



**Farcast application: Reporter**  
*from the mobile reporter to the newsdesk*

The Farcast Reporter enables journalists to publish news text, video, images and audio files via their mobile. Once the story materials are ready the journalist simply presses 'Send' and the location-tagged news is available at the newsdesk for editing or release. A customised version of Farcast Reporter has been developed for Netherlands national news agency ANP and includes a visual representation of the geographical location at which news reports have been filed.



**FARCAST - THE NEXT GENERATION CONTENT REPURPOSING PLATFORM**

**Structure**

Farcast Reporter consists of an application resident on a mobile terminal and back-end functionality hosted by the Farcast platform. The mobile application makes it possible for users of the mobile terminal to blog location-tagged multimedia content to a webpage or alternatively to an RSS feed. The location-tagged multimedia content can consist of text, images, audio or video. The Farcast platform fetches, transcodes, stores, manages and publishes the multimedia content.

**Demonstration: Step by Step**

1. start the application on the mobile
2. create a multimedia item (text, image, audio)
3. location is automatically added to the multimedia item via connection with a GPS receiver (optional functionality)
4. post the multimedia item by pressing 'Send'.
5. application sends the multimedia item to the Farcast server.
6. password-protected website displays the posted multimedia items, including name of journalist and linked option to view the posted multimedia items via a geographic interface.

**Variations**

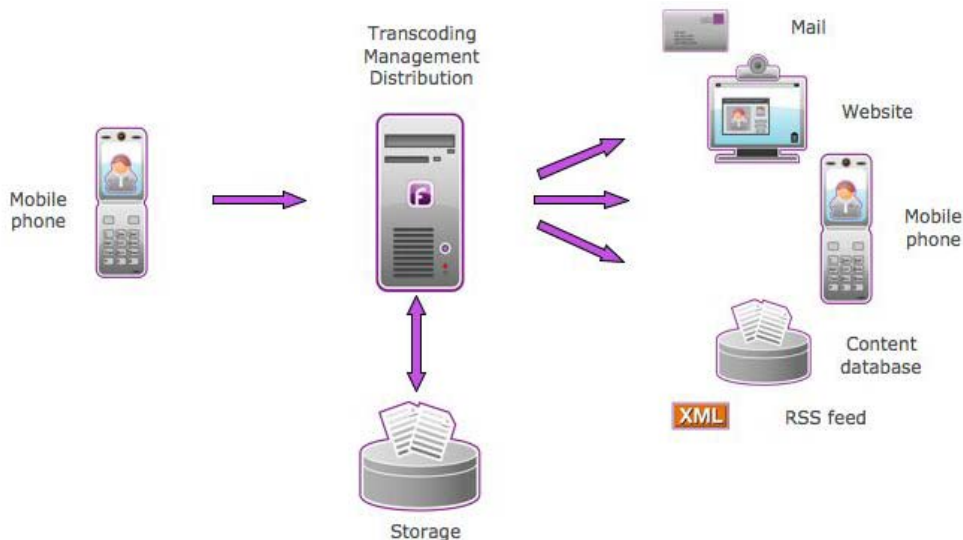
The Farcast platform allows for several variations on the Reporter application. Content can also be uploaded via other means than a mobile application, e.g. via MMS, e-mail or pushed from a content database. Uploaded multimedia content can also be published by sending an MMS message to subscribers or can be published direct to an RSS feed, e-mail, or Instant Messaging client.

**Farcast Reporter can be customised as follows:**

- application look and feel - splash screen, colours, logo etc.
- website look and feel - colours, logo, etc.
- website content structure – listed by timeline, geolocation, and/or subject.

**Potential customers**

Businesses that need to post self-created multimedia items or businesses that want their customers to post their user generated content online instantly. For instance journalists, communities, newspapers, parking attendants, police, etc.





Farcast of TNO is a next generation content repurposing platform. It supports services that let content owners and users create, share and publish multimedia content whenever and wherever, regardless of format or device. Farcast takes care of the compatibility between the originating and target device. This allows customers of TNO to define multimedia content services that will fit best to the specific wishes of their customers, end-users or employees. TNO implements and hosts the service on the Farcast platform in order for TNO's customer to brand, use and/or sell the service.

Content can be delivered to the Farcast platform in a variety of formats and via several protocols. Farcast will manage, store and distribute the content in the correct format. The Farcast platform incorporates functionality for subscription, security, transcoding, application distribution, user management and a business logic manager for flexible service creation. Farcast, set up as a fully distributed architecture, can also be seamlessly integrated into IMS or SIP-based architectures, generating a new breed of rich media applications which encourage the creation and sharing of multimedia content.

#### Farcast Platform Specifications

The Farcast platform is set up as a fully distributed architecture in order to handle network and functionality changes gracefully; each component is built as a service that can be started or stopped without service interruption.

#### Operating systems

The Farcast platform runs on the Java platform and is therefore Operating System independent. Current implementation is on Linux Debian.

#### Retrieval Formats

Content can be pulled by or pushed to the platform in a number of formats and via several ways:

- Various XML formats incl RRS 2.0, Atom 1.0 and NITF
- MMS, SMS
- Email
- Via a web based interface
- Via a mobile application (e.g. Farcast Reporter)
- HTML, WML, XHTML
- upload via FTP and SCP
- Multipart MIME format

#### Publish Formats

After repurposing, the content can be made available in a number of formats and via several ways:

- Various XML formats incl RRS 2.0, Atom 1.0, and NewsML
- Mobile application
- XML-RPC to blogsites
- Email
- HTML, WML, XHTML
- WAP Push, SMS, MMS
- (mobile) SIP clients
- Instant Messaging clients

#### Supported Image Formats

- image/jpeg
- image/png
- image/gif
- image/vnd.wap.wbmp

Other image formats can be optionally supported

#### Supported Audio Formats

- audio/amr
- audio/mpeg1 (layer 3)
- audio/aac
- audio/pcm (wav)

Other audio formats can be optionally supported

#### Supported Location Types

Cell-ID  
GPS coordinates

#### Transcoding of Images

Automatic transcoding for various device types. Image transcoding includes adaptation of:

- image format
- resolution
- color scheme
- color depth
- size limit
- quality factor (limited by image format)

#### Transcoding of Audio

Automatic transcoding for various device types. Audio transcoding includes adaptation of

- audio format
- bit rate (restricted by codec)
- sampling rate (restricted by codec)
- sampling resolution (restricted by codec)
- size limit

#### Farcast Reporter application client

The client runs on phones that support Python for Series 60 or J2ME MIDP 2.0 in combination with J2ME MMAPi.

#### Other Farcast applications

- NewsFacts - *from content creator to the mobile reader*
- AudioLink - *always access to the latest audio news*
- Podcaster - *podcast from the mobile to the web*
- FeedMe! - *feeds weblogs into your mobile*
- ScreenCast - *narrowcasting for the masses*

More information can be found on [www.farcast.nl](http://www.farcast.nl)