# High-Level Thesaurus (HILT) project, phase IV

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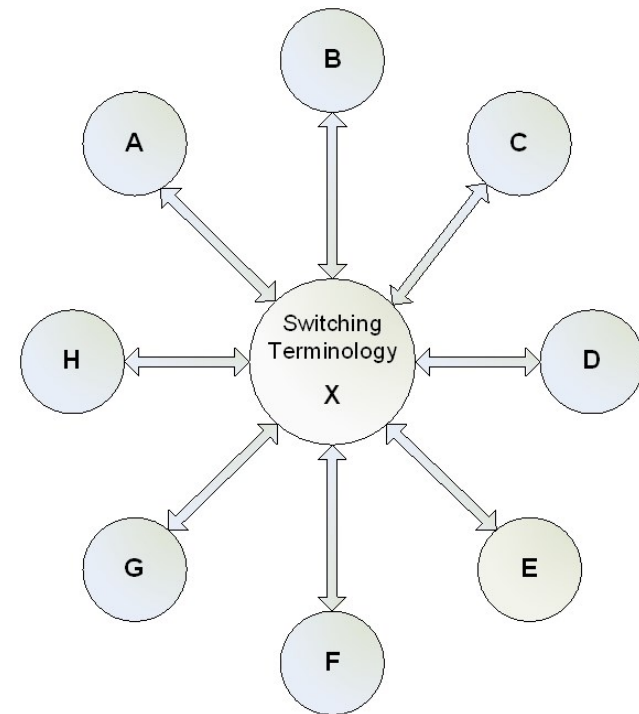Glasgow, UK

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JISC, Brettenham House, London

# Quick HILT overview…

- Increased need for improved interoperability between Knowledge Organization Systems (KOS), encompassing a variety of terminologies.

- Need to improve user access to discrete heterogeneous digital objects, particularly in distributed retrieval contexts.

- HILT aims to provide subject interoperability in a multi-scheme environment (i.e. the JISC IE, but also beyond).

- Mapping between schemes; specifically, using DDC as a switching vocabulary – but providing additional terminological functions.

- Helping users and machines.

# Mapping…

- Mapping: relating equivalent terms, concept or hierarchical relationships from one terminology to another

- Remains largely an intellectual process, even where automated support has been explored
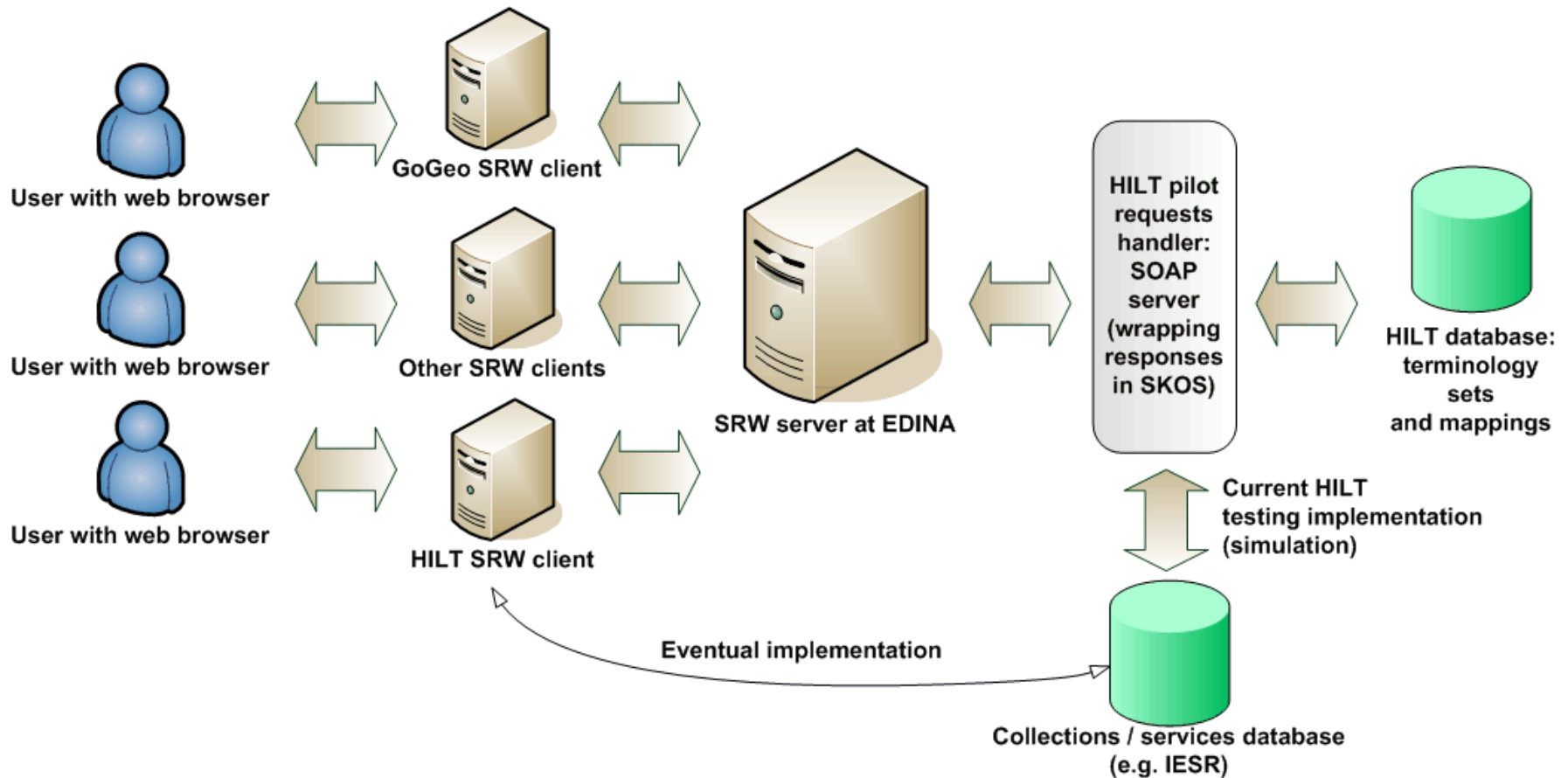
Focus on **switching**:

# Current HILT development…

- Demonstrator: Web service (M2M) implementation.

  - Offers terminology services via SOAP-based SRW (or SRU over SOAP!); extensions possible (Z39.50, SRU).

  - Use of SKOS-Core for wrapping terminological data sent to clients; open to later extension to other formats (Zthes; MARC Concise Format for Authority Data).

  - Open to possibility of a distributed approach to building a full service up via wide collaboration (e.g. other terminology services, collaborative maintenance, etc.).

- HILT IV about moving this to a 'transition to service' phase.

# Current HILT architecture…

# Functions; supporting users; service/project interactions…

- Currently offering a variety of functions, supporting more than mapping functionality; implemented by services.

  - Improved subject interoperability between JISC services in a variety of contexts.

  - Improving users' searching power and resource corpus; enhancing current services for users transparently.

  - Improved searching / browsing of locally indexed content (e.g. hierarchical browsing trees, interactive query expansion, etc.).

  - Service clients can use standard Web service protocols & query language to interact with HILT.

  - HILT functions can be used selectively; data too…

- Many JISC collections/services (e.g. portals, repositories, catalogues,e tc.); IESR; Terminology Registry, etc.

# Project details & contacts…

- **HILT**: http://hilt.cdlr.strath.ac.uk/
  - SKOS: http://www.w3.org/2004/02/skos/
  - SRW: http://www.loc.gov/standards/sru/srw/

- **Centre for Digital Library Research**: http://cdlr.strath.ac.uk/

- **EDINA**: http://www.edina.ac.uk/

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