



PDF/A-3: Do its Benefits for 'Compound' Records Outweigh its Drawbacks?

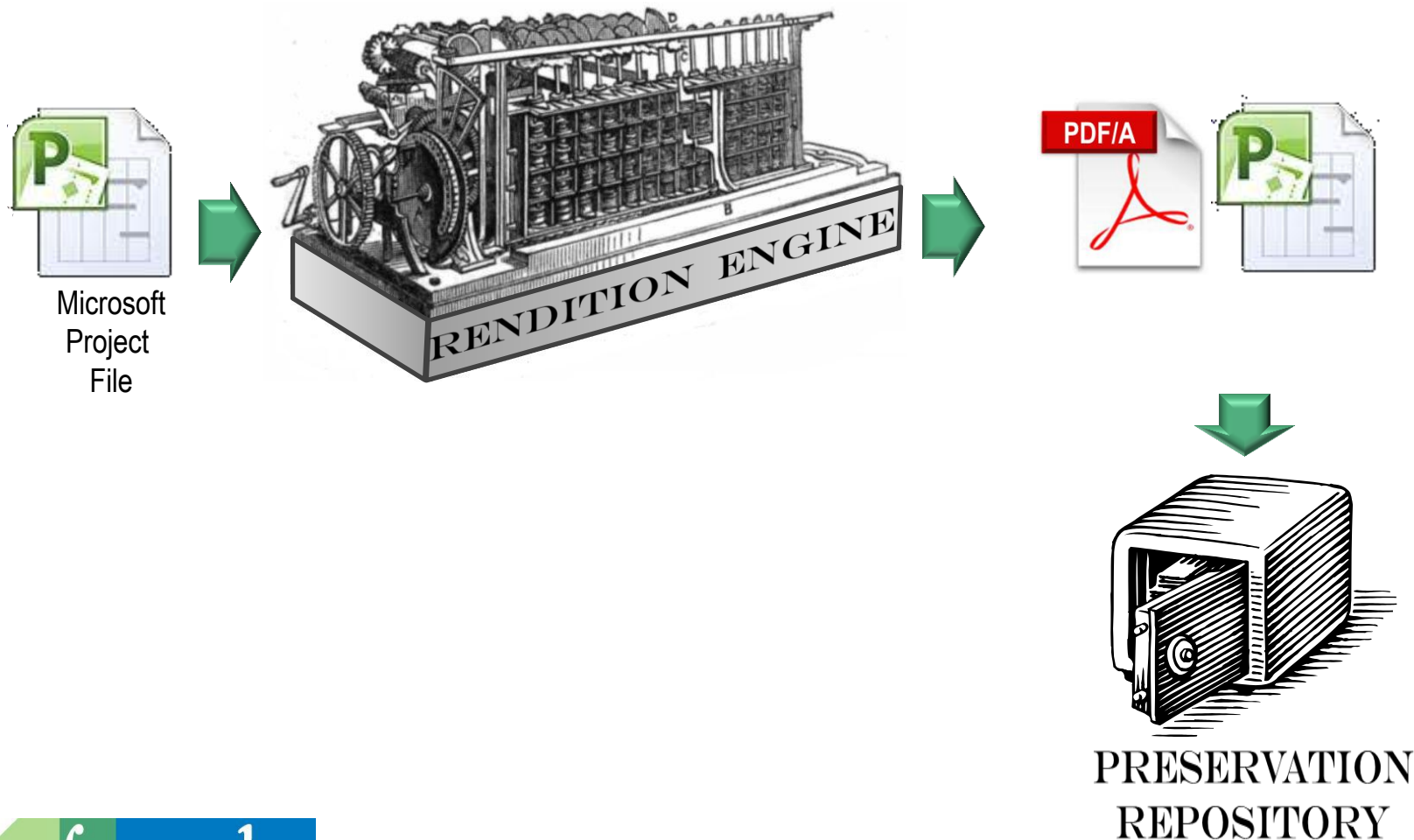
Marc Fresko
Inforesight Limited
DPC, 13 March 2013

Context

Digital preservation is not just for cultural memory institutions

- ▲ National archives, libraries...
- ▲ Private sector
- ▲ Other government bodies

Use Case 1: Rendition

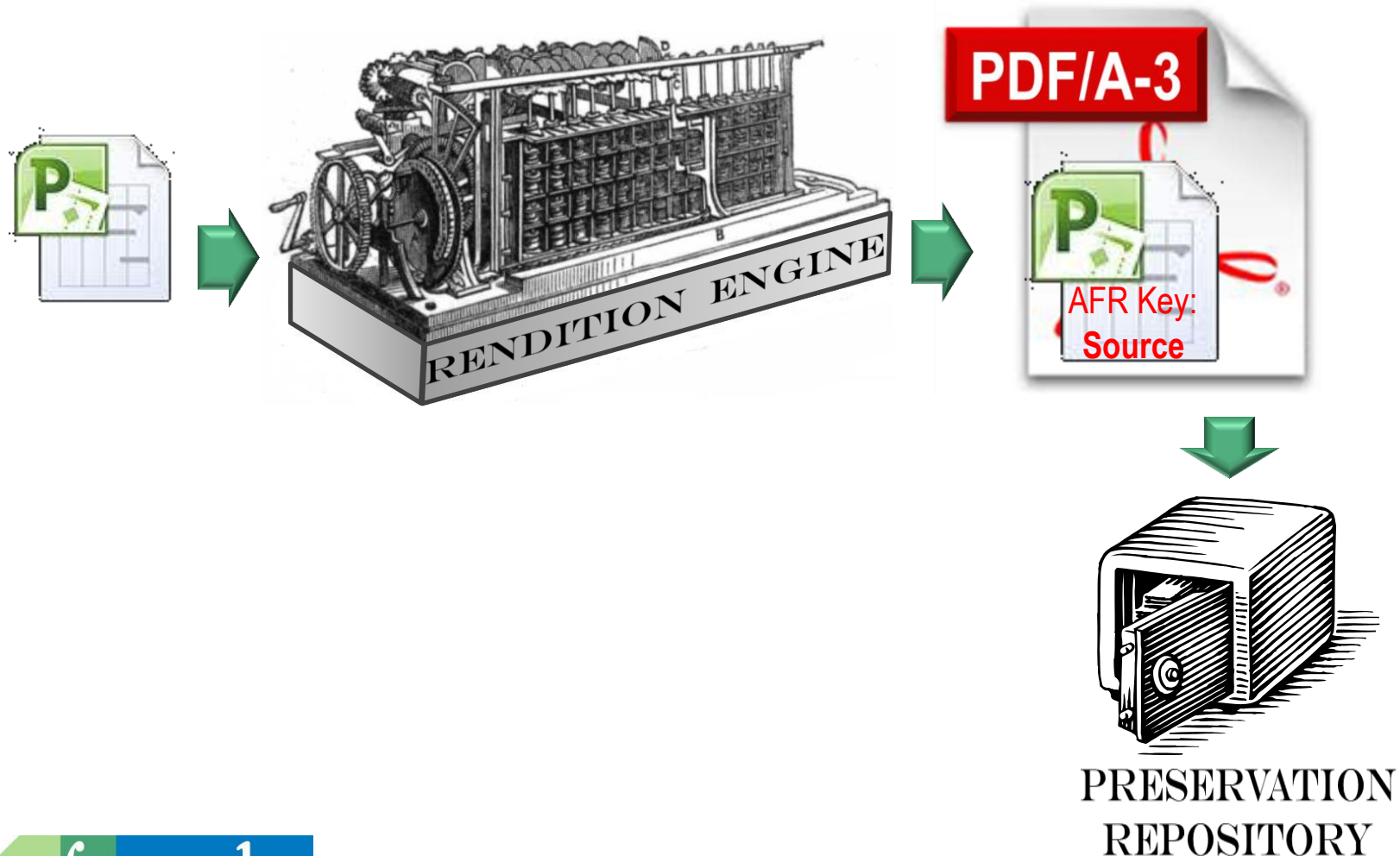


Use Case 1: Rendition - Difficulties

- Manage two objects together
- (Its not just about sending):
 - Manage location
 - Manage access
 - Manage descriptive metadata
- Retain metadata about the objects' relationship



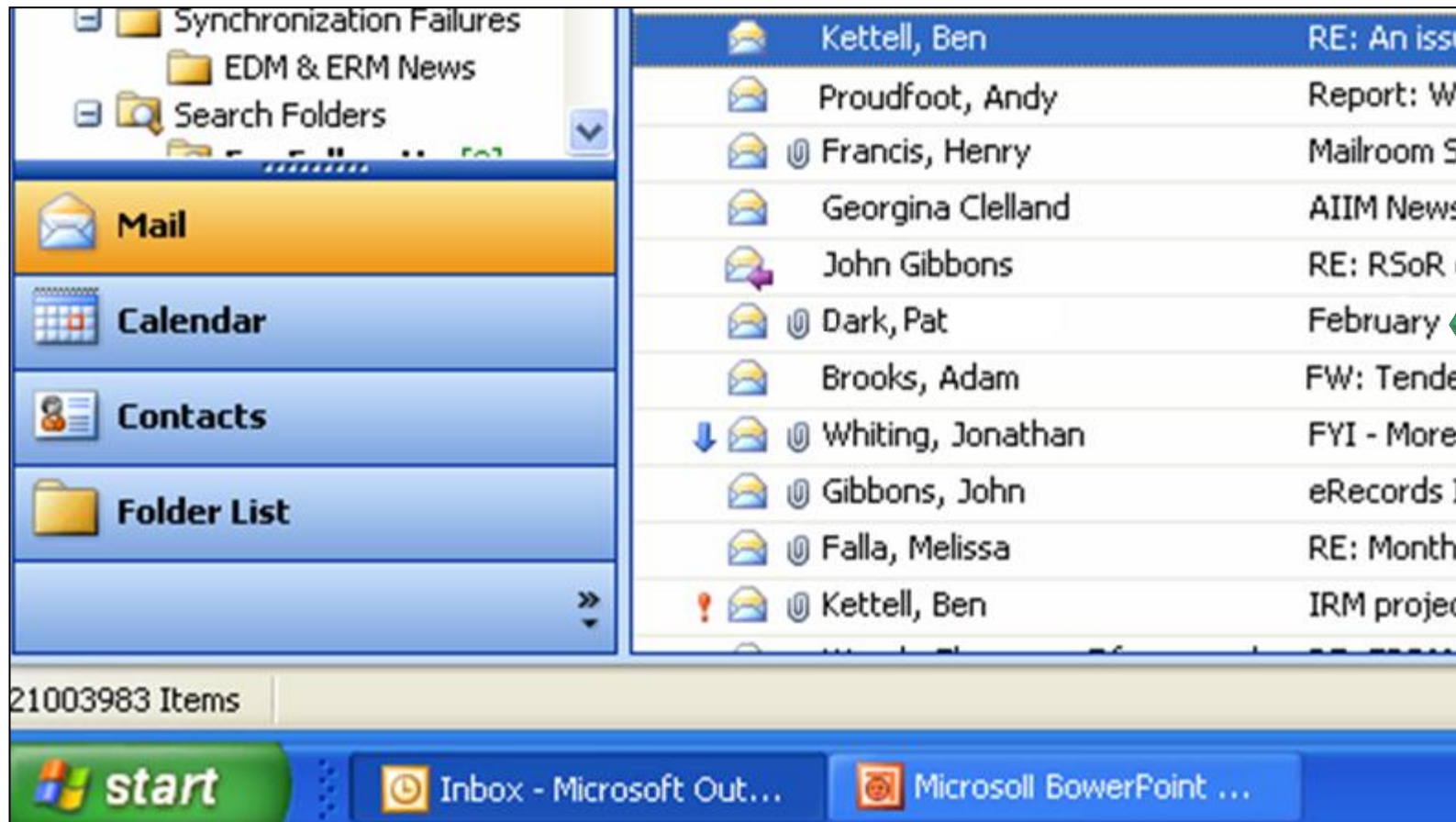
Use Case 1: Rendition using PDF/A-3



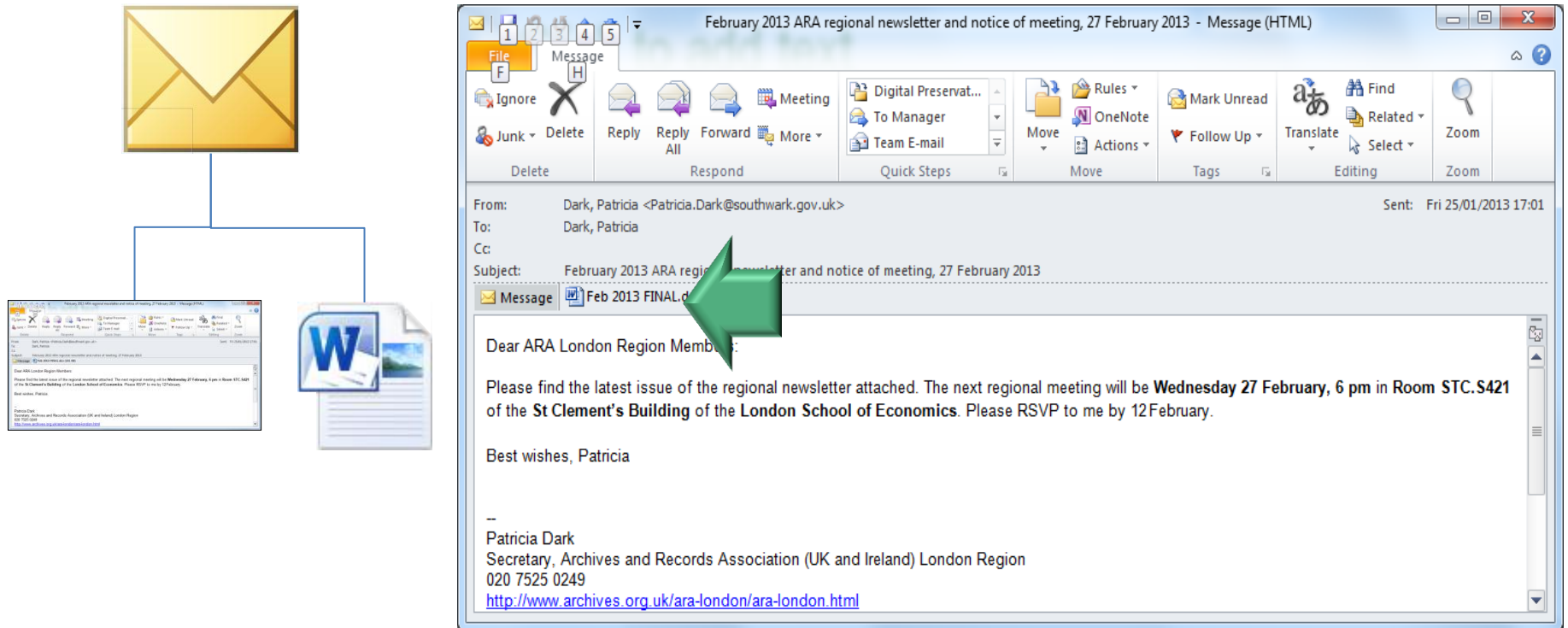
Use Case 1

- ▲ Using PDF/A-3 in this way solves at a stroke a widespread records management problem:
 - once and for all
 - without dependency on custom coding
 - with any repository that supports rendition
 - producing a result that can be used today by anyone
 - with existing rendition software

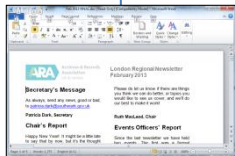
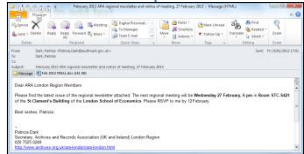
Use Case 2: Recursion



Use Case 2: email with attachment



Use Case 2: the attachment



Borsetshire Regional Newsletter January 2013

Secretary's Message

As always, send any news, good or bad, to conan.t.librarian@southwark.gov.uk.

Conan T'Librarian, Secretary

Chair's Report

Happy New Year!

As a region we're trying to think of how best we can all tackle the challenges it presents. Your committee has been working hard to develop plans for the next five years; a presentation on our proposed strategy is included below.



Strategy 2014 to 2018.pptx

We hope that February's meeting will

geography means we've been able to run evening meetings. Would running Please do let us know if there are things you think we can do better, or topics you would like to see us cover, and we'll do our best to make it work!

A. Scribe, Chair

Events Officers' Report

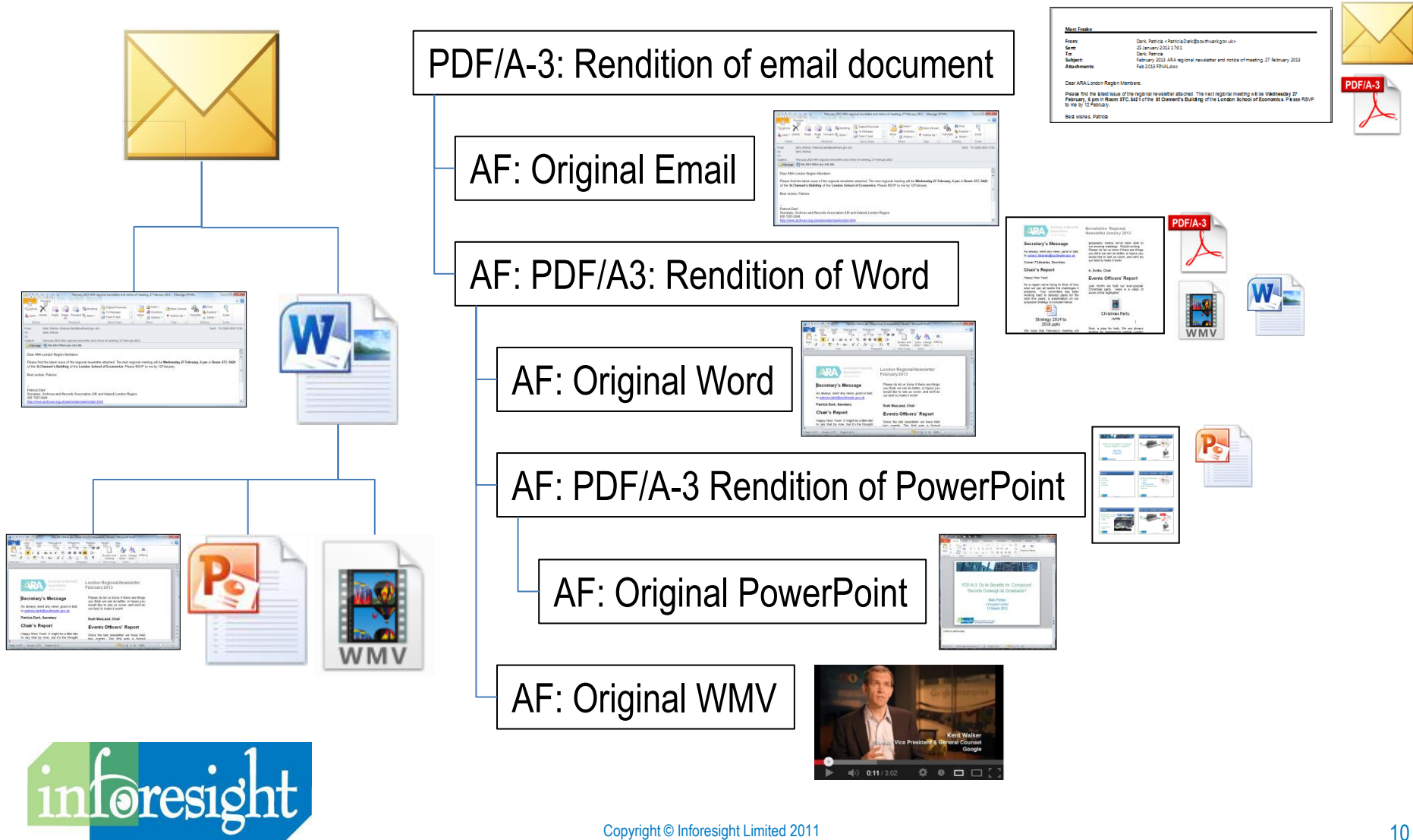
Last month we held our ever-popular Christmas party. Here is a video of some of the highlights!



Christmas Party
.wmv

Now, a plea for help. We are always looking for inexpensive central London

Use Case 2: a PDF/A-3 rendition



Use Case 2

- ▲ Using PDF/A-3 in this way solves at a stroke a widespread records management problem
 - once and for all
 - without dependency on custom coding
 - with any repository that supports rendition
 - producing a result that can be used today by anyone
 - with rendition software that almost exists today
- ▲ The records of today are the archives of tomorrow

Reservation

- ▲ PDF/A-3 allows embedding of inappropriate AFs
- ▲ Nothing can prevent that
 - ▶ Nor can anything prevent it with any other container
- ▲ Well-governed use of PDF/A-3 kills problems that other solutions can't reach



Suggestions for future work

1. Document worthwhile use cases (thank you Andy Jackson)
2. Produce 'good practice' guidance – ISO TR?
3. (If all else fails) Consider volunteering to draft PDF/A- x
(\cong PDF/A-3 plus mandatory preservation-specific metadata???)
only if positive of widespread support and backing