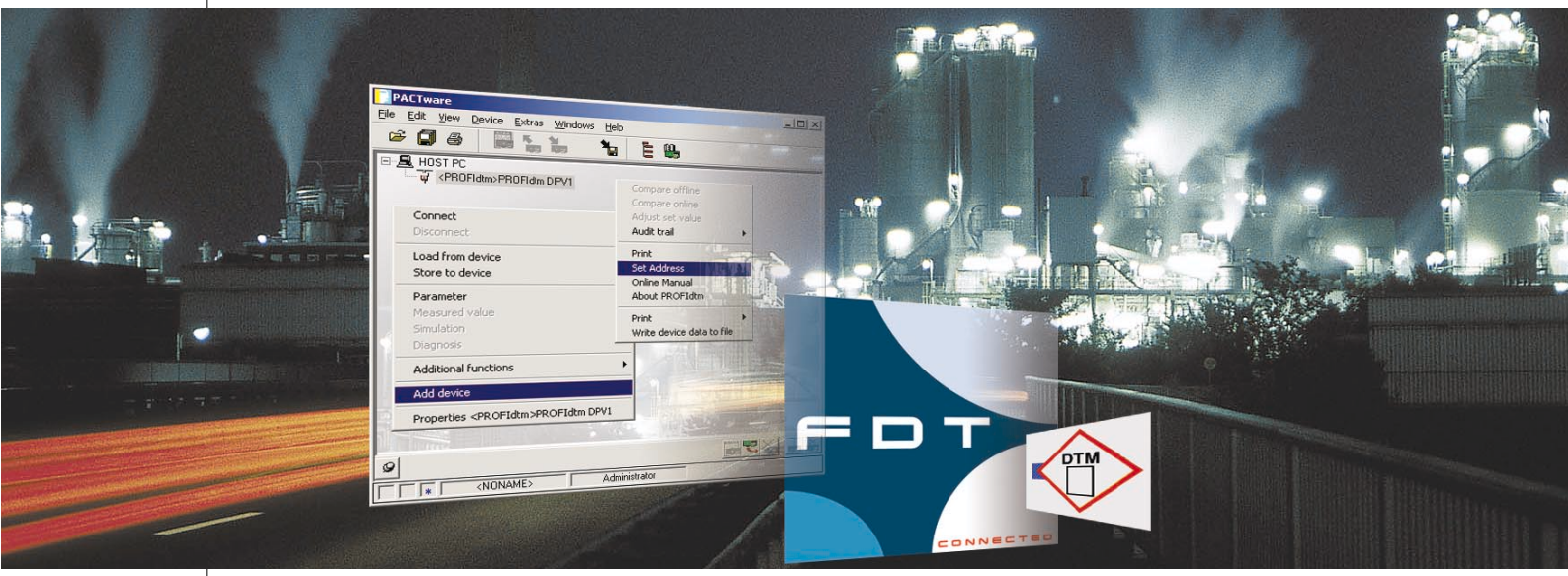
Information

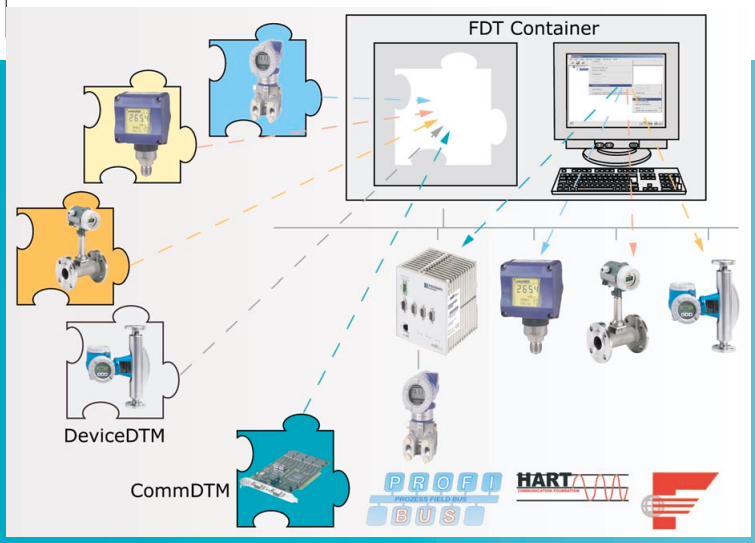
FDT Products and Services

Industrial Automation

Competence in FDT Technology



FDT Technology



FDT: fieldbus- and vendor-independence

"FDT allows freedom of choice in the selection of field devices and enables standardization of the plants´ life cycle management, while lowering total cost of ownership."

Field Device Tool – FDT

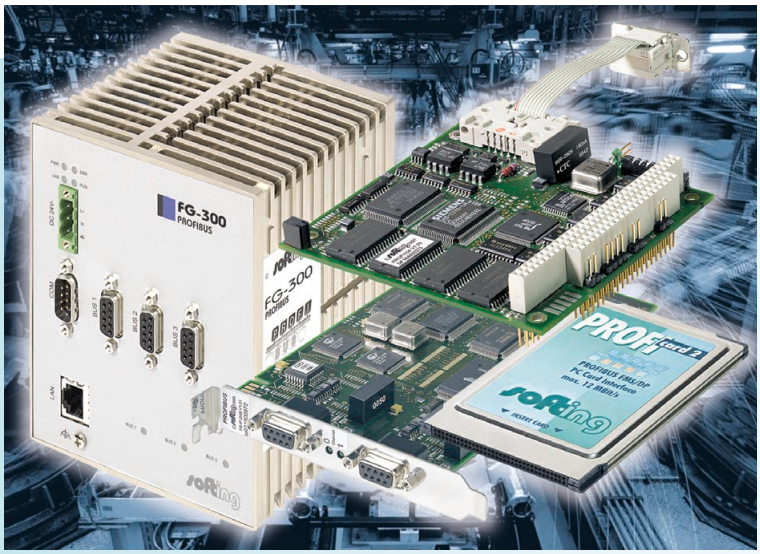
The FDT concept allows fieldbus- and manufacturer-independent configuration, parameterization and management of intelligent field devices with one single engineering tool. By defined interfaces and user environments, devices are uniformly integrated and parameterized, independently of the type, manufacturer and lower-level fieldbus protocol.
The central component of the FDT concept is the Device Type Manager (DTM) provided by the vendor together with the device. The DTM knows all device-specific information and functionality and contains all user dialogs. The user does not have to care about device-specific internals. Configuration and diagnosis of different types of devices can be done in a uniform way. The DTMs of all devices in a plant contain engineering tools which serve as "FDT frame applications". By defined FDT interfaces, the engineering tools access the information and functionality of the DTMs. Parameters and data in the field devices are accessed via communication DTMs (CommDTMs).
A CommDTM is the configuration and management tool of a communication module. It provides any type of device DTMs with a communication channel for data exchange with the devices. The specific properties of a fieldbus (e.g. PROFIBUS, HART or FOUNDATION Fieldbus) or of the communication module are encapsulated in the CommDTM's FDT interface.

Softing Competence

Softing as a leading provider of fieldbus communication, configuration and control technology for process control and industrial automation, has been involved in the FDT activities from the very beginning. For several years, Softing has been providing its know-how and services for specification reviews, consulting and customer-specific development. Many renowned automation companies entrusted Softing with the development of DTMs for their devices or FDT frame applications.
Our know-how and expertise is passed on to you in our workshops and products, feasibility studies, and in the form of personal customer consulting. We develop customized FDT/DTM solutions for you.
We ensure the proper communication of our products with FDT products on the market through participation in FDT interoperability workshops.

Device Type Manager

> Commissioning of Softing's PROFIBUS CommDTM was amazingly simple. Communication with our complex device DTMs worked right away.
>
> A device manufacturer



PROFIBUS CommDTM – PROFIdtm

PROFIdtm is a PROFIBUS Communication DTM in accordance with the FDT Specification Version 1.2. Any devices for which a DTM is available can be configured and parameterized by PROFIdtm without programming effort. For access to the PROFIBUS, all interfaces (ISA, PCI, PC/104, PCcard) and the FG-300 PROFIBUS (PROFIBUS/Ethernet Gateway) by Softing can be used. By scanning the PROFIBUS network, the product automatically detects all connected devices. Automatic calculation of the communications parameters, in dependence on the baud rate, facilitates commissioning. Due to its DP-V1/PA gateway support, PROFIdtm is ideally suited for use in machinery and equipment in the area of process technology. PROFIdtm works with PACTware™, FieldCare and FieldbusBuilder.

High Speed Ethernet/FOUNDATION Fieldbus CommDTM – HSEdtm

Softing's HSEdtm enables any FDTs to access FOUNDATION Fieldbus (FF) field devices by High Speed Ethernet and FG-300 FF (FF Linking Device). As a universal CommDTM, HSEdtm assumes the role of an HSE Client and supports the services Connect, Disconnect, Read and Write. A well-comprehensible dialog for bus parameterization, Audit Trail and an online help ensure easy commissioning and operation.

FG-300 FOUNDATION Fieldbus DTM – FG-FFdtm

The FG-300 FOUNDATION Fieldbus DTM is the configuration and management tool for the Softing FG-300 FF (FF Linking Device). It contains the description of all parameters to be set so that FG-300 FF can be used as the gateway between a FOUNDATION Fieldbus H1 network and the High Speed Ethernet. FG-FFdtm supports all four H1 connections of the FG-300 FF.

Tools and Competence

"I now have a very good understanding of FDT. Technical, application, and market information were very well balanced.
A participant of
Softing's FDT Technology Workshop"

Customer-Specific FTD/DTM Solutions

Softing has several years of experience in development of FDT-compliant software. Based on our products and expertise, we implement your customer-specific FDT solutions, e.g. CommDTMs, DTMs for any type of field devices or FDT frame applications. Contact us for more information.

FDT Tools – DTM Development Library

For the fast and easy creation of DTMs for any type of field devices, the DTM Development Library provides functionality according to the FDT Specification Version 1.2. This library is a DTM basic package where all mandatory and some optional FDT interfaces are implemented.
The context menu, user dialogs and an Audit Trail output function, which are all contained in the library as a sample implementation, can be adapted very easily for the specific device. The DTM development package has been used several times for DTM developments which were tested with different FDT frame applications.

FDT Seminars

For different requirements and starting points, Softing has worked out technology- and application-oriented FDT Seminars. The one-day Seminar for development engineers includes a detailed explanation of the FDT Specification, a presentation of the architecture and the interfaces of FDT frame applications. Your theoretical know-how will be deepened by means of a DTM sample implementation.
In the one-day User Workshop for managers, sales and service staff, you will come to know the purpose and the advantages of the FDT concept. The functionality, terminology and application scenarios will be introduced to you both theoretically and in the form of practical demonstrations.

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