

FORSTA v2022 USER SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	ABO	UT THIS DOCUMENT	2
	1.1	REQUIREMENTS FOR ON-PREMISE SERVER INSTALLATIONS	2
	1.2	TRADEMARKS	2
2	FORG	STA PLUS MODULES	2
2	2.1	ACTION MANAGEMENT	
	2.1		
	2.2	ACTIVE DASHBOARDS	
		AskMe for Android	
	2.3.1 2.3.2		-
	2.4	CAPI A sefect A solution	
	2.4.1		
	2.4.2	The state of the s	
	2.4.3		
	2.5	CATI	
	2.6	DATA CENTRAL	
	2.7	DIGITAL FEEDBACK	
	2.7.1	3 ··· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
	2.8	Go	
	2.8.1		
	2.8.2		_
	2.9	HIERARCHY MANAGEMENT	
	2.10	Instant Analytics	
		1 Mobile Panel for Android	
		2 Mobile Panel for iOS	
		PROFESSIONAL AUTHORING	
		PULSE	
		REPORTAL	
		SMARTHUB	
		STUDIO	
		SURVEY DESIGNER	
		SURVEY ENGINE (RESPONDENTS)	
		TRANSLATOR	
		PUBLIC APIS	
		FORSTA TCI	
	2.23	FORSTA LOCAL DIALER WEB SERVICE	5
3	FORS	TA VISUALIZATIONS	5



1 About this Document

This document provides a complete list of the Operating system and setup requirements for Forsta Plus users, to enable users to run the various applications and modules. These requirements apply whether the user is working with an On-Premise or a SaaS system.

Please report any errors in this document to helpdesk@forsta.com.

Note: As of June 15th 2022 Microsoft no longer supports IE 11. The Forsta Plus applications have therefore also ceased to support this application, so any bugs or issues specific to IE 11 will not be addressed..

1.1 Requirements for On-Premise Server Installations

System requirements for On-Premise server installations are described in the Forsta Plus Server Manual, which is updated for each new version of the software.

1.2 Trademarks

Windows, Internet Explorer, Windows Edge and Edge Chromium are either registered trademarks or trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and/or other countries. Safari, Apple iOS, and Mac OS are trademarks of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries. Mozilla and Firefox are registered trademarks of the Mozilla Foundation. Chrome is registered trademark of Google Inc. in the United Sates and/or other countries.

2 Forsta Plus Modules

Forsta Plus is an extensive software suite that provides user interfaces for end users accessing different application modules. The list of modules includes:

- Action Management
- Active Dashboards
- AskMe
- CAPI
- CATI
- Data Central
- Express
- Go
- · Hierarchy Management
- Instant Analytics
- Kiosk
- Mobile Panel
- Pulse
- Professional Authoring (Standard and Professional Users)
- · Reportal (Designers, Analysts and Viewers)
- SmartHub
- Studio
- Survey Designer
- · Survey engine (Respondents)
- Translator
- XML Web Services

The requirements for using each of these application modules are covered individually in this document.



The Forsta Plus applications are designed for use with a minimum screen resolution of 1024 x 768 at 100% browser zoom with the quick-launch bar collapsed. If your system is set to a lower resolution or a different zoom level, this may prevent Forsta Plus being used. If a Mac is to be used, it must have the right-click functionality available.

2.1 Action Management

Action Management initiates, coordinates, and accelerates organization-wide action responding to survey feedback. Action Management may also be used to help coordinate the actions of team members on items unrelated to survey response issues.

Action Management requirements			
Element	Supported		
Operating system	Windows 8 Desktop or Windows 10. OS X.		
Web browser	Microsoft Edge (current and previous 4 releases), Firefox (current and previous 4 releases), Chrome (current and previous 4 releases).		

Note that the user experience is designed for a minimum screen resolution of 1024x768 or higher at 100% browser zoom.

2.2 Active Dashboards

Active Dashboards provides actionable information relevant to each user's role within the organization. Each employee can receive a customized, interactive view of customer feedback data tailored to their specific roles and responsibilities.

Active Dashboards requirements			
Element	Supported		
Operating system	Windows 8 Desktop or Windows 10. OS X.		
Web browser	Microsoft Edge (current and previous 4 releases), Firefox (current and previous 4 releases), Chrome (current and previous 4 releases).		

Note that the user experience is designed for a minimum screen resolution of 1024x768 or higher at 100% browser zoom.

2.3 AskMe

AskMe is a mobile app that allows respondents to complete Forsta Plus-created surveys either online or while offline. Respondents are therefore able to complete surveys in areas with bad or non-existent Internet connectivity. AskMe is Forsta's branded version of the Offline self-completion app.

2.3.1 AskMe for Android

AskMe for Android requirements			
Element	Supported		
Operating system	Google™ Android 6.0 or greater.		



Device OS Permission

Google Play indicates the following permissions may be granted to the application. Some permissions are granted as part of installation while others are requested as they are required as part of using the application (i.e. on-demand). See the table below for further details of these permissions.

Permission	Reason	Requested
Location • precise location (GPS and network-based)	Current location may be requested as part of survey.	On-demand
Wi-Fi connection information • view Wi-Fi connections	Allows app to use Wi-Fi to connect to the internet	Installation
Camera take pictures and videos	Survey may request to take a photo or capture a video	On-demand
Microphone • record audio	Survey may request to record audio.	On-demand
Other receive data from Internet full network access view network connections connect and disconnect from Wi-Fi	Allows app to connect to the internet and to be notified when a new connection is available	Installation
Other • run at startup	Permits the application to upload captured data without needing the app to be visible.	Installation
Other • prevent device from sleeping	Required to capture videos or record audio for long durations	Installation

2.3.2 AskMe for iOS

AskMe for iOS requirements		
Element	Supported	
Operating system	iOS 13.0 or greater.	

2.4 CAPI

CAPI is a dedicated personal interviewing and field interviewing module that forms part of the multi-channel Forsta Plus platform. Forsta Plus provides an administrative interface for managing consoles and survey deployment. Four versions are available:

- CAPI App for Android mobile application for Google Android devices (tablet and phone)
- CAPI App for iOS mobile application for Apple iOS devices (tablet and phone)
- CAPI App for Windows modern Windows application that supports either JavaScript or Jscript. Net enabled surveys and modern features such as Responsive Layout support, location capture and Image upload.



2.4.1 CAPI App for Android

CAPI App for Android requirements (interviewer app)			
Element	Supported		
Operating system	Google™ Android 6.0 or greater.		

Device OS Permission

Google Play indicates the following permissions may be granted to the application. Some permissions are granted as part of installation while others are requested as they are required as part of using the application (i.e. on-demand). See the table below for further details of these permissions.

Permission	Reason	Requested
Wi-Fi connection information • view Wi-Fi connections	Allows app to use Wi-Fi to connect to the internet	Installation
Photos / Media / Files read the contents of your USB storage modify or delete the contents of your USB storage	Required to capture photos, audio or videos.	Installation
Storage read the contents of your USB storage modify or delete the contents of your USB storage		
Location • precise location (GPS and network-based)	Current location may be requested as part of survey.	On-demand
Microphone • record audio	Survey may request to record audio.	On-demand
Camera take pictures and videos	Survey may request to take a photo or capture a video	On-demand
Other receive data from Internet full network access view network connections connect and disconnect from Wi-Fi	Allows app to connect to the internet and to be notified when a new connection is available	Installation
Other • run at startup	Permits the application to upload captured data while the app is not visible. This allows data captured when no active connection is available to be sent when a connection becomes available without requiring a user to take action.	Installation



2.4.2 CAPI App for iOS

CAPI App for iOS requirements (interviewer app)			
Element	Supported		
Operating system	iOS 13.0 or greater.		

2.4.3 CAPI App for Windows

This is a modern Windows application that supports both Jscript.Net and JavaScript enabled surveys, and modern features such as Responsive Layout, location capture and Image upload.

CAPI App for Windows requirements (interviewer app)			
Element Supported			
Operating system	Windows 10 version 1903 or higher.		
Operating System Extras	Microsoft.NET framework 4.7.2		
Optional	Microsoft BitLocker encryption for encryption support.		
	On-board GPS for improved location capture accuracy.		

2.5 CATI

The CATI module adds support for online Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing capabilities to Forsta Plus. Interviewers currently have a choice of two interfaces, the older interface is a Windows based application that must be downloaded and installed to a Windows PC. The new interface is entirely browser based and can be operated on any device with a suitable specification and supported web browser.

CATI requirements (Windows PC-based interviewer console)			
Element	Supported		
Operating system Windows 7 SP1, Windows 8.1, Windows 10.			
Memory	1 GB for 32-bit, 2 GB for 64-bit.		
Disk space	16 GB for Windows 7/8, 32 GB for Windows 10.		
CPU	2 GHz or greater.		
Internet Browser Engine	Internet Explorer 11, Edge.		
Operating system	Microsoft .NET framework 4.6.2 or later.		
extras	https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=53344		

Note: CATI requirements (except OS) will be installed automatically by the CATI setup application if not already installed. CATI automatically installs .NET 4.6.2, if not already installed. If a later version is required, this can be installed manually.

We recommend that users add Forsta Plus to "Trusted sites" in their browser's security settings, and that the adjustments to the security settings mentioned below should be done for trusted sites only:



Windows PC-based interviewer console Internet Explorer security settings			
Element	Setting	Purpose / Effect	
Display mixed content	Enable	Some surveys/survey layouts in HTTPS might use image sources from a HTTP site and vice versa.	
Submit non-encrypted form data	Enable	Will not be able to submit form data in Forsta Plus if this is set to Disable.	

CATI requirements (Web browser-based interviewer console)		
Element	Supported	
Operating system	Any.	
Memory	1 GB.	
Internet Browser	Microsoft Edge (current and previous 4 releases), Firefox (current and previous 4 releases), Chrome (current and previous 4 releases).	

CATI Operational Requirements

Forsta Plus will not support call centre environments where the interviewing devices do not meet our minimum requirements. Furthermore, Forsta Plus will not support customers where the interviewing devices are installed or configured with 3rd party applications which run or interact with the host device during shift times. Virus scanners, OS Updates and backup software can be installed and enabled, but must be configured to run and self-update out of operational hours. Other applications such as spyware scanners and personal firewalls may impact your usage of Forsta Plus and therefore may also need to be disabled during operational hours. Forsta recommends that interviewer devices be locked down using Group Policies to prevent unauthorised access to the Operating System, web sites and system configuration.

Note that the user experience is designed for a minimum screen resolution of 1024x768 or higher at 100% browser zoom.

2.6 Data Central

Data Central is a desktop application that helps streamline and optimize data processing functions. These functions include data and metadata definition and manipulation, cleaning and recoding, reformatting, streaming, weighting, and exporting. The generated data processing tasks can be either executed server site or locally depending on the data processed.

Data Central requirements	
Element	Supported
Operating system	Windows 8, Windows10 (32 and 64-bit versions).
Memory	512 Mb.
CPU	1 GHz or greater.
Free Disk space	30 MB minimum required.
Operating system extras	Microsoft .NET framework 3.5: http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyID=AB99342F-5D1A-413D-8319-81DA479AB0D7&displaylang=en
	To run the Horizontal Merge operation, any version and edition of Microsoft SQL Server since SQL Server 2005, including Microsoft SQL Express, is required.
	To import SPSS data (SAV, Quanvert, Dimension, Quancept, Surveycraft) the UNICOM Intelligence Data Model must be purchased and installed on your machine. Contact Unicom for further information:



	https://www.teamblue.unicomsi.com/products/unicom-intelligence/. Forsta is not authorized to obtain a license for the UNICOM Inteligence Data Model. Forsta is therefore in no position to test or reproduce issues related thereto. We therefore expressly disclaim any and all warranties pertaining to operations you may perform related to SPSS data, such as but not limited to loading SPSS data to / from Forsta Plus, or running data through the UNICOM Inteligence Data Model on Forsta Plus Data Central.
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2.7 Digital Feedback

Digital Feedback enables you to define multiple website intercept scenarios in a single program, using a modern and intuitive interface.

Digital Feedback Requirements	
Element	Supported
Operating system	Windows 8 Desktop or Windows 10. OS X
Web browser	Microsoft Edge (current and previous 4 releases), Firefox (current and previous 4 releases), Chrome (current and previous 4 releases), Safari (current and previous 2 releases).

Note that the user experience is designed for a minimum screen resolution of 1024x768 or higher at 100% browser zoom.

2.7.1 Digital Feedback Mobile SDK

The Digital Feedback Mobile SDK provides clients with the ability to present surveys within their own mobile app based on rules configured using the Digital Feedback module.

For software requirements, please see the Digital Feedback Mobile SDK on GitHub

2.8 Go

Go provides a native mobile app experience for insights revealed through Studio dashboards.

2.8.1 Go for Android

Go for Android requirements	
Element	Supported
Operating system	Google™ Android 6.0 or greater.

2.8.2 Go for iOS

Go for iOS requirements	
Element	Supported
Operating system	iOS 13.0 or greater.



2.9 Hierarchy Management

The Hierarchy Management functionality allows you to define and manage hierarchy definitions and assign contacts to hierarchy units for hierarchies used in surveys and reporting in Forsta Plus.

Hierarchy Management Requirements		
Element Supported		
Operating system	Windows 8 Desktop or Windows 10. OS X	
Web browser	Microsoft Edge (current and previous 4 releases), Firefox (current and previous 4 releases), Chrome (current and previous 4 releases), Safari (current and previous 2 releases).	

Note that the user experience is designed for a minimum screen resolution of 1024x768 or higher at 100% browser zoom.

2.10 Instant Analytics

Instant Analytics provides instant access to survey analytics with zero setup.

Instant Analytics requirements		
Element Supported		
Operating system	Windows 8 Desktop or Windows 10. OS X.	
Web browser	Microsoft Edge (current and previous 4 releases), Firefox (current and previous 4 releases), Chrome (current and previous 4 releases).	

2.11 Mobile Panel

Mobile Panel (also known as Panel App) provides a mobile app experience for Panel users to complete surveys, receive survey invite notifications, view available surveys and points.

2.11.1 Mobile Panel for Android

Mobile Panel for Android requirements	
Element	Supported
Operating system	Google™ Android 6.0 or greater.

Device OS Permission

Google Play indicates the following permissions may be granted to the application. Some permissions are granted as part of installation while others are requested as they are required as part of using the application (i.e. on-demand). See the table below for further details of these permissions.



Permission	Reason	Requested
Wi-Fi connection information • view Wi-Fi connections	Allows app to use Wi-Fi to connect to the internet	Installation
Photos / Media / Files	Required to capture photos	Installation
Storage read the contents of your USB storage modify or delete the contents of your USB storage		
Location	Current location may be requested as part of survey.	On-demand
Other	Allows app to connect to the internet and to be notified when a new connection is available	Installation
Other • run at startup	Required for surveys that are triggered based on location proximity.	Installation
Other	Surveys may be triggered based on proximity to beacons.	Installation

2.11.2 Mobile Panel for iOS

Mobile Panel for iOS requirements	
Element	Supported
Operating system	iOS 13.0 or greater.

2.12 Model Builder

Model Builder is the application you use build the categorization model, which is used to analyze your text in Text Analytics.

Model Builder Requirements	
Element	Supported
Operating system	Windows 10, Ubuntu 16.04.
Web browser	Microsoft Edge Chromium, Firefox (current), Chrome (current).

Note that the user experience is designed for a minimum screen resolution of 1024x768 or higher at 100% browser zoom.



2.13 Professional Authoring

The Authoring module is used for creating and managing surveys in an intuitive web interface.

Professional Authoring requirements (Standard and Professional users)		
Element	Supported	
Operating system	Windows 8 Desktop or Windows 10. OS X*	
Web browser	Firefox (current and previous 5 releases), Chrome (current and previous 5 releases), Edge.	
Office components	Microsoft Office 2003 formats capable office suite for opening exports: Microsoft Office 2007, Microsoft Office 2010, Microsoft Office 2013 or Microsoft Office 2016.	

Browser capability requirements	
Element	Description
Cookies	Client cookies and session cookies must be allowed from the Forsta Plus server. If the client browser does not accept cookies, Authoring users will be unable to log on to the system.

We recommend that users add Forsta Plus to "Trusted sites" in their browser's security settings, and that the adjustments to the security settings mentioned below should be done for trusted sites only:

Requirements for Answerlists*, Survey Data Template Editor and Online Coding	
Element	Supported
Microsoft Silverlight	Microsoft Silverlight 5.0 (Internet Explorer only).
	http://www.microsoft.com/silverlight/resources/install.aspx

For answer lists, there is a DHMTL alternative to the Silverlight answerlist editor that is supported across all browsers. Note that the user experience is designed for a minimum screen resolution of 1024x768 or higher at 100% browser zoom.

2.14 **Pulse**

Pulse allows end users to survey their organization at any time to gain insights and asses whether changes made due to previous surveys have had the desired effect.

Pulse Requirements	
Element	Supported
Operating system	Windows 8 Desktop or Windows 10. OS X
Web browser	Microsoft Edge (current and previous 4 releases), Firefox (current and previous 4 releases), Chrome (current and previous 4 releases), Safari (current and previous 2 releases).

Note that the user experience is designed for a minimum screen resolution of 1024x768 or higher at 100% browser zoom.



2.15 Reportal

Reportal enables users to design and view reports so data collected from surveys can be analyzed. For a full list of requirements for using Reportal, consult the table below.

Reportal requirements (design mode)	
Element	Supported
Operating system	Windows 8 Desktop or Windows 10. OS X.
Web browser	Firefox (current and previous 4 releases), Chrome (current and previous 4 releases).

The Edge browser is not supported for Reportal, however users will be allowed to log on via Edge.

Reportal requirements (analyst mode)	
Element	Supported
Operating system	Windows 8 Desktop or Windows 10.
Web browser	Firefox (current and previous 5 releases), Chrome (current and previous 5 releases).
Web browsing enhancement (Internet Explorer only)	Microsoft XML parser 3.0 SP3 Microsoft XML parser 6.0

Reportal requirements (view mode)	
Element	Supported
Operating system	Any operating system supported by the operating system vendor.
Web browser	Microsoft Edge (current and previous 4 releases).
	Opera (current and previous 5 releases).
	Firefox (current and previous 4 releases).
	Safari (current and previous 2 releases).
	Chrome (current and previous 4 releases).
	Previous versions of Firefox, Safari, Chrome and Opera will normally allow access to most functionality, but Forsta will not be supporting viewer related issues with older browsers.

^{*)}Report viewer components fully support the Edge browser for reports run on Forsta SaaS environments, and for onpremise versions 19 or later. This support only applies to the newest versions of Forsta Plus reporting components, and not to older versions which have been replaced by newer alternatives (e.g. Hitlist version 1 and chart rendering engine version 1 (Dundas) are not supported).

Browser capability requirements	
Element	Description
Add-ons	Browser embedded Macromedia Flash Player is required to display animated charts on chart rendering engine version 1 (Dundas).



PowerPoint Add-in Requirements	
Element	Supported
Operating system	Microsoft Windows 8 or Windows 10.
Microsoft Office Version	Microsoft Office 2007 Service Pack 2, Microsoft Office 2010, Microsoft Office 2013, Microsoft Office 2016.
Operating System Extras	Microsoft .NET Framework 4.5.
Operating System Extras	Microsoft Visual Studio 2010 Tools for Office.
Operating system extras	Microsoft Windows Installer 3.1 http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyID=889482fc-5f56-4a38-b838-de776fd4138c&DisplayLang=en

Note: PowerPoint Add-in requirements (except OS and Microsoft Office version) will be installed automatically by the PowerPoint Add-in setup application if not already installed.

Note that the user experience is designed for a minimum screen resolution of 1024x768 or higher at 100% browser zoom.

2.16 SmartHub

SmartHub allows data sources of different types to be brought together for use in analysis and reporting.

SmartHub requirements	
Element Supported	
Operating system	Windows 8 Desktop or Windows 10. OS X.
Web browser	Microsoft Edge (current and previous 4 releases), Firefox (current and previous 4 releases), Chrome (current and previous 4 releases).

Note that the user experience is designed for a minimum screen resolution of 1024x768 or higher at 100% browser zoom.

2.17 Studio

Studio is a platform for designing research solutions for different types of stakeholders, either in the form of full end-to-end workflows from survey creation to reporting and taking action, or in the form of engaging dashboards that help bring the right insights to the right people.

Studio Requirements	
Element	Supported
Operating system	Windows 8 Desktop or Windows 10. OS X
Web browser	Microsoft Edge (current and previous 4 releases), Firefox (current and previous 4 releases), Chrome (current and previous 4 releases), Safari (current and previous 2 releases).

Note that the user experience is designed for a minimum screen resolution of 1024x768 or higher at 100% browser zoom.



2.18 Survey Designer

Survey Designer is the new survey authoring functionality.

Survey Designer Requirements	
Element	Supported
Operating system	Windows 8 Desktop or Windows 10. OS X
Web browser	Microsoft Edge (current and previous 4 releases), Firefox (current and previous 4 releases), Chrome (current and previous 4 releases), Safari (current and previous 2 releases).

Note that the user experience is designed for a minimum screen resolution of 1024x768 or higher at 100% browser zoom.

2.19 Survey Engine (Respondents)

The Forsta Plus survey engine has been designed to comply with web standards so that surveys will function correctly in as many browsers as possible. Note however that features such as client side scripts, media playing, the use of certain cascading style sheet properties etc. that users add to surveys might alter the default requirements.

Survey Engine requirements		
Element	Supported	
Operating system	Any operating system supported by the operating system vendor.	
Web browser	Any browser supporting HTML and CSS.	

2.20 Translator

The Forsta Translator enables project managers to allow external users to translate their surveys directly in a graphics user interface without the risk of changing the questionnaire layout. Translators can only access surveys that have been prepared for translation by the project owner.

Translator requirements		
Element	Supported	
Operating system	Windows 8 Desktop, Windows 10.	
Web browser	Microsoft Edge (current and previous 4 releases), Firefox (current and previous 4 releases), Chrome (current and previous 4 releases)	



2.21 Public APIs

The Public APIs provide endpoints for connecting external applications to Forsta Plus, to allow operations such as the extraction of data into a company database to be performed outside the GUI.

Public API requirements		
Element	Supported	
Connectivity	Access to the Public APIs is provided using REST or SOAP, requiring a development platform with REST or SOAP capabilities.	

2.22 Forsta TCI

Forsta TCI (Telephony Computer Interface) is a powerful telephony add-on to CATI. The system fully automates the dialing of telephone numbers on behalf of the interviewers, dramatically increasing call centre productivity. Furthermore, features such as real time monitoring, full call recording and verbatim recording significantly increase call centre quality. If your company plans to utilize a Dialer as part of your CATI activities via the Forsta Software, a number of additional system requirements will apply. Full system requirements are found in the Forsta Local Dialer System Requirements document, available from http://www.forsta.com/legals/legal.aspx.

2.23 Forsta Local Dialer Web Service

Forsta Local Dialer Web Service is the component responsible for communicating between CATI and a supported local dialer. If your company plans to utilize a Dialer as part of your CATI activities via the Forsta Software, a number of additional system requirements will apply. Full system requirements are to be found in the Forsta Local Dialer System Requirements document, available from http://www.forsta.com/legals/legal.aspx.

3 Forsta Visualizations

There are no limitations regarding the operating system, the only client-side code used is Javascript, and all modern browsers are supported (Edge, Chrome, Safari, Firefox, Opera...) on all platforms, including mobile. Note that "Administration mode" is not mobile-friendly.