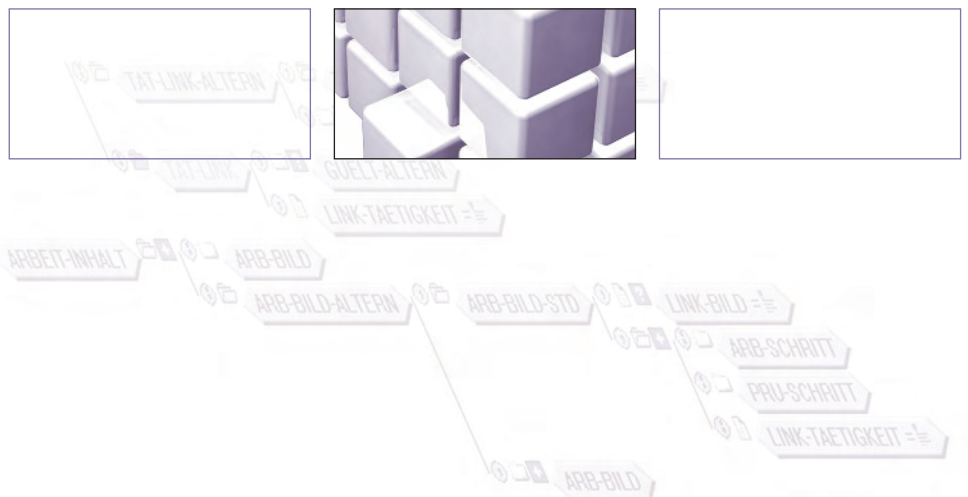
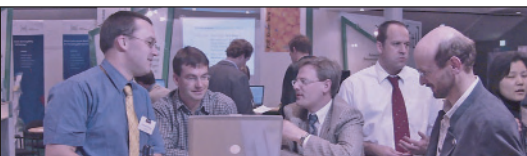
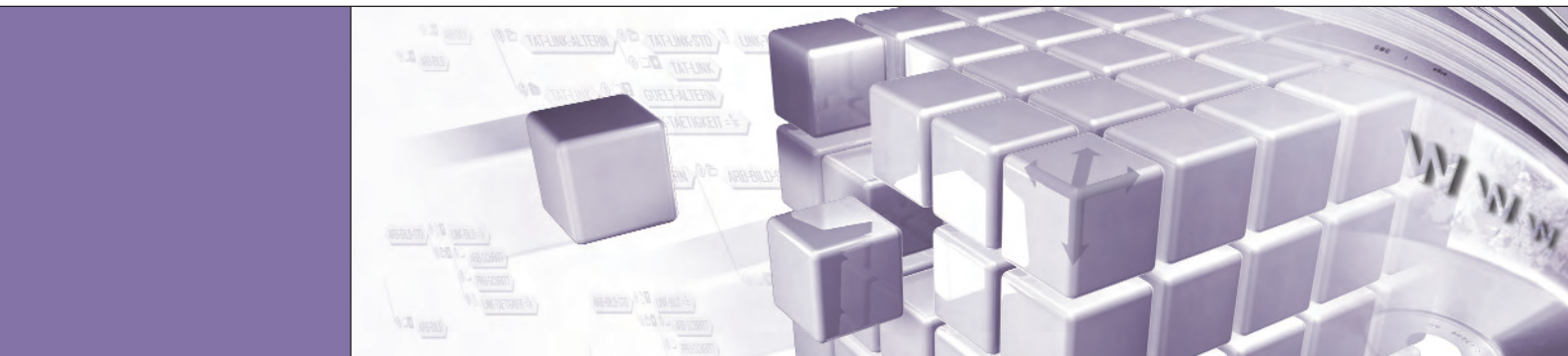


GRIPS

Global Editing and Information Planning System





Staying in control – making the right decision

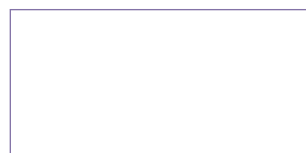
Every customer that you empower through your information support to take autonomous decisions and actions feels in control and remains loyal to you as a trusted supplier.

But you as the author of the information are expected to provide all your clients with the right information for every situation.

And so your information empire appears to be expanding to astronomical proportions – because clients' requirements are extremely numerous and diverse, communication methods are increasingly complex and everyone wants to be served straightaway in their own language.

We can help you to stay in control, make the right decisions and maintain mastery of the plethora of technical information.

Take command of the situation by letting STAR show you how to get to GRIPS.



Information management with GRIPS

In order that information can be of most benefit to you and your customers, it must be available as required by the situation from a central source and retrievable/deliverable through any medium. The GRIPS Global Editing and Information Planning System from STAR consistently supports that principle through a development-orientated perspective when creating, entering and managing information.

GRIPS is a database-type system for the structured creation, management and publication of multilingual information that rigorously exploits all the possibilities of SGML/XML.

Present-day industrial production processes are focussed increasingly on the individual requirements of the customer. As a result, new possibilities arise for creating individually designed products by combining components or systems. GRIPS borrows that modular concept from industrial production and uses it to synchronise the processes of product development, product manufacture and information production.

Information is created alongside the process of product development (from the developer's viewpoint) and independently of its subsequent application, and managed and maintained in the form of self-contained information units.

The areas of application for GRIPS

With its user-configurable standard components and subject and client-specific information structures, GRIPS is the ideal solution for a vast range of applications:

Internal and external documentation in the areas of

- ▲ Administration: product data, tender specifications, contracts, status reports
- ▲ Research and development: product specifications, product information, circuit diagrams
- ▲ Work preparation and production: product process descriptions, job instructions, acceptance reports and tests
- ▲ Sales and marketing: product descriptions, technical data sheets, brochures
- ▲ After-sales: customer documentation, workshop documentation, parts catalogues, diagnostic processes and documentation, support information systems, online help

Standardised documentation

GRIPS supports all widely used industrial standards such as

- ▲ ATA200/ATA2001
- ▲ AECMA SPEC 1000D
- ▲ SAE J2008
- ▲ mumasy, etc.

The central concepts of GRIPS

Separation of structure, content and layout

The creation of technical content in GRIPS is carried out exclusively in topic-related information structures, entirely divorced from the subsequent publication structure or the publication-specific layout.

Powerful conversion functions allow entirely automatic allocation of content to the publication structures specific to the publication medium ultimately employed, whether print, CD-ROM, Internet, web-enabled mobile phone, diagnostic system or control desk display.

A fully automatic generation process enables the production of publications specific to target audience and context based on previously user-defined layout specifications.

Multidimensional information matrix

All information units are managed in a four-axis matrix that is transparent to users. It makes navigation through the information pool intelligent and the information units it contains are systematically classified in the categories of product component, variant, subject and language.

Structuring of content at subject level

Through comprehensive information analysis, an information structure for every subject area and topic is developed that defines the content components involved and their interdependencies.

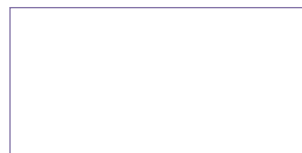
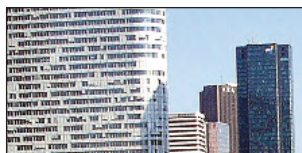
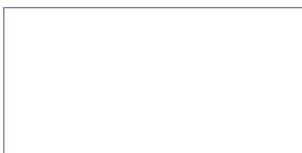
From those structures and the cross-topic links, the subject and client-specific GRIPS information model (knowledge network) is produced.

The delta principle

The content to be stored in GRIPS is entered and managed at an extremely fine level of detail by the links between matrix and information model. That methodology reduces your editing work alone to modified or entirely new content.

How you benefit from GRIPS

- ▲ Shorter information production times (time to market)
- ▲ Greater re-usability of information
- ▲ Fully automated publication regardless of medium and language
- ▲ Client/context-specific analyses and outputs
- ▲ Safer navigation
- ▲ Complex query and analysis options
- ▲ Interdepartmental teamwork
- ▲ Substantially better information and data quality
- ▲ Open-source system and data
- ▲ Maximum compatibility and integrability
- ▲ Greater efficiency and economy





Optimisation right across the entire information process

GRIPS improves the quality of information and the productivity of everyone involved throughout the entire information chain – from information creation to publication.

The content-based structuring of information guarantees high quality data – every item of information is stored only once. Due to that structuring of content, re-usability is increased. And that means creating new content and updating new content are fundamentally more efficient.

The information matrix enables rapid orientation and ensures an up-to-date view of the project at all times – in all languages. The information model facilitates interdepartmental teamwork.

Workflow solutions standardise and control processes.



Technical editors

Editors research and create the content using the GRIPS Editor within the overall information model. The functions supported include displaying content structures, creating and following links, and spellchecking. GRIPS MindReader offers editors context-sensitive suggestions for words and phrases based on existing, and therefore established, content as they type. Identical content is identically phrased.

Documentation managers

Documentation managers use the GRIPS Manager to monitor and coordinate their projects and teams. The following operations are supported: creating the multidimensional management structure, configuring the status model, setting up the workflow, managing history and versions, creating user accounts and permissions, monitoring the data repository and synchronising between different sites.

IT managers

Centralised data management in GRIPS simplifies the work of IT managers with savings in storage space, simplification of data backup, secure issue of access permissions, reliable synchronisation functions where there are separate sites, flexible interfaces with other company databases such as technology, finance, marketing, etc.

Translators

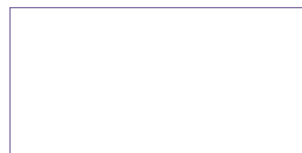
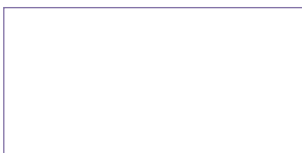
Translating is a similar type of operation to editing – except in a different language. Since unchanged information units are not translated more than once, the translation volume is drastically reduced. Due to the finely detailed, content-based structure, the translator always has all topographical information at hand – in both source and target languages. And that means the translator has access to information about the document content even with the smallest text passages.

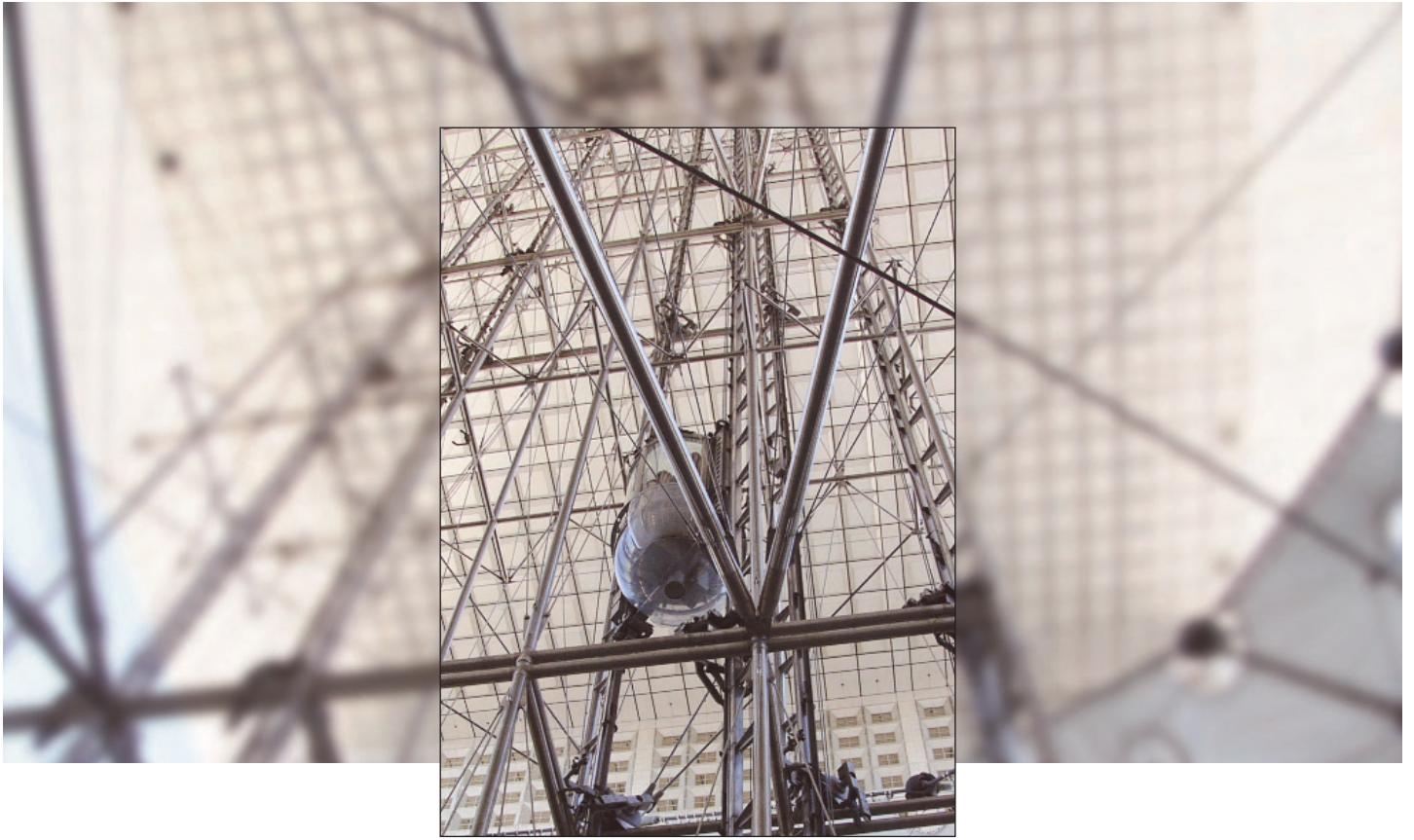
Publication managers

The automatic generation of documentation in GRIPS offers unique advantages: shorter publication cycles, faster updating, ability to make amendments right up to the point of publication, complete removal of all layout work in all languages, output in any medium and perfect coherence of information for every publication.

Terminologists

The working environment is specifically improved for terminologists. By direct linking of the GRIPS classification with the TermStar or WebTerm terminology databases, authorised users have access to the latest structured-content terminology lists. Terminologists can directly process, translate and assign attributes to new terms added by editors and thus make the updated terminology databases available for subsequent editing stages.





Modules, interfaces and techniques

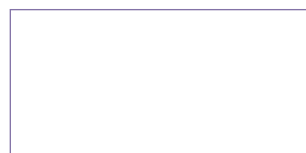
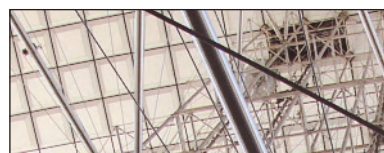
GRIPS is a standardised all-in-one solution for information management with fully integrated, user configurable modules. GRIPS standard solutions can be used in any area of business (automotive industry, engineering, pharmaceuticals and medicine, insurance and finance, electronics, software and many others).

By means of subject and client-specific information and process analyses, GRIPS solutions can be tailored to any application profile. The universal, open-source information and data model enables extensive content analysis and automatic conversion of it for any other system or format.

The information model used promotes company-wide teamwork and information processes. Due to the open-source software architecture, the comprehensive API and precisely defined interfaces, GRIPS can be perfectly integrated in any business IT environment.

In addition to seamless interaction with development, production and administration solutions, STAR's other language technology and workflow automation tools can be fully utilised in GRIPS.

GRIPS is the solution for your information processes from development to diagnosis.



User-friendly interfaces

The GRIPS Matrix is the central module of the GRIPS software for managing the data repository and simultaneously the core element of the user interface for navigating through the entire information pool. Users can easily identify, locate and select the information units to be edited from the matrix. The matrix is also an excellent means of monitoring project statuses.

Workflow automation

The workflow automation solutions also reduce the complexity of file handling and controlling in the editing and translation processes (by assisting project managers with project planning, supervision and quality assurance tasks, etc.). Standardised sequences are processed entirely automatically and predefined quality checks performed by the system.

Version and history management

Every change to the database is recorded and documented along with date and time details and is therefore retraceable at any time. In that way, previously published "historical" documents can be reproduced quickly and in their original form – the necessity for filing and managing old versions of documents is obviated.

Local and global teamwork

GRIPS ideally supports teamwork in the creation of technical documentation. Due to the common GRIPS information model, all team members can see the work done by their colleagues and can make use of their information input where required. In that way, all members of the team always work with the most up-to-date data, even those in different locations.

Individual user management

A wide variety of access permissions can be defined for different user groups or individual users. Those permissions can be allocated at different levels for specific matrix axes and even individual information units.

Use of existing business data

GRIPS can also import and use product information from other software systems (PDM, PPS, spare parts logistics, etc.) through interfaces. Existing information in SGML/XML format can also be read and edited directly.

Multilingual data organisation

Foreign-language versions of the information created are also managed in standardised data structures by means of the language axis of the GRIPS Matrix. GRIPS uses the Unicode standard (ISO 10460). There are no restrictions as to editing and translation language in GRIPS. You can translate from any language into any other language. The procedures remain identical whatever.

High performance with minimal requirements

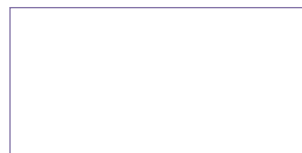
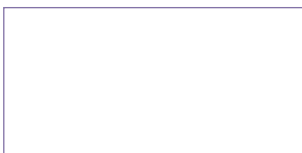
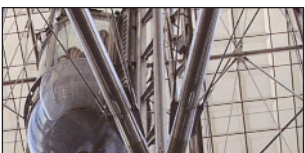
GRIPS delivers high performance even with minimal hardware specifications. The single-source principle that is applied to data management and organisation makes GRIPS processes simple and speedy. Using GRIPS is an investment in the longevity of information and a guarantee for optimum creation and maintenance with the minimum of complexity.

Automatic layout generation

GRIPS makes manual layout/formatting work superfluous. Selected information volumes are output entirely automatically as required by user and situation according to previously defined layout specifications. And that process applies across all languages and media. GRIPS is now the fastest layout generator in the world by some distance and is also more reliable than other systems.

Outstanding integration capability

Intelligent interfaces, the available API and the excellent configurability of GRIPS ensure maximum integrability in external systems such as CAD, PDM, PPS or ERP. GRIPS supports a number of database systems (Oracle, SQL-Server, etc.).





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