



One-stop-shops for start-ups eGovernment

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One-stop-shop

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History (before 01.07.2003)

- To start up
 - A permit to establish a business (Ministry of Economic Affairs)
 - An inscription in a commercial trade register (Ministry of Justice)
 - VAT (Ministry of Finance)
 - Several other permits (several Ministries)



- Problem

- Start up a business in Belgium was
 - very time-consuming
 - Very complex
 - Very administratively



- Reaction

- Organizations of independent professions, lead by UNIZO, present to the government a list of demands to change this situation.
 - less administration,
 - simplification of the administration,
 - and, if possible, the whole start-up administration in one service!



- Target of this reaction

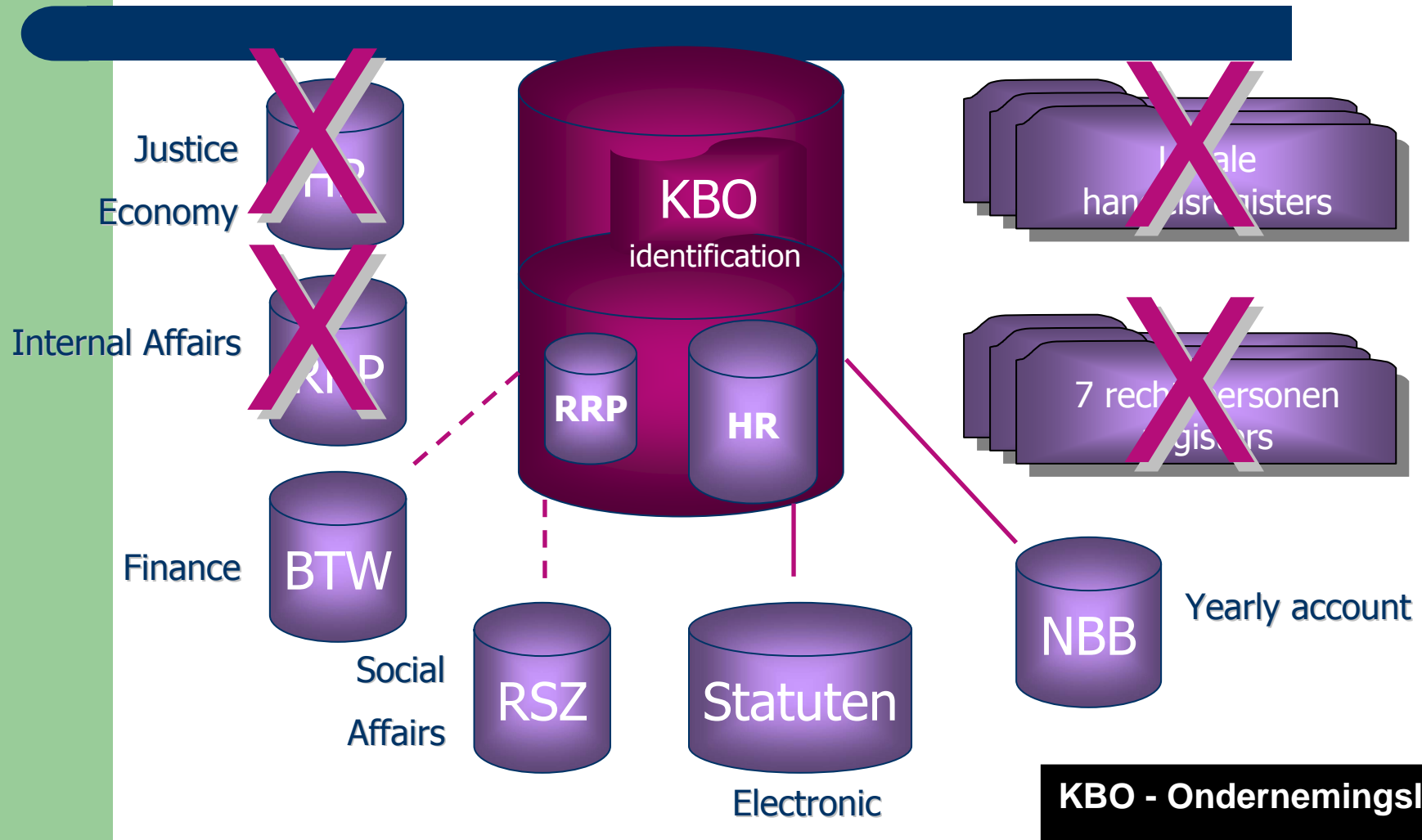
Possibility to start up a business

- * Quickly
- * easely
- * without useless administration

Law of 16.01.2003

- Target of this law
 - Organize a database of enterprises
 - Modernization of the commercial trade register
 - Organize a one stop shop for start-ups and enterprises

Central database of enterprises



One-stop-shop

- Organization
 - Legislation = Government
 - Supervision = Government
 - Construction (IT) & management of the central database (eGovernment) = Government

One-stop-shop

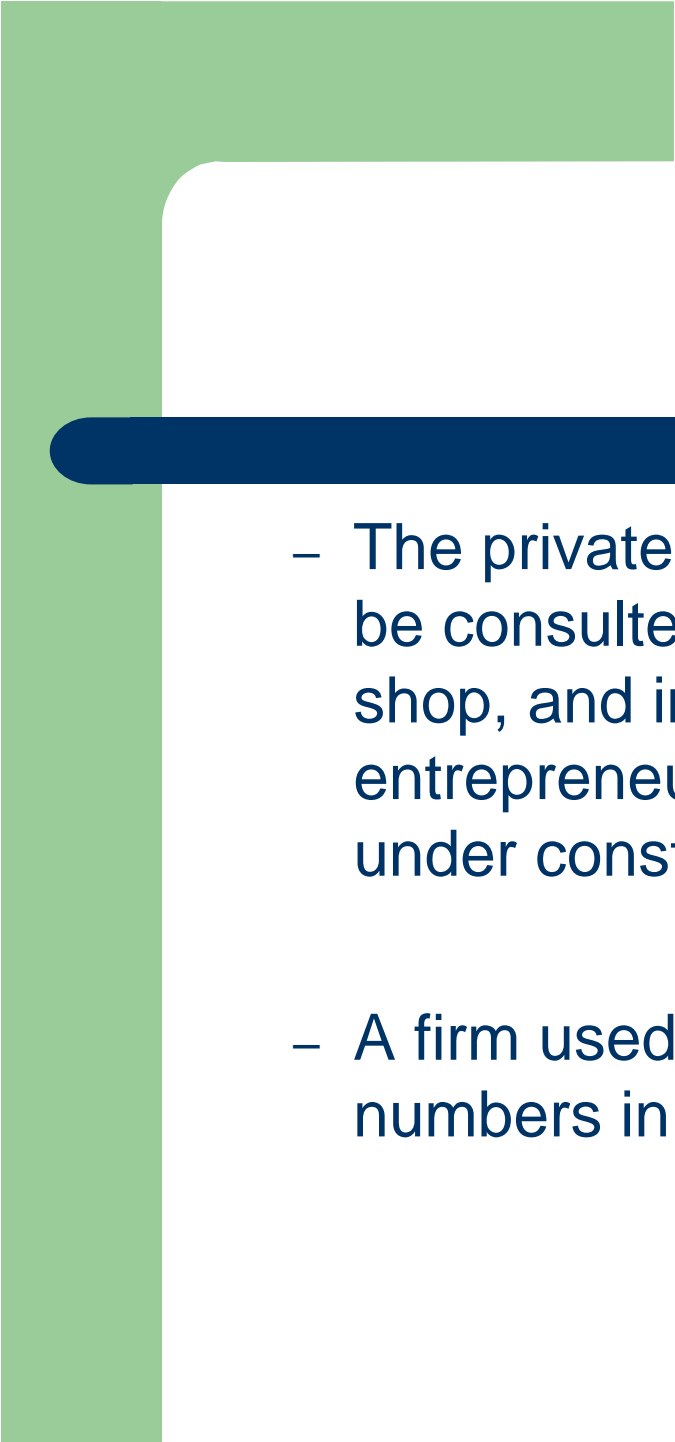

- Organization on the field
 - Private partners
 - After a screening, 10 private enterprises got a license to organize the one-stop-shops.
 - Together these private partners have 225 locations in Belgium.



One-stop-shop

- What has changed ?
 - the Secretary of State (Mr. Van Quickenborne) is watching over the simplification of the administration,
 - because of these 225 agencies of one-stop-shops, the administration is near the start-up and every entrepreneur,
 - in each agency the start-up or the entrepreneur will have a specialist helping him organize all the necessary administration to start up and follow up his firm correctly.

One-stop-shop

- You can find all the important information of a start-up, an entrepreneur or an enterprise in that central database,
 - The law of 16.01.2003 forbids a Ministry or an administration to ask for information again at the entrepreneur if this information is already in the database!
 - The public part of this database shows the most important information of each entrepreneur (free to consult).

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- The private information of each entrepreneur can be consulted by the government, a one-stop-shop, and in the future by the start-up or entrepreneur himself (for the moment, this part is under construction).
 - A firm used to have more than 70 identification numbers in the administration:

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- But now each firm has one identification number in this central database, and that's the unique number that a firm has to use in its communication with the government or other firms!
 - That unique number is the same as the VAT-number with a 0 or a 1 ahead.

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Problems we have got

- Joining together several databases to a central one without losing important information.
- Not having enough time to organize the central database and the one-stop-shop on the field
- Linking the database of each one-stop-shop to the unique central database.
- Not having a good finance of the one-stop-shops.



Also EU-regulations can cause problems.

The EU regulation 3037/90 enforces us to use a new statistical code, to define the activity of a start-up or an entrepreneur.

In the KBO (= central database) this code is linked to the entrepreneurial skills and several permits.

So the governments have to be careful with modifications of legislation in Belgium and also on European level. There has to be at least a good communication when modifications are necessary.

IMPORTANT

- Simplification of the administration and the organisation of one-stop-shops is only possible when:
 - the government and the apparatus of government is very cooperative with the private partner (the organisator of the one-stop-shop on the field),
 - the government wil invest in eGovernment,
 - the whole apparatus of government have to agree that necessary administration for start-ups will be done by the one-stop-shops,
 - there will have to be a continuous communication between the government and the one-stop-shops.

Thank you for your attention

