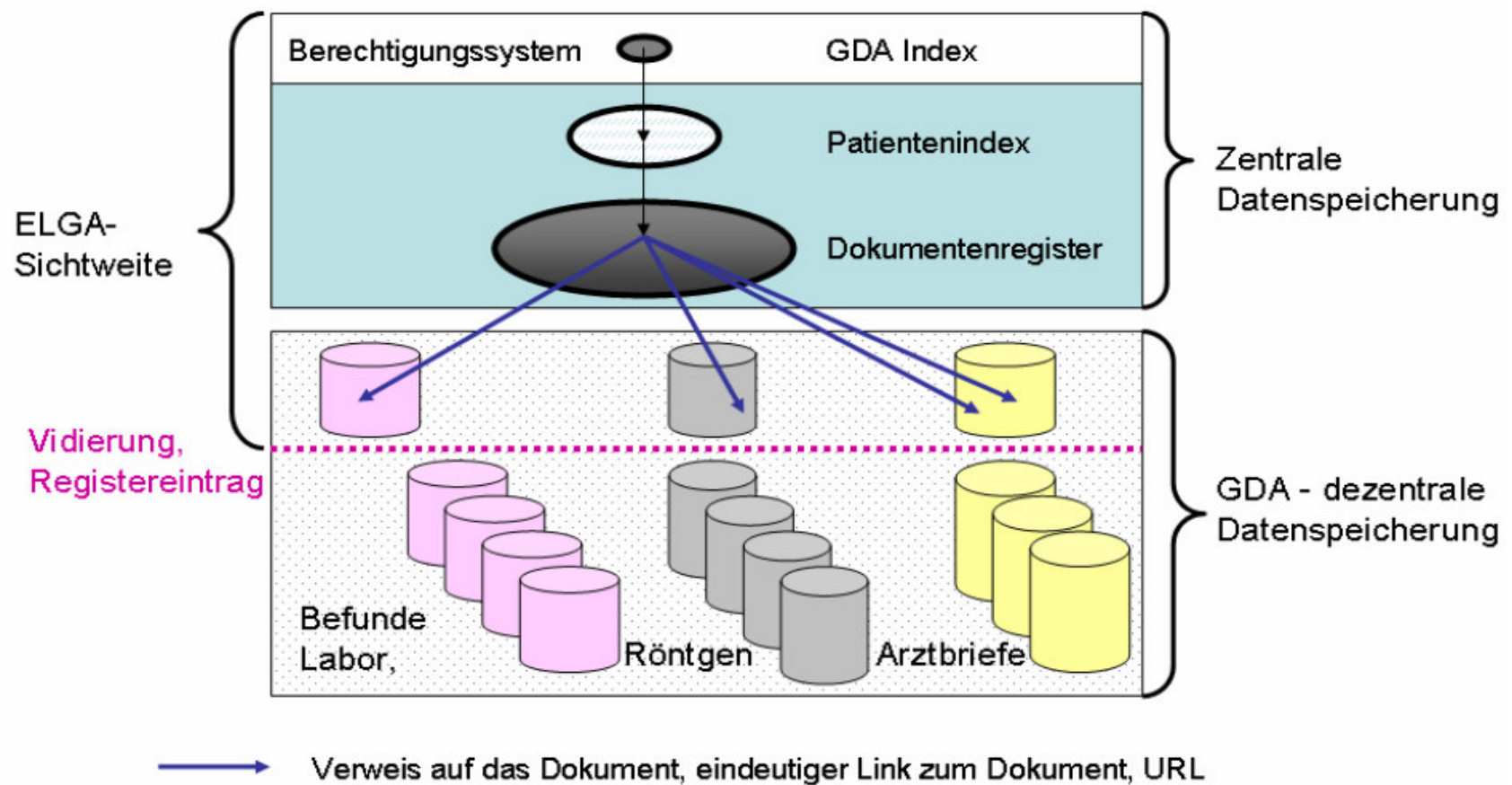
- 350.000 patients registered
- 500.000 documents
  - Collected in 12 months time
  - Fast growth initially
  - Stabilizes when local patients are registered

Source: Personal communication, 8.4.2008

# Results and outlook

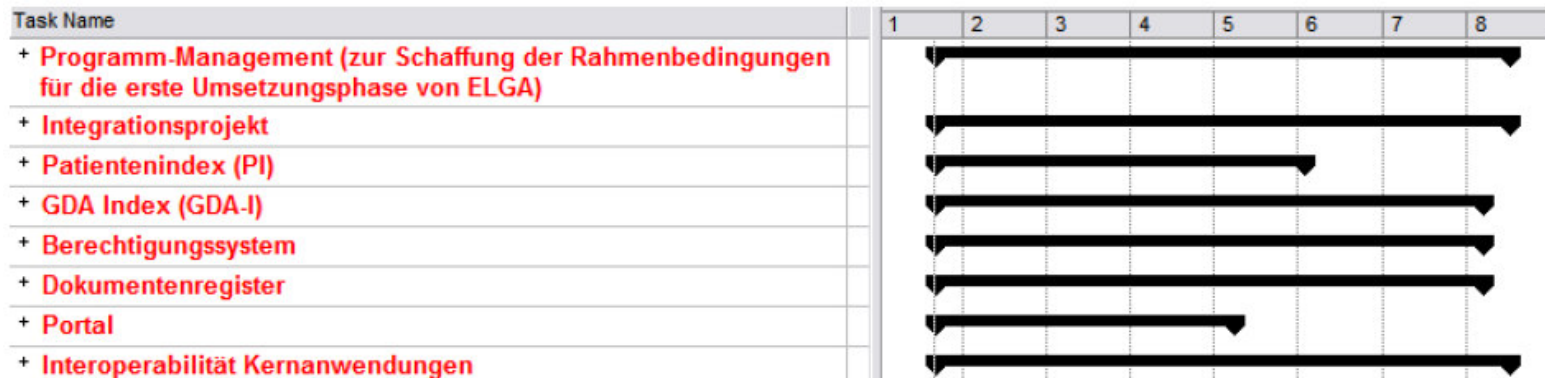
- 5 hospitals connected
  - Infrastructure is operative and in use
- The project continues:
  - Additional hospitals will come in
  - More integration into medical workflows
  - Integration with Austrian national EHR

# Austrian EHR architecture: XDS



- Source: Die elektronische Gesundheitsakte in Österreich, Ausblick auf die erste Umsetzungsphase, Arge ELGA, Wien, Mai 2005

# Timeframes, management



- 8 projects are being developed, started in 2006, first implementation phase until 2013
- Goal: full national roll out of discharge information, radiology and lab reports communication
- IHE is a must, „Connectathon“ turns up at a lot of places in the project documents

IBM Österreich. ELGA Systemkomponenten und Masterplan V2.7 - Konkretisierung der Systemkomponenten und Masterplan als Beitrag zur Programmplanung für die Arge ELGA. 2007, Wien, Österreich;  
<http://www.bmgfj.gv.at/cms/site/attachments/7/2/0/CH0709/CMS1169796766007/ergaenzungsstudie.pdf>

# Success factors for giant projects

## IHE can help (if you let them)

- **Decide what you want, fast**
  - Keep change limited and controlled, “Formulation and change of goals”
  - **IHE frameworks**
- **See that those who have to do it really can do it**
  - Choose carefully, Give them what they need, room to move
  - and maybe even more resources, especially in the beginning
  - “Management structure and capacity.”
- **Have SOME idea how you will do it, before you start**
  - not too much detail, learn from previous examples
  - “Basic configuration, Initial design” – **IHE profiles**
- **Involve the stakeholders, users, and everybody who needs to be involved**
  - Let no one dominate the others, “Socio-political environment”
  - **The IHE network and process**
- Gruen, O., Taming Giant Projects. Management of Multi Organization Enterprises, 1st edition ed., Springer, Berlin, ISBN: 3540214402, 2004, pp. 1-271.

# FAQ (personal view)

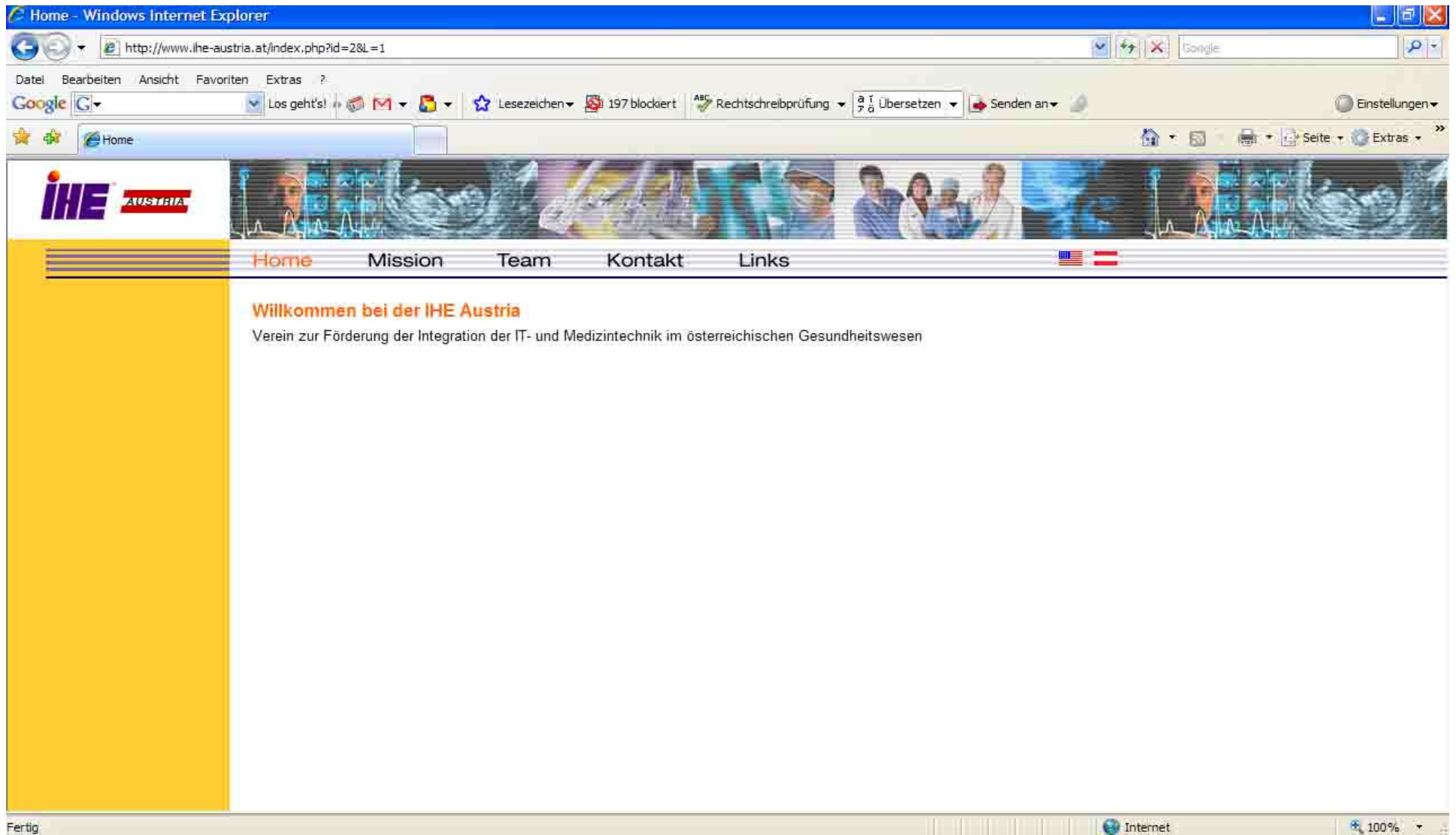
- Is there a national project? Is there progress? Will it last?
  - Yes. It moves along. This is not for the faint of heart, believe me, but it REALLY moves. Fasten seat belts.
  - Political backup provides credibility
- How do they intend to do it?
  - IHE XDS. This is a political recommendation.
  - „OK. Fine. This being settled, let us go for it.“
- Is my software vendor taking part?
  - The real big ones are actively pulling
  - many small ones will board the moving train

# IHE Austria planned activities

- **International cooperation**
  - Keep contact to IHE international
  - Harmonise national and international IHE work
  - Large scale pilots?
- **Management of local committees**
  - If necessary, local groups will be founded
- **PR, information broking, know-how transfer**
  - National contact point
  - Events, coaching, consulting, ...
- **Vision: „Permanent Connectathon“**
  - Support smaller vendors
  - Demonstration and testing lab

# Homepage

## [www.ihe-austria.at](http://www.ihe-austria.at)



# Contact

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