

# NLB language resources

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Service to people with reading disabilities

<http://www.nlb.no/sitepageview.aspx?sitePageID=1132>

- National service
- Public Library
- Student service – higher education
- Located in Oslo
- 45 employees...
  - ...And 60 freelance narrators for talking books
  - ...Plus external Producers of DTBs (text mark-up)
- 100 % financed by the Norwegian Government
- Important Copyright legislation enabling us to produce Accessible Literature “Åndsverkloven” § 17

# Figures...

## Annual production (titles)

<input type="checkbox"/> DAISY (Talking books, newspapers, speech synthesis TTS)	1500
<input type="checkbox"/> Braille/musical notes/e-books	250

## Collection (stored on servers in NB Rana)

<input type="checkbox"/> DAISY Talking books	12.500
<input type="checkbox"/> Braille/musical notes/e-books	7.500

## Annual Loan Statistics 2008

<input type="checkbox"/> DAISY Talking books	
<input type="checkbox"/> Public library	330.000
<input type="checkbox"/> Student books	9.000
<input type="checkbox"/> Braille	2.000



# DAISY Consortium

Digital Accessible Information System

*The Best Way to Read, the Best Way to Publish*

[www.daisy.org](http://www.daisy.org)



NLB is a board representative in the Daisy Consortium, (my boss) Arne Kyrkjebø.



2 important projects:

❑ The Global Library initiative is a project owned by the IFLA/LBS and the DAISY Consortium. Aim: Shared collection development and exchange.

❑ DAISY for all. Aim: sharing technology and enabling developing countries to produce DAISY books. Offers free production tools. The AMIS player is a free, downloadable open-source player. <http://amis.sourceforge.net/> NLB has produced the language packs for Bokmål and Nynorsk.



# Important events 2008

- New agreement: Norwegian Government – Right holders (June 2008)**
  - Allows online distribution
  - Loaner expected to destroy the media after use.
  - Require digital watermark on online distribution within 2 year
  - Compensation formula changed. No waiting lists.
  
- Access to material from “Norsk Språkbank”.**
  - Enabling us to develop a Norwegian TTS together with our Swedish sister-organization TPB. Access to this material was crucial for the starting of this project. As a small organization we also experienced that it is important to have an Infrastructure like Språkbanken to ensure any rights/legal issues.
  
- Improved (and popular) online, self-service solutions for our library “mappa mi” - (My Folder).**
  
- A stronger and closer collaboration with our European sister-businesses.**
  - Avoid any double producing of English-language books.
  - Joint efforts in improving the processes of outsourcing.
  - Swapping and sharing.

# Important aspects

- ❑ Cooperation NLB – Universities
- ❑ Goal: More efficient ways to produce faster, more material and to a larger group of students. Local production on centralized tools. The Pipeline system is operational in December 2008.



- ❑ Our Norwegian TTS is expected to be ready for production in the summer of 2009.
- ❑ We will further increase the number of books (DTB) produced with TTS and full-text.

# Challenges today

- DTB-based production require DTB files (marked-up textfiles)
  - Currently working with Norwegian Publishers to get accessible files:  
1) pdf 2) DTB
  - Find improved ways in outsourcing DTB-production (currently using Indian companies).
  
- Full text with human narrator. Synchronized full-text books have proven effective as tools for the dyslectic. We have plans to collaborate with TPB in finishing the development of an automated synchronization tool for DTB and human narration.
  
- Access to digital language-tools for “Nynorsk”, this will enable us to start developing a Nynorsk TTS (and the synchronization tool).



# Tomorrow

- Increase the amount of minority-language books produced.
- All our products are based on full-text DTBs with both human narration, TTS or in Braille. This will make the actual content of any book produced searchable.
- If you combine this with online self-service solutions, it will enable our clients to create/order compilation-books on their own, based on their search-criteria to help them in their research or studies.