



Key findings in the process of establishing a Danish traceability system

Workshop on traceability of fisheries and aquaculture products
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**Miljø- og
Fødevareministeriet**
Fiskeristyrelsen

Presentation outline

1. Introduction
2. How the system works
3. Advantages of a digital and joint system
4. Challenges/lessons learned
5. Perspectives on future rules regarding traceability

The Danish traceability system

- Private initiative
- 2012 first step – full implementation in 2014
- Full digital traceability system - providing data from vessel to retail
- Public support: Digital system → Effective model for creating traceability

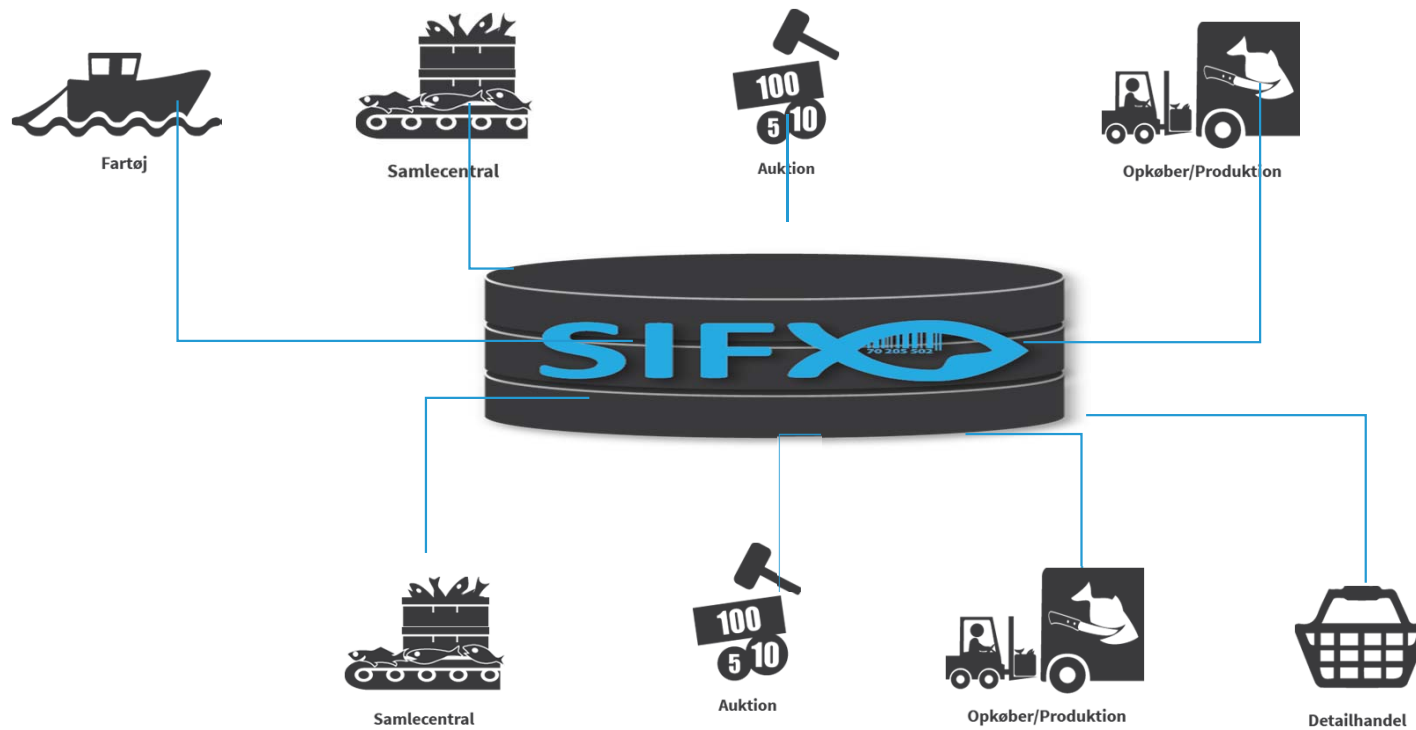
Legal framework

The Danish traceability system is established to enable traceability in line with:

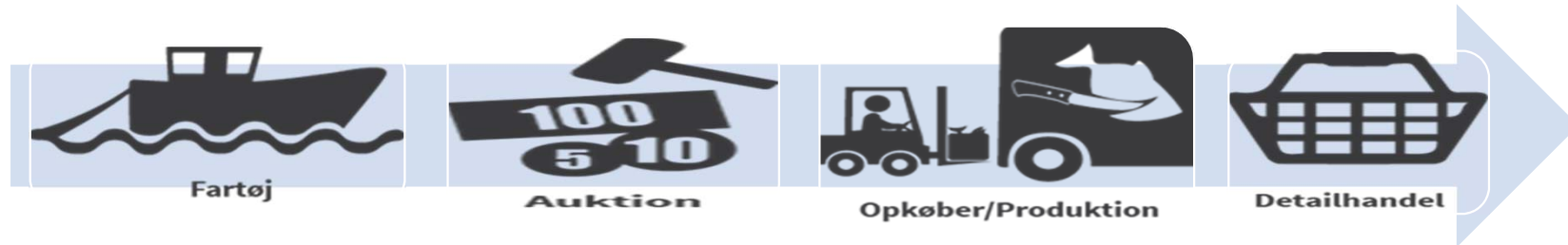
- Council Regulation no 1224/2009 of 20 November 2009,
Article 56-58
- Commission implementing regulation NO 404/2011 of 8 April 2011,
Article 66-68

The system is developed to hold information about operators selling and buying lots, according to article 58 (4), and the data required in Article 58 (5), including information for consumers according to regulation no. 1379/2013, Article 35.

Joint database –
Accessible for operators from all parts of the sector



Traceability from vessel to retail



- Fishermen provide data about the catches
- Auctions add who a lot is sold to, and lots are given a ID-number for traceability
- Buyers and processors can add who they sell to, and if the lots are split or merged
- Retailers can use the data to inform consumers

Advantages of a joint system

- Easy access to obligatory traceability data article 58 (4) and (5)
- Operators have one system to access and learn to use
- Only fishermen provide information about a catch
- Few mistakes – keeping the data all the way
- If used by all operators, the system can provide a complete record of fish caught and sold.
- Effective traceability system supports legal and sustainable fisheries

Challenges / lessons learned

Voluntary system: Fewer operators than expected used the system

The strength of a single joint database depends on usage. A legal framework should be considered to underpin any system

User payment: Lack of a deal (in the fishing industry) about financing the running costs led to no deal for further development of the system

A joint database can require user fees.

Future rules for traceability

- The requirements and definitions of “digital recording” and “electronic transmission” in relation to traceability should be clear.
- Weak definitions undermine coherent initiatives - important to know what system and standards operators will ask for, nationally and in the EU
- Clear definitions of legal requirements for digital usage – i.e. is it digital as in machine to machine?
- A discussion in the Danish sector of future level playing field and of easy transfer of data between Member States, has raised the question, if a joint EU-system is desirable