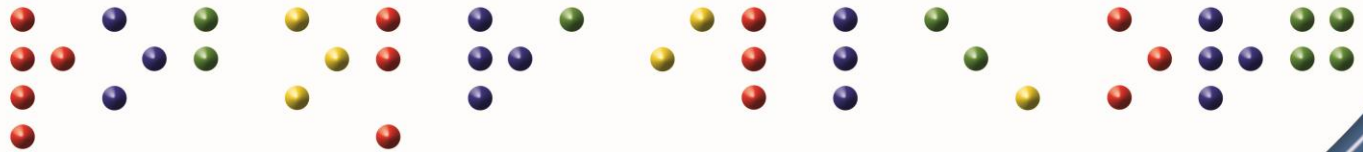


RoboBraille.org



Let's read...

Easy access to educational material in alternate formats

Tanja Stevns

Lars Ballieu Christensen

Let's read..

- Education of VI children in Denmark
- Synscenter Refsnæs - national resource centre
- RoboBraille – automated conversion
- RoboBraille in Education – LdV. project
- Biblus – digital library
- Invitation to join RoboBraille and Biblus

Denmark

- Education for blind and partially sighted children since 1898
- Special needs – special schools
- 1980 integration!
- Today almost full inclusion
- Refsnæs Centre provides services for approximately 2000 children and youth, aged 0-21 throughout Denmark

RoboBraille is:

- Mail and web-based conversion service
- Free for all non-commercial users
 1. Translate text into and from Grade 1 and 2 Braille in 6-dot and 8-dot Braille
 2. Convert text to audio books (mp3, Daisy)
 3. Convert documents into e-books (epub, mobi)
 4. Convert inaccessible documents to more accessible formats
 5. Produce "visual Braille", e.g., artwork for the pharmaceutical sector

RoboBraille service

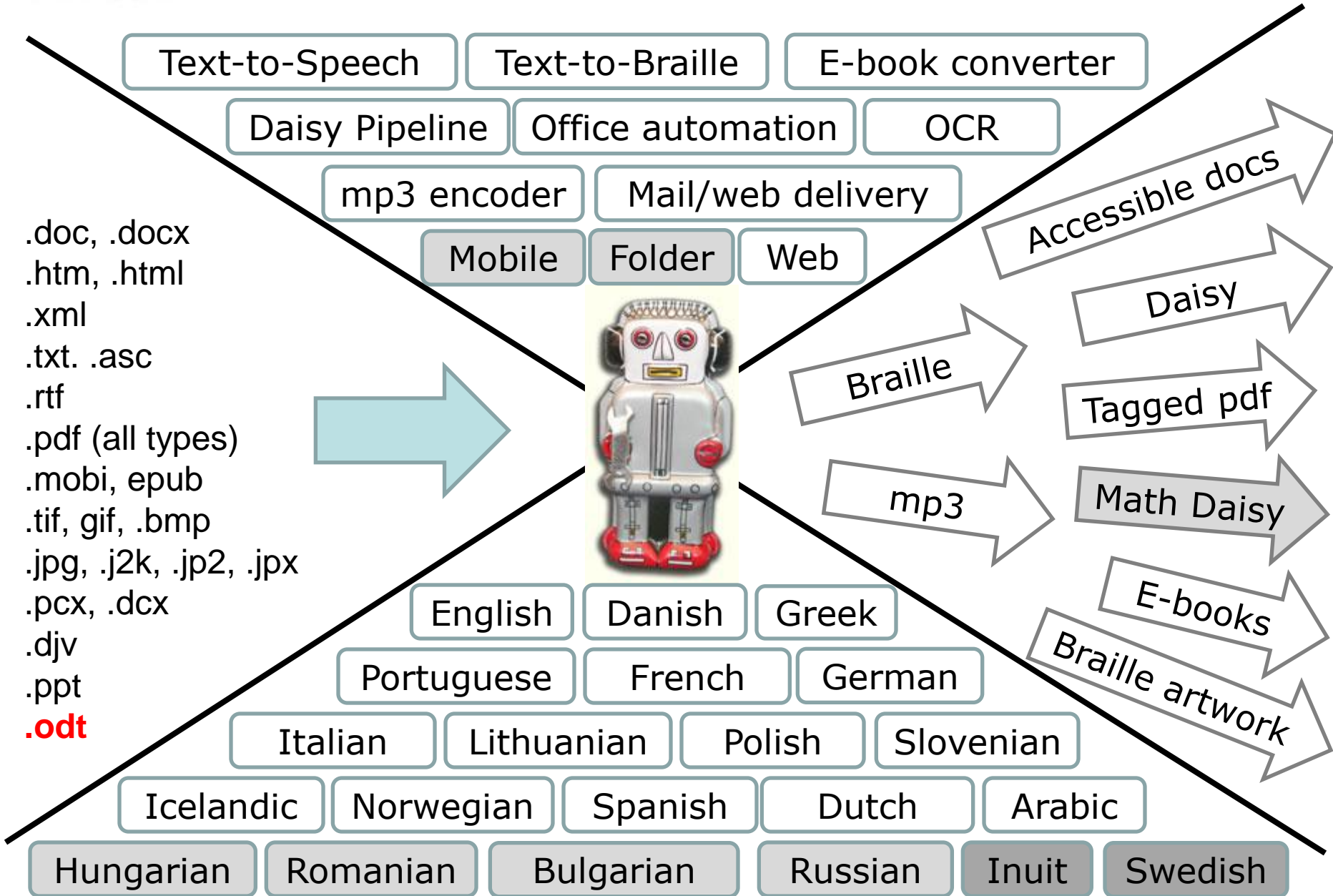
- In operation since 2004; 25,000+ requests each month
- Users
 - Blind and partially sighted
 - Reading impaired
 - Educators, teachers, VI professionals
 - Relatives
 - Foreign language students
 - Alternative media producers



RoboBraille supports

- Self-sufficiency
- Independence
- Inclusion
 - Education
 - Vocation
 - Social
- Privacy
- Provision of multiple formats
- Continued support after completion of education

What is RoboBraille





RoboBraille.org



Alternative media made easy

Follow the four easy steps below to have your document converted into an alternative, accessible format. The result is delivered in your email inbox. The form expands as you make your selections.

Step 1 - Upload the file

Select your file and upload it to the server (max 32 mb). Supported file types are .doc, .docx, .pdf, .ppt, .pptx, .txt, .xml, .html, .htm, .rtf, .epub, .mobi, .tiff, .tif, .gif, .jpg, .bmp, .pcx, .dcx, .j2k, .jp2, .jpx, .djv and .asc

File name:

Gennemse...

Upload



Alternative media made easy

Follow the four easy steps below to have your document converted into an alternative, accessible format. The result is delivered in your email inbox. The form expands as you make your selections.

Step 1 - Upload the file

Select your file and upload it to the server (max 32 mb). Supported file types are .doc, .docx, .pdf, .ppt, .pptx, .txt, .xml, .html, .htm, .rtf, .epub, .mobi, .tiff, .tif, .gif, .jpg, .bmp, .pcx, .dcx, .j2k, .jp2, .jpx, .djv and .asc

File name:

The file Alternative Media Made Easy.docx has been successfully uploaded to the server.

Step 2 - Select output format

Specify the target format of your document. For this document type, the following formats are available:

Target format

- mp3 audio
- Daisy full text and audio
- e-Book
- Document conversion
- Braille

Step 2 - Select output format

Specify the target format of your document. For this document type, the following formats are available:

Target format

- mp3 audio
- Daisy full text and audio
- e-Book
- Document conversion
- Braille

Step 3 - Specify audio options

Specify the natural language of your document and how fast you want the speech.

Options

Language:

Speed:

Step 4 - Enter email address and submit request

Email address:



Follow the steps to have your document converted into an alternative, accessible format. The result will be delivered to you via e-mail. Conversion is currently limited to individuals with a Stanford University e-mail address.

Notice: The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, U.S. Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. The person using this equipment is liable for any infringement.

Convert a File

Follow the four easy steps below to have your document converted into an alternative, accessible format. The result is delivered in your email inbox. The form expands as you make your selections.

Step 1 - Upload the file

Select your file and upload it to the server (max 32 mb). Supported file types are .doc, .docx, .pdf, .txt, .xml, .html, .htm, .rtf, .epub, .mobi, .tiff, .tif, .gif, .jpg, .bmp, .pcx, .dcx, .j2k, .jp2, .jpx, .djv and .asc

File name:

Also an email service ...

Audio

tale@robobraille.org, daisy@robobraille.org,
britspeech@robobraille.org, american@robobraille.org,
deutsch@robobraille.org

Braille

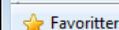
sekspunkt@robobraille.org, ottepunkt@robobraille.org,
sixdot@robobraille.org, kurzschrift@robobraille.org

E-books

epub@robobraille.org, mobi@robobraille.org

Conversion

convert@robobraille.org



RoboBraille.org

[About RoboBraille](#)[All Accounts](#)[Braille](#)[Audio](#)[Accessibility](#)[Utility Tools](#)[PharmaBraille](#)[Projects and Partners](#)[News](#)[Contact](#)You are here: [Frontpage](#)[Print version](#)[Sitemap](#)Search: 

What is RoboBraille?

RoboBraille is an e-mail service which can convert digital text documents into either Braille or audio files. It is quick and easy to use RoboBraille. You simply send an e-mail with an attached text document to RoboBraille. Shortly after, you will receive the document back from RoboBraille in the specified format - an audio file, for example.

It is free for non-commercial users to use RoboBraille.

[Please read more about RoboBraille](#)



Towards a supportive learning environment

Dr. Mike Goldrick is the learning Support Tutor for National College of Ireland. One of the college's goals is to increase access to Further and Higher Education for students from under-represented groups. To reach that goal, Mike sees it as crucial to provide an innovative and supportive learning environment in which all students can realise their true potential. In creating the materials for such an environment, RoboBraille shows to be a good tool.

[Please read more about how Mike is using RoboBraille](#)



It's easier to keep up

If you are visually impaired it is often hard to get access to everyday information like reading letters from the bank or getting information about the annual meeting in the housing commune. 26-year-old Anders Boholdt, who is a blind student at college, knows all about this. Through his membership of the residents' board in his apartment building, he has tried using RoboBraille to publish newsletters as audio files. By taking this act, he has made it a lot easier for his blind and dyslectic neighbours to keep up with everyday information.

[Please read more about how Anders is using RoboBraille](#)

News

Visit us at:

[Twitter](#)[Facebook](#)[Receive our newsletter.](#)

21.01.2011: RoboBraille with a webinterface

Now there is an alternative to the well-known e-mail interaction with RoboBraille, so you don't need to keep track of all the different e-mail accounts, this makes it easier and faster to use RoboBraille. You can achieve the same results as before, simply by following a step by step guide.

[Read more about RoboBrailles new web interface](#)

[Try RoboBrailles new web interface](#)

24.11.2010: RoboBraille at First European Congress on Visual Impairment

The 22nd-24th of October the RoboBraille team attended "First European Congress on Visual Impairment" in Valladolid, Spain. The goal of the congress was to exchange knowledge and experiences among the professional participants from all over Europe. Among the speakers was several professors, whose presentations was about "Peripheral Prisms" and "Clinical Tests of Vision for Severe Visual Impairment" among other related topics.

[Read more about RoboBraille at First European Congress on Visual Impairment](#)



LdV. RoboBraille in Education

- EU project 2011-2013
- Partners: Italy, Ireland, UK, Cyprus, Hungary, Denmark
- Very wide definition of education, partners from different settings
- University, college, resource centre, user organisations and private actor

The overall goal of the project is to:

- Explore, compare and develop RoboBraille service as an educational tool for VI professionals working with learners with reading or visual impairment!

RoboBraille Catalogue

- From assistive technology to learning tool
- VI and Dyslexia
- Preliminary results
- Promotes inclusion – non stigmatizing
- Supports learning – more modalities
- Most popular conversions:
- Accessibility conversion– PDF and PP
- Audio conversion – MP3

Giorgio – V.I. Teacher

As a teacher I am an enthusiastic user of **RoboBraille**, I use it to transform my course material into audio files. This helps me as a teacher as well as my students, sighted or unsighted.

RoboBraille converts not only my teaching material, but converts also my idle time in pleasant “reading” time (articles, essays, magazines).



Maria – High School student



Do I miss the smell of paper? Yes, perhaps, but thanks to **RoboBraille**, no more long unstimulating sitting in front of a PC with complicated hardware and software to sort out. On my night table now I keep a tiny electronic device, an I-Pod that contains lots of study material to read at my own pace before sleeping time.

Sonia – Support Teacher

I am a support tutor of 2 primary school students with reading difficulties. They find the TTS fantastic and I find the conversion from text to speech so easy, fast and reliable. And free!



Franco – University student



I was very skeptical at the beginning about **RoboBraille**; I was sure it would not stay “free” after the first few months. Now I realize how much time I have saved in the last 3 years, just by converting study material through RoboBraille; and my academic achievements have improved.

Thank you RoboBraille.

Case stories - College

“In balancing work and my studies, it is sometimes hard to find the time to study. That’s why Robobraille is so useful for me, it means that I can listen to my lectures on the train into college and revise for my exams on the couch or in bed!”

Stories of using
RoboBraille

“I use Robobraille to help me read over my lecture notes and learn off case studies. I also use it to help me learn off new vocabulary as strategic management and marketing has a lot of theories and terms that I find hard to pronounce. I find the email service very fast and the voice is nice.”

“When I was first diagnosed with Dyslexia in college, I was introduced to RoboBraille and shown how to convert all my documents into audio files that I could listen to as often as I needed. For the first time in my life, I was able to learn just as fast as my friends. Having dyslexia means that I have difficulty reading and spelling, but through RoboBraille, I no longer feel disadvantaged, I feel empowered.”

Award-winning service

- 2012: Robert Wagner Award finalist (Austria)
- 2011: World Blind Union Braille21 Award Finalist (Germany)
- 2010: BETT Award for best Special Education Needs solution (UK)
- 2009: Access IT Award for Learning for most affordable eLearning solution (UK)
- 2009: National eWell-Being Award for "Reaching the Digitally Excluded" (UK)
- 2008: European Commission eInclusion Award for e-Accessibility (EU)
- 2008: Well-Tech Award for Innovation and Accessibility (Italy)
- 2007: British Computer Society's Social Contribution Award (UK)

Velkommen til Biblus

Biblus er et digitalt skolebibliotek for syns- og læsehandicappede. Biblioteket indeholder undervisningsmateriale og andre titler i alternative, tilgængelige formater. Materialerne er især produceret af Materialelaboratoriet på [Synscenter Refsnæs](#) til brug for synshandicappede elever i den danske grundskole.

Materialerne i Biblus kan anvendes direkte eller de kan konverteres til andre alternative formater ved hjælp af [RoboBraille-tjenesten](#). Endelig indeholder biblioteket en fortegnelse over materialesamlingen på Synscenter Refsnæs.

Hvis du ikke kan finde en alternativ udgave af et bestemt undervisningsmateriale i biblioteket, kan du eventuelt bestille det fra Materialelaboratoriet på Synscenter Refsnæs. Det kræver at du har en konto og er logget ind.

Materialerne i Biblus er produceret indenfor rammerne af ophavsretslovens paragraf 17. Det betyder, at materialerne er begrænsede til syns- og læsehandicappede, samt deres lærere og pårørende. Det er ikke tilladt at videregive materialer fra Biblus til personer, som ikke er registreret som brugere i Biblus. Misbrug vil medføre udelukkelse fra biblioteket og kan resultere i politianmeldelse. For at beskytte materialet er der logget.

For at få adgang til Biblus skal du oprettes som bruger. Vælg punktet 'Anmod om konto' i menuen for at anmode om at blive oprettet.



Biblus - Objectives

- To create the technological infrastructure for including blind and partially sighted students in mainstream education
- To create a digital library companion to the RoboBraille service
- Implemented and promoted country-wide in Denmark 2011-2012
- Financed by the Danish Government and private donations

Biblus - Requirements

- Users and Access Rights
- Titles and Digital Assets (alternatives)
 - all types, all sizes, no limitations
- Delivery Methods
- Contributors
- Integrations
- Accessibility

Biblus - Digital Library

- Library for digital contents
- Two classes of material
 - Public and Protected
- Operated in accordance with Danish Copyright legislation (§17) or national copyright legislation
- Integrated with DanBib (official Danish Library Database, Z39.50) or other meta data repository (Google, Amazon)
- Integrated with RoboBraille

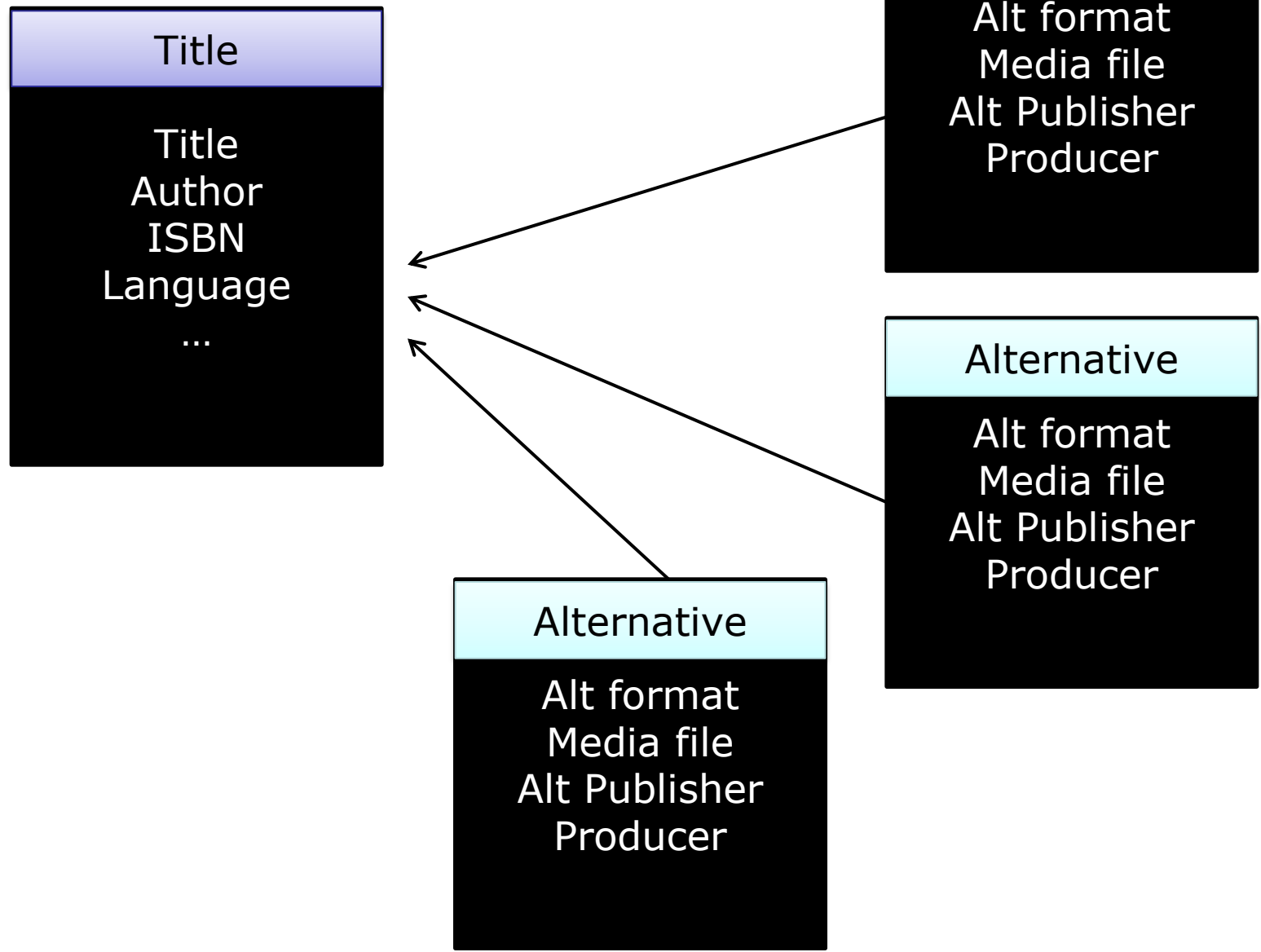
Users

	Search/ retrieve	Manage titles	Manage users	Generate reports	Manage system
Administrators	√	√	√	√	√
Producers	√	√		√	
Primary users	√				
Professionals	√*				
Relatives	√*				
Guests	√**				

* Must be associated with primary user

** Can search all but only retrieve public contents

Contents



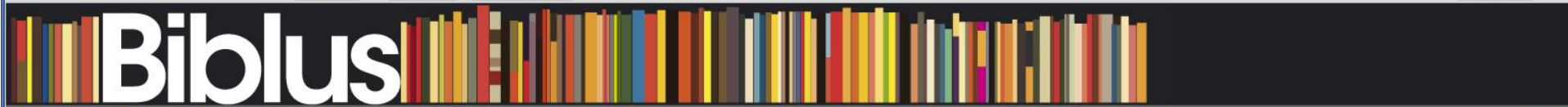
Delivery

- Three modes
 - Direct by email
 - Direct by download
 - Indirect via RoboBraille
- Physical media is shipped by ordinary mail (tactile illustrations, models, ...)

Contributors

- Alternative media professionals
- Students
- Volunteers





Welcome to Biblus

Biblus is a digital school library for the visually handicapped. The library contains educational materials and other titles in alternative accessible formats. The materials are mainly produced by the Material Laboratory of [Visual Refsnæs \(opens in new window\)](#) for use by visually impaired pupils in Danish elementary school.

The materials in Biblus can be used directly or can be converted into other alternative formats using [RoboBraille \(opens in new window\)](#). Finally, the library, a list of materials in the collection of visual Refsnæs.

If you can not find an alternate version of a particular teaching materials in the library, you may order it from the Materials Laboratory at Sight Refsnæs. This requires that you have an account and logged.

The materials in Biblus produced within the framework of the Copyright Act Section 17th This means that the materials are limited to the visually impaired and their teachers and relatives. It is not permitted to share materials from Biblus to persons not registered as users in Biblus. Misuse will result in exclusion from the library and can result in the police. To protect the material in Biblus against abuse, all transactions logged.

To access the Biblus should create a user. Select the 'Request Account' menu to apply to be created.

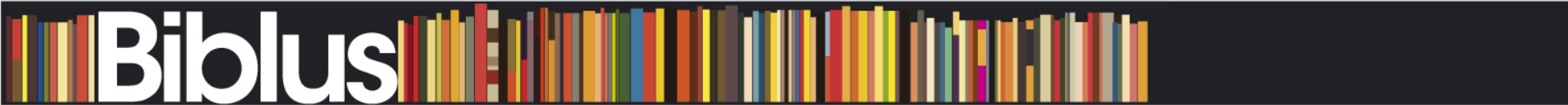
You can try a limited demo version by logging in with the following information:

User ID: guest
Password: guest

We recommend that you use the latest version of Microsoft Internet Explorer, Firefox or another browser.

Biblus was developed with support from [the National Board for library and media \(opens in new window\)](#).





Digital school library for the visually impaired Biblus administrator (Administrator) Sign out

- Search and Download
- Not Found?
- Add material
- Manage Titles
- Manage Users
- Manage System
- Reports
- My Options

- Simple Search
- Advanced Search
- Popular titles
- Newest Materials

Search

Enter keywords into the search box below to search the book titles. You can also select advanced search menu.

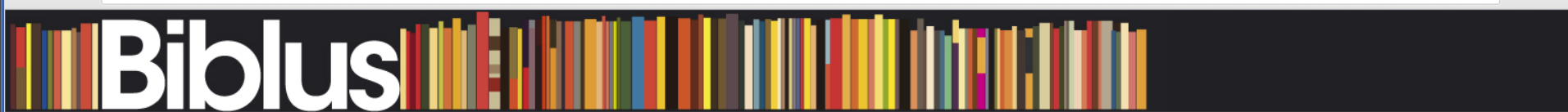
Keyword:

Search Results

ID	Title	Author	Publisher	Issue	Publication year	ISBN	Language	Alternatives
C0972	Baby Robot	Arengo, Sue			0		English	<input type="button" value="See alternatives"/>
C1177	Mr Robot Mon	Wendy A. Scott, @ Åse Brick-Hansen and Lars Skovhus		First edition	2005	8702016958	English	<input type="button" value="See alternatives"/>
MOV0001	RoboBraille BETT Award 2010	RoboBraille			2010		English	<input type="button" value="See alternatives"/>
MOV0002	RoboBraille eInclusion Award 2008	European Commission	European Commission		2009		English	<input type="button" value="See alternatives"/>
1000009	RoboBraille Service Summary	Lars Ballieu Christensen		19	2011		English	<input type="button" value="See alternatives"/>
1000016	RoboBraille Service Summary	Lars Ballieu Christensen		17	2011		Arabic	<input type="button" value="See alternatives"/>
1000010	The RoboBraille Conversion Matrix	Lars Ballieu Christensen		1.1	2011		English	<input type="button" value="See alternatives"/>

Visual Refsnæs, Seaside Way 112, 4400 Kalundborg. Questions about materials sent to matlab@biblus.dk .
 Questions about Biblus and user support sent to kontakt@biblus.dk
 © 2012 Vision Refsnæs. Developed by Sensus ApS . All rights reserved.





Titel

Titel ID: **1000009**

ISBN: -

Titel: **RoboBraille Service Summary**

Forfatter: **Lars Ballieu Christensen**

Forlag: -

Udgave: **19**

Udgivelsesår: **2011**

Sprog: **Engelsk**

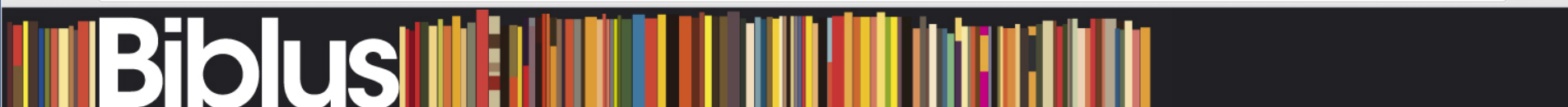
Alternativer

Filnavn	Alternativt format	Dokumentformat	Størrelse(KB)	Illustrationer	Uden behandling	Uden behandling	Med behandling
20111227214947-RoboBraille Service Summary version 1-19 leaflet en.pdf	Almindelig tekst	.pdf	438		Send direkte	Download	Send via RoboBraille
20111227215035-RoboBraille Service Summary version 1-19 leaflet en.doc	Almindelig tekst	.doc	1407		Send direkte	Download	Send via RoboBraille

Synscenter Refsnæs, Kystvejen 112, 4400 Kalundborg. Spørgsmål om materialer sendes til matlab@biblus.dk.

Spørgsmål om Biblus og brugersupport sendes til kontakt@biblus.dk

© 2012 Synscenter Refsnæs. Udviklet af [Sensus ApS](#). Alle rettigheder forbeholdes.



Send via RoboBraille

RoboBraille kan konvertere en lang række dokumenttyper til alternative formater. Først skal du vælge hvilket format du ønsker dokumentet 20111227214947-RoboBraille Service Summary version 1-19 leaflet en.pdf konverteret til. Dernæst skal du angive forskellige valgmuligheder. Endelig skal du vælge 'Send til RoboBraille' for at sende dokumentet til RoboBraille og få det konverteret.

Trin 1. Vælg format for resultatet

Vælg hvilket format du ønsker dokumentet konverteret til. Med denne type dokument har du mulighed for at vælge blandt følgende formater:

- Format
- mp3 lyd
 - e-bog
 - Konvertering
 - Punktskrift

Trin 2. Vælg lydoptioner

Angiv det naturlige sprog for dit dokument og hvor hurtig du ønsker talen.

Valgmuligheder

Sprog:

Hastighed:

Welcome to SensusLibrary

SensusLibrary is a digital library for alternative media. As a framework solution, SensusLibrary is available in customized versions to academic institutions, NGOs and others who wish to establish digital libraries for the print impaired.

Included in this sample implementation of SensusLibrary is a collection of documents that illustrates the flexibility of the solution: Text documents, digital Braille documents, audio files, Daisy projects, e-books, videos, audio pictures, scanned pictures and more.

Authorized users can order documents directly from the library through email or download links, or indirectly in alternative formats via [RoboBraille](#). Using RoboBraille, documents may be converted to mp3 files, Daisy projects, digital Braille, e-books or other accessible formats before they are delivered to the user.

You can login with restricted access to SensusLibrary with the following credentials:

User ID: guest

Password: guest



Phase 2

- DRM in media files
- Student requests, production scheduling, production workflow
- Management of physical assets (games, AT devices, ...)
- Integration to other library meta data bases (Library of Congress, Amazon)
- Individual and group-based access rights

Future Projects

- Commenced implementation in Poland in 2012
- Part of RoboBraille-projects in Central Europe
 - Hungary
 - Romania
 - Bulgaria
- Will probably be included in all future RoboBraille-projects

Potential Uses

- National repository of alternative media
- Collaborative repository amongst special schools
- Digital library solution for individual institutions or organisations
- Internal repository and alternative media production system
- Component use in LMSs, digital library systems

Challenges..

- Lack of common copyright legislation across Europe and elsewhere
 - Requires country specific and/or disability specific implementations
- Lack of proper DRM standards
 - Makes it near impossible to repurpose mainstream digital material as alternative media
- Self-sufficiency challenges VI professionals; welcomed by all others

Invitations

- RoboBraille and Biblus are available for new partnerships, projects, countries
 - New languages, functionality, formats, domains
- Biblus is available for local implementation and localisation
- Sensus and Synscenter Refsnæs welcome invitations to participate in other projects

Contact:

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+45 40 32 68 23

RoboBraille.org

