Working side by side with journalists is the best way to build tools.
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Key facts about Sourcefabric

Who are we?
A group of former journalists, technologists and international development workers who have converged around the cause of bridging the digital divide in media.

What do we do?
We use open-source technology to rewire the news business for good.

How does our business model work?
We use the proceeds from our commercial software development projects to fund our media development work, providing technological infrastructure to independent media organizations in emerging economies and/or politically challenging situations.

Awards
- 2011 // Knight-Batten Award for Innovations in Journalism
- 2012 // Guardian Megas Award for Digital Innovation
- 2012 // African News Innovation Challenge Award

Software development partners

- AAP
- NTB
- STT
- ANSA

Media development partners

- Imagine Center for Conflict Transformation
- Open Society Georgia Foundation
- South Caucasus Open School
- Global Forum for Media Development
- Internews
- First Draft Network
- Climate Mosaik
- Amnesty International
- European Journalism Centre
- Code for Africa
- Hacks/Hackers
- Netgazeti
- Meydan TV
- Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung
- Prague Civil Society Center
- Bakala Foundation
Superdesk is a “headless” digital newsroom content management system and workflow platform for news media developed by Sourcefabric, Europe’s largest developer of open-source tools for news media.

Superdesk can be used by media organisations ranging from national news agencies to small and medium-sized publishers to organise, manage, and improve the workflow of day-to-day operations. This includes content creation, production, distribution, archiving and curation.

Superdesk has an elegant, intuitive interface that promotes clarity and focus for both journalists and newsroom managers.

Because it is open source and modular, Superdesk can be easily integrated with legacy newsroom applications as well as other third-party tools. The guiding principle behind its API-first design is to adapt and evolve in tandem with the needs of a news organisation.

**Who is Superdesk for?**

Superdesk was conceived as a content management and workflow platform for news agencies and other large media organisations that process large amounts of content through complex workflows. However, small and medium-sized organisations can also benefit from its scalable tools to boost the efficiency of their existing publishing operations and build the foundation for future products and services.

What’s the technology behind Superdesk?

Superdesk consists of a server written in Python, and uses the Flask microframework with ReSTful APIs developed in Python-Eve. MongoDB is the main storage utility, and is indexed by Elasticsearch.

Additionally, Superdesk is an AngularJS single-page application and the UI uses some React components. Tasks and messaging use Celery and RabbitMQ. All of Superdesk’s code is maintained on GitHub, where the technologies and dependencies of the full stack can be examined on the product page. It is licensed under GNU AGPL version 3.

What sets Superdesk apart?

Superdesk is the only media management solution designed to be platform-agnostic from the start. Built in the newsroom alongside working journalists, it is aimed at solving the day-to-day challenges facing news organisations.

Its key features include:

- Custom content profiles based on metadata
- Standards-based content packaging and distribution
- Powerful filtering, search and archiving options
- Automated content creation and distribution
- API-first architecture
- Fine-grained user access and permissions
- Flexible, customisable authoring environment
What can media organisations do with Superdesk that they couldn’t do otherwise?

In a word: COPE (Create Once Publish Everywhere)

News organisations distribute thousands of news articles on a daily basis. Depending on the destination, an article needs to be configured in a particular parser, including but not limited to RSS, website, or email. Superdesk does this automatically using conversion templates.

The COPE process also works with content input through Superdesk’s powerful Ingest function. Source content from news wires and other news agencies comes in a variety of formats which are then converted automatically into article text ready to be edited further or distributed in Superdesk.

Who’s using Superdesk?

- AAP, Australian Associated Press
- NTB, the national news agency of Norway
- ANSA, Italy’s top news agency
- The Source, Zimbabwe

Who can I contact if I have more questions?

Anna Rohleder
Head of Communications
anna.rohleder@sourcefabric.org
+ 1 323 841 7618 (GMT - 5)
Superdesk Planning Component: Plan for success

Make your event coverage easier and more effective with the Superdesk Planning Component.

- Streamlined event coverage and editorial planning
- Automatic publishing of event calendars and agendas
- Easy integration with other applications
- Robust and flexible open source code base

Benefits of using the Superdesk Planning Component

- **Consolidate planning tasks and items into one hub:** Connect your forward planning tools with editorial calendars and assignments. Also ingest events from sources like public calendars and event data providers.

- **Create content out of planning items:** Assignments turn planned coverage into news items about an event. Coverage can be assigned to individual journalists or to desks.

- **Enhance discoverability of your content:** Text, photos and videos as well as planning items and assignments are fully searchable since they are defined with metadata.

- **Coordinate with clients and partners:** Event calendars can be distributed to customers or other collaboration partners in your network.

- **Spin up new products and services:** A RESTful API with endpoints for content management and delivery makes it simple to integrate with third-party applications, including mobile apps.

The Superdesk Planning Component has been built in working newsrooms. Together with our development partners at NTB (national news agency of Norway) and AAP (Australian Associated Press), along with input from other news agencies around Europe, we have designed a forward-planning tool that meets the needs of reporters and editors.

The Superdesk Planning Component is made to make things easier for you in the newsroom. Based on industry standards such as EventsML and NewsML-G2, it helps you do more with the content and coverage you already have. From structuring your newsroom data to finding new opportunities to add value with the products and services you deliver to customers, the Superdesk Planning Component keeps you on track for future success.
Publish your digital success story with Superdesk Publisher

Manage all of your editorial assets and publish multimedia content through a variety of channels, all from one dashboard, with Superdesk Publisher.

- Set it up in minutes; nothing to install or configure
- Collaborate with team members
- Build content easily with drag-and-drop functionality
- Enrich your stories with videos and image galleries
- Include social media snippets
- Monetise your coverage
- Gain insight into your audience

Benefits

API-based design
Plug Superdesk Publisher into any newsroom software. It’s a native extension of Superdesk and integrates easily with custom site management tools, too.

Third-party platform support
Distribute your content easily, with built-in integration for publishing Facebook Instant Articles and Google’s Accelerated Mobile Pages (AMP).

Website design made simple
Superdesk Publisher gives editors creative control of their web properties with live site management on the front end, without any need for developers to get involved.

Integrated widget support
Flexible content layouts let editors add or remove functionality to a page on the fly, either by adding widgets from an available library or by creating new ones.

Superdesk Publisher was made for the multi-tenancy, multi-channel publishing needs of today’s digital newsrooms. It is designed to work natively with the open-source PHP content management services that are popular with news organisations today. Superdesk Publisher allows for rapid prototyping and experimentation in the newsroom, as new website and digital layouts can be created independently of back-end systems.
Elections, Sports, Breaking News: cover it all live and maximise reader engagement

Covering events in real time has never been easier, faster or more captivating

Proven Reasons To Use Live Blog

- Set it up in minutes; nothing to install or configure
- Build content easily with drag-and-drop functionality
- Enrich your stories with social media cards, videos and image galleries
- Follow professional journalistic workflows
- Give your live coverage an SEO boost with our new SEO-friendly theme
- Syndicate your live content with other news outlets

Features

- Blog Analytics
- Image Slideshow
- Highlight & Pin Posts
- Syndicate Content
- Native & Remote Ads
- Scorecards
- Custom Post Types
- Theme Management
- Mobile Reporter App
- Social Media Posts
- User Comments
- Live Coverage Marketplace
- Journalistic Workflows
- SEO and AMP support

Live Blog is built on an innovative, open-source technology stack. In 2016-2017, Sourcefabric’s Live Blog received a grant from the Google Digital News Innovation Fund for the Live Coverage Ecosystem (LCE) project. Built on

Live Blog, the LCE aims to promote syndication of content among news agencies and their clients and improve monetisation based on better search engine visibility and advertising management.

According to a 2014 study by the London School of Economics
We have been using Live Blog for a while now, so much that it has become a basic component of our newsdesk. We have been able to rely on it at any given time.

Johannes Neukamm
Research and Development, Zeit Online
Media development at Sourcefabric

Whether you are in Basel or Bamako, we believe that independent voices make a difference in society. Sourcefabric makes open-source software to foster journalistic independence and diversity in the global media landscape.

Who we are
Sourcefabric is Europe’s largest developer of open-source tools for news media. Headquartered in Prague, Czech Republic, Sourcefabric z.ú. brings people together from all corners of the globe to promote media development through open source software.

What we do
We create and maintain open-source software solutions that are relevant to newsrooms anywhere in the world. We work to minimize or eliminate technological inequalities based on organisation size or income. We foster the editorial and economic independence of media organisations by supporting innovative news models in the online environment.

Where we work
Some of the focus areas for our open-source newsroom technologies include:

- news organisations in low-income countries
- countries with restricted human rights
- conflict zones or regions
- underdeveloped media markets

Sourcefabric technologies have assisted news start-ups as well as established news outlets in countries such as Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Serbia, Sudan, Yemen and Zimbabwe to complete their digital transformation and develop online news businesses.

The Source
The Source is an independent news start-up in Zimbabwe covering business and finance. Its mission is to help relate financial news to the everyday lives of people in the country. Since 2016, the European Journalism Centre (EJC) has been providing vital mentoring and training to the Source. The EJC requested Sourcefabric’s help in finding a technological solution for The Source. The Source first decided to implement Sourcefabric’s Live Blog tool for live coverage. Subsequently, the team opted to start working with Sourcefabric’s newsroom management system Superdesk. Superdesk is powering The Source’s digital publishing through its WordPress site, allowing the editorial team to produce a greater volume of content that can be easily distributed to a variety of online platforms.
Meydan TV

Meydan TV is an independent online news organisation covering news on and from Azerbaijan. It was started in 2013 by Emin Milli, an exiled journalist from Azerbaijan based in Berlin, Germany. With Sourcefabric, Emin and his team found a locally based partner that could bring support to the early stages of Meydan TV. Sourcefabric has experience not only with journalism, but also with the difficult situation for journalists in Azerbaijan. In 2017, Meydan TV won a Free Media Award from the Norwegian Fritt Ord foundation and ZEIT-Stiftung for its "courageous and objective" role in providing independent news about Azerbaijan.

What we make

Superdesk, Sourcefabric’s state-of-the-art digital solution for newsrooms, was co-developed with large international press agencies. Superdesk translates editorial and operational efficiencies into the digital environment. It aids work distribution, decision-making, content creation and quality control as well as administrative tasks. Interoperable and modular, it adapts easily to accommodate future innovations. Because smart newsroom workflow is the foundation of sustainability for any news organisation, Superdesk has also been adapted for use by small and medium-sized editorial operations. Sourcefabric’s aim is to enable news organisations of any size and budget to have a professional and efficient workflow aided by professional technology.