

The logo for factline, with the word 'factline' in a blue, lowercase, sans-serif font. A thin blue circle is positioned around the letter 'a', and several thin blue lines radiate from this circle towards the top and left edges of the page.

factline Community Server

Knowledge workers use the Internet to create, contextualize, archive and publish texts online. They also use it as a room for social interaction: it is less limiting regarding time and space than a meeting room or a lecture hall and offers more opportunities for content based cooperation such as written peer reviews.

factline Community Server (FCS) is a standardized solution developed by factline which - after a few mouse clicks - provides groups of knowledge workers with such a kind of working environment. After a short training programme any number of ready-for-use factline platforms can be easily created and managed. factline platforms are either rented on a subscription basis, called "Application Service Providing", or installed on a client's server.

A factline platform **fulfills three basic functions**. First, it is a website for external presentation. Second, it is a knowledge pool for structuring and archiving content. Finally, it serves as a communication room for discussion, peer reviews, brainstorming or community small talk.

factline's technology is **used by** international research groups or project teams, cross-departmental task forces, learning communities in higher education and in professional trainings.

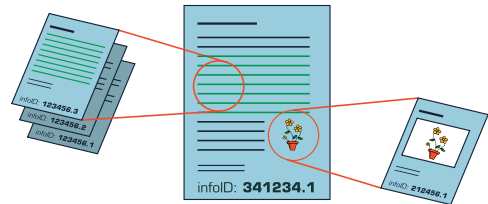
Our **development efforts** are focused on written online collaboration, contextualization and long-term content management. Inside this brochure we highlight distinctive FCS functionalities supporting these areas of knowledge work.

Distinctive features

The following features distinguish FCS from conventional products:

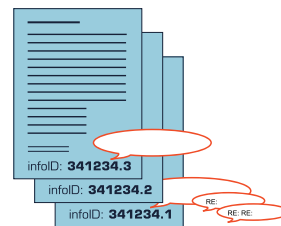
Inclusion of text modules

FCS offers the possibility to directly include the content of an information object, called "fact", as full-text elsewhere. This works with texts as well as with pictures.



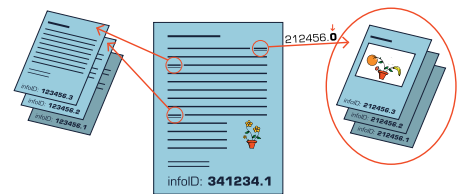
Comment function with version control

Users of FCS can directly add comments to information objects and reply to comments. What makes this function special is the clear indication for each comment to which version of the fact it refers.



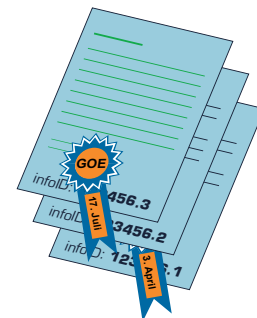
Optional static or dynamic linking

A unique identification number ("infoID") allows to link to every information object on a factline platform. The target is either a specific or the most current version of an information object. This mechanism is vital in order to create dynamic hypertext.



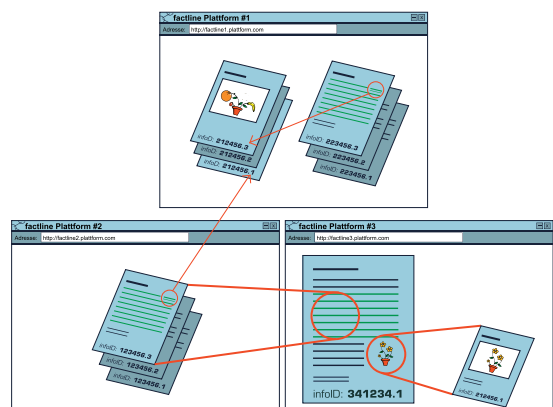
Sophisticated deleting concept

The guarantee of existence (GOE) allows authors to make reliable statements regarding the availability of information. Basically, the concept is about indicating how long information will be available under a unique address.



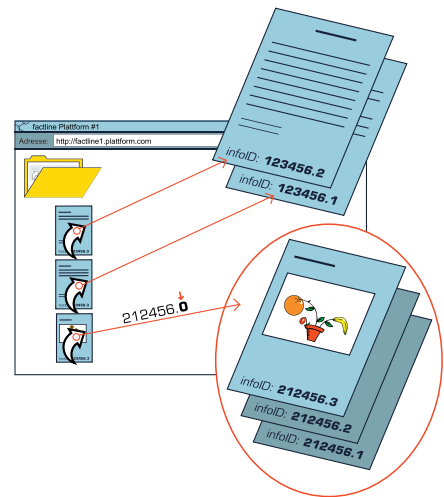
Working across platforms

User groups and content can be used across factline platforms. Information objects can be integrated into various platforms or other information objects, as well as linked across platforms. Subsequently, content is not bound to its place of origin but can be used in various ways. In addition, this allows for gaining an overview of the activities on other platforms.



Multiple allocation of information

Information objects can be shown - by using "shortcuts" - as often as needed in different places. Thus, information is always available where needed.



Flexible permissions down to the level of individuals

Each information object can be provided with read and edit permissions. Permissions are either assigned to user groups or to individual persons.



Further special features

Tried and tested product

FCS standard software has been tried and tested in numerous projects - a big advantage over individual software.

Version control with possibility for comparison

Updated versions of information objects are placed "on top of" the original version which still exists in the background. In the archive, the history of the information object can be traced: modified paragraphs are highlighted, authors of changes are indicated.

High degree of freedom for structuring content

Folders can be deleted, hidden, unhidden, moved or renamed. Information objects of a factline platform can be moved within and between folders as required.

Central overview of several platforms

A "platform display window" shows the latest changes of several selected platforms at one glance.

Advantages of a factline platform

- No waiting time: Your platform can be used immediately.
- No IT concerns: All you need is an Internet browser.
- Customizable: You can define the layout of your platform and adapt it to your corporate identity.
- Calculable: Expenses can be planned.
- Exportable: Data can be exported.
- Expandable: Additional functionalities or platforms can be activated at any time.

Examples/Use cases














Create your own information and communication space in the Internet. FCS is ideally suited for the following areas:

- e-portfolios
- learning communities ("blended learning")
- project communication
- online meetings ("factchat")






Services

A range of functions which is too wide or too small may be equally confusing. Subsequently, our clients appreciate the fact that they are able to choose exactly those functionalities which are absolutely essential for their project. The following services are available:

Content - Services

	Text	Create texts and format them with a text-editor. Complex design and layout can still be created via HTML.
	News	News are created and filtered by date and type.
	Downloads	Up- and download of files of all kinds (.xls, .doc, .ppt, .pdf,...).
	Images	Images are uploaded from your local computer and embedded anywhere you want.
	Events	You can draw attention to conferences, seminars, fairs or other interesting events.
	Links	Create a link collection. Links can be commented and structured by types.
	Library	Apart from bibliographic standard information (ISBN etc.) , summaries and reviews can be added.
	Forum	You can create an indefinite number of discussion forums for an indefinite number of users. Forums can be structured via folders.
	Slideshow	A large number of pictures can be uploaded and presented at once. Various display options (e.g. thumbnail preview, zoom,...) are available.
	factchat	A three dimensional chat in space and time. Users can position their postings freely on a chatboard. Chat entries can be searched, exported and printed.
	Weblog	Entries are ordered in reverse chronological order.
	Partner	Partner logos, which link to a partner profile, revolve at regular intervals on the startpage.
	Comment	Users can directly comment on information objects.

Functional – Services

	Factlist & Search	Full-text and advanced search on the whole platform. A search request can be limited to specific services and fields (author, date etc..)
	Structure	Content can be structured in folders. There are no limits to the number of hierarchy levels.
	Notification	You can choose to be informed about changes, which are interesting for you (by folder, type of service etc.) in optional intervals.
	Users online	Users online are displayed and can send messages to each other ("ping").
	epoz-facttext	An editor for creating and formatting text.

Test factline Community Server at <http://test.kundenplattform.com>
References can be found at <http://www.factline.com>