

## Pixelboxx Connect

# Pixelboxx – external media management with deep FirstSpirit integration

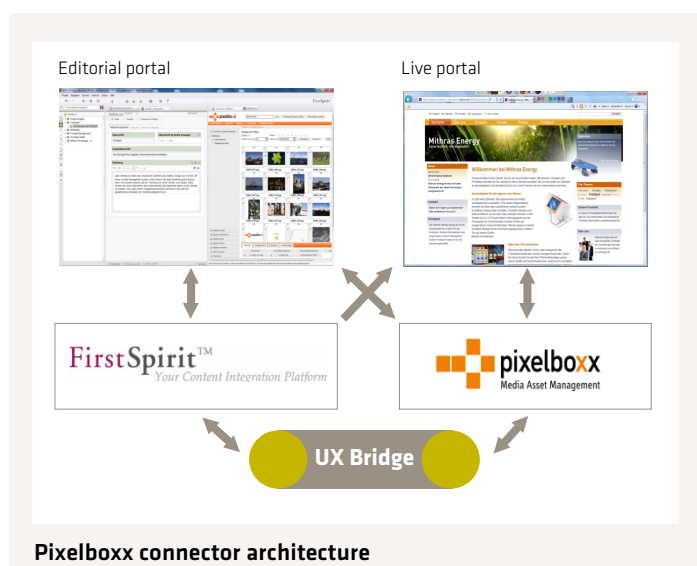
**Many companies use digital asset management (DAM) systems such as Pixelboxx to manage their media content. Pixelboxx is generally used for the central management of all assets and the provision of media to different communication channels. In order to use such media in FirstSpirit CMS projects, the DAM system has to be integrated in the CMS. The “Pixelboxx Connect” module will make Pixelboxx the leading media system for FirstSpirit. It integrates the media management functions of Pixelboxx in FirstSpirit’s editorial client, allowing a seamless editorial process, without any distracting system boundaries.**

Pixelboxx is one of the leading enterprise DAM systems. A large number of companies use it in combination with the content management system FirstSpirit. With its comprehensive asset management functions, and support for various production processes and communication channels, Pixelboxx allows a company’s full range of assets to be managed using a single central system. FirstSpirit is also configured to allow the central management of content for various channels. The creation of an interface that connects the two systems was a natural step. That interface takes the form of the Pixelboxx Connect module, which seamlessly integrates Pixelboxx functions in FirstSpirit.

### Advantages of the module

The Pixelboxx Connect module creates bi-directional connections between FirstSpirit and Pixelboxx using the UX Bridge and AppCenter functions. The AppCenter integration allows Pixelboxx functions to be accessed from the FirstSpirit client and makes Pixelboxx’s asset management functions available directly using a single sign-on. The AppCenter integration also allows editors to reference assets easily in FirstSpirit. A proxy object approach is used to create a media object in the media management system. It can be used by FirstSpirit in the same way as all other media objects. The bi-directional connection between the systems allows all events that cause changes in both systems, such as edits, deletions, changes to metadata or licences etc., to be automatically synchronised via UX Bridge. The use of media in Pixelboxx is recorded using utilisation reports and taken into account in editing processes.

The Pixelboxx Connect solution also offers a number of functions that guarantee the automatic provision of media in content deployment. In the case of images, that includes automatic scaling using Pixelboxx. Pixelboxx’s live-side delivery components can also be used if required, which means media no longer need to be taken into account in content deployment. That drastically reduces the use of resources (data storage and CPU), which simplifies and speeds up deployment processes.



## Functional overview

### AppCenter integration

The Pixelboxx user interface can be launched directly from FirstSpirit using SiteArchitect. Authentication is carried out using a single sign-on via the user account registered in SiteArchitect. The folders and assets in the Pixelboxx user interface display additional application functions. There is a function that gives elements that have already been used direct access to FirstSpirit's media management system. Assets that have not been used yet are identified visually and can be imported to FirstSpirit using the drag and drop function. In such cases, the Pixelboxx assets behave in the same way as local files, which can be directly referenced in the input fields of the forms for pages, paragraphs etc. When a proxy object is selected in the FirstSpirit media management system, the content item is also shown in the Pixelboxx user interface.

When a content item is used in FirstSpirit, so-called utilisation reports are created in Pixelboxx. The URLs of the pages that refer to the content item are also saved, giving the editor direct access to the context in which media items are used.

### Uploading media to Pixelboxx

Media can be uploaded in FirstSpirit using the client's upload function. All upload functions are supported by SiteArchitect and Content Creator. The media items are automatically transferred to Pixelboxx and connected with the FirstSpirit content items, so that they are directly available in both systems.

### Generation and deployment of media

The Pixelboxx assets used in the generation of editions, both for previews and the publication of approved content, are delivered directly by Pixelboxx. A link is created in the preview on the Pixelboxx server using the supplied link templates. When the approved version is published the media are created by Pixelboxx and transferred to the content generated by FirstSpirit. All Pixelboxx functions for the creation of assets, such as watermarking and producing versions with various resolutions, are used.

### Deleting media in Pixelboxx

Media that are deleted in Pixelboxx, and are therefore unavailable, are also deleted in the FirstSpirit media management system. Information about such events can be provided to editors using a configurable workflow, which also allows them to replace the missing media.

## Licence events

Licence conditions often apply to media. Pixelboxx offers a variety of functions that can be used to take such conditions into account. Restrictions on use identified in this way can prevent such media from being used on pages managed using FirstSpirit. Workflows can be configured to inform editors about such licence-related events, e.g. upcoming expiry dates.

### Configurable mapping of roles, groups and meta data

The automatic synchronisation of metadata for use in FirstSpirit is achieved using an easily configurable metadata mapping function. This mapping process defines the presentation of input fields on the FirstSpirit metadata page using the metadata from Pixelboxx.

### Updating media with changes in Pixelboxx and FirstSpirit

Changes to connected media items are exchanged and processed using UX Bridge. That applies to both the modification and use of media in FirstSpirit and editing in Pixelboxx. In FirstSpirit, preview images are automatically replaced with proxy objects, amended authorisation is applied and metadata is updated.

## adesso competence

Pixelboxx Connect is a FirstSpirit solution from adesso. adesso supports the development of tailored corporate portals, and company-wide migrations and relaunches based on FirstSpirit. As a preferred and technology partner of e-Spirit AG, adesso offers the comprehensive competence of the adesso Group for challenging CMS projects. Its customers benefit from extensive product and project experience and the closest possible cooperation with software producers. Those advantages make adesso the preferred consultant and project partner for the design, implementation, maintenance and operation of FirstSpirit corporate portals.