FirstSpirit™

Unlock Your Content

FirstSpirit™ Release Notes
FirstSpirit™ Version 5.2 Release 16

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e-Spirit

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1 FirstSpirit Third Party Preview (TPP)

To enable content that originates from external applications ("apps") rather than being generated directly from FirstSpirit to still be displayed and used in FirstSpirit, "FirstSpirit Third Party Preview" (TPP for short) can be used. This displays the content from the external app in FirstSpirit ContentCreator. Content that is maintained in FirstSpirit (editorial content) can also be displayed and edited there. In contrast to conventional FirstSpirit projects, individual items of content can (depending on the project design) be edited and released independently of each other (by different editors), even if they are displayed on a (HTML) page. TPP allows also previewing content deriving from FirstSpirit CaaS.

To enable the functionality to be used,

- the FirstSpirit module `fs-tpp-[version].fsm` is required,

- a corresponding preview URL must be stored in the project properties (area "ContentCreator settings").

This module is currently in ramp-up stage. If you are interested, please contact your e-Spirit customer representative.

For more information please see also

- "FirstSpirit Third Party Preview" documentation

- FirstSpirit documentation "Content as a Service"

- FirstSpirit Manual for editors (ContentCreator)

2 Advance notice: Rebrush for FirstSpirit components

The graphics of the FirstSpirit start page, FirstSpirit ContentCreator, and FirstSpirit SiteArchitect are currently being revised. They will feature a more modern design, but their proven user prompting and guidance will be preserved. Release of the new design is planned for FirstSpirit version 5.2R17.

3 Administration

3.1 Encryption of passwords in FirstSpirit configuration files

Passwords in FirstSpirit configuration files can now be encrypted.

For further information, see *FirstSpirit Manual for Administrators*, chapter "FirstSpirit Server configuration / Configuration files (FirstSpirit Server) / FirstSpirit Server (fs-server.conf) / Password encryption".

Note about downgrade ability: Passwords which have been encrypted with this new functionality cannot be used with FirstSpirit versions lower than 5.2R16. If a downgrade should be performed, the passwords must be decrypted prior to the downgrade. If the configuration references a key file, it must be present on the FirstSpirit server.

3.2 FirstSpirit ServerMonitoring: Display of user sessions

The display of user sessions in FirstSpirit ServerMonitoring was intermittently erroneous due to incorrectly stored graph data ("FirstSpirit / Monitoring / Sessions" and "Overview / State, panel Sessions").

As of the current version of FirstSpirit, values will be stored correctly again, and the graph display is again correct as of this version. Graph data which were intermittently incorrectly stored will continue to be displayed incorrectly in the graphs.

3.3 Using preview applications in the ContentCreator (TPP)

If an external web application is to be used for the preview in FirstSpirit (a Single Page Application, "SPA", for example), the respective URL can be entered into the "External Preview URL" text field in the FirstSpirit ServerManager under "Project / Properties / ContentCreator settings":
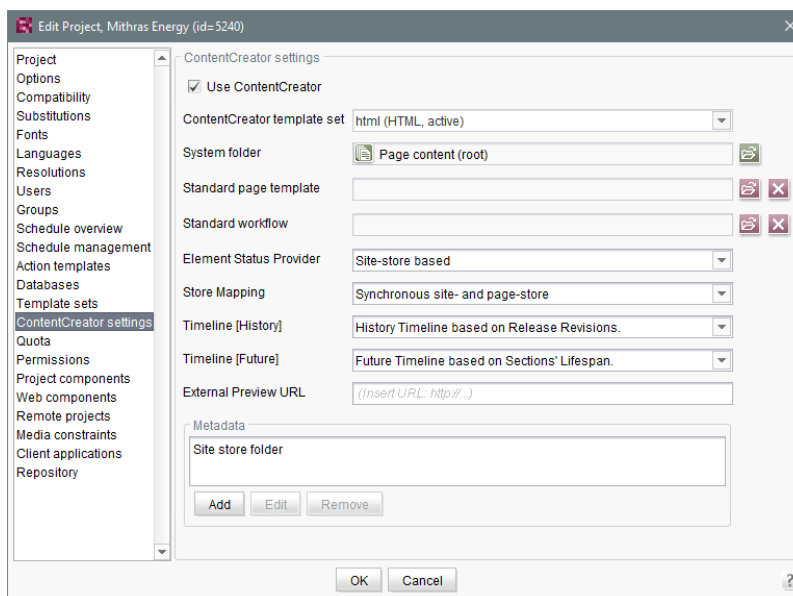
The preview application can then be used in the ContentCreator. If the linked application has been suitably prepared, the editor can still edit, create, and delete the contents displayed in the preview area with the functions of the ContentCreator. Relevant application examples are described in the CaaS documentation.

Please make sure that the URL specified here contains the protocol of the external web application.
If the text field is empty ("Insert URL: http://..."), the internal ContentCreator preview function is used as before.

The URL can be read and also set by API (`getWebeditPreviewUrl` or `setWebeditPreviewUrl` method, `Project` interface, `de.espirit.firstspirit.access.project` package, FirstSpirit Access API).

4 Input components

4.1 FS_CATALOG: Representing language independent content (link lists)

The FS_CATALOG input component allows to create lists of either sections or links so that editors can maintain multiple sections or links directly within the component, without the need to switch to another

input component, another section, and so on. To edit language-dependent contents corresponding tabs are provided.

Forms based on link templates always are language-independent. To provide better clarity, language tabs won't be shown anymore in FS_CATALOG components that allow selecting link templates (`<TEMPLATES type="link">`).

5 Module Development, Scripts, API

5.1 Expansion of functions for communication between client-side Single Page Application (SPA) and ContentCreator (TPP)

The `editorId()` function has been expanded to include the `details` parameter.

With the new `details` parameter, it is possible to overwrite the otherwise context-sensitive response of the `editorId()` function. As a result, you define for the client (SiteArchitect or ContentCreator) for which the `previewId` should be rendered.

Possible values for the `details` parameter are

- *JAVACLIENT*: The additional information for the SiteArchitect are always generated.

- *WEBEDIT*: The additional information for the ContentCreator are always generated.

- *SIMPLE*: Only information that is not dependent on the editors in FirstSpirit is written to the `editorId`. These data can be used to address the corresponding element in an external element.

A new function `previewId()` similar to the `editorId()` function has been introduced.

This function is a wrapper that can be used internally to call up the `editorId()` function with certain parameters that cannot be changed.

The function `previewId()` has just one optional parameter: `element`. This parameter can be used to transfer a FirstSpirit object or content area. Other parameters may not be used.

Agent for analyzing the return value

To analyze the return value from `previewId()` an agent has been implemented as part of the API (FirstSpirit Developer API). This agent can be used to determine the ID for the FirstSpirit element to be edited in a certain project language:

```
de.espirit.firstspirit.agency.PreviewIdAgent
de.espirit.firstspirit.agency.PreviewIdAgentImpl
```

! The previous behavior of `editorId()` has not been changed. No changes to existing projects are needed.

For more information

- about the `editorId` function, see *FirstSpirit Online Documentation*, under "Template development / Template syntax / Functions / In instructions / editorId"

- about FirstSpirit Third Party Preview, see documentation for "FirstSpirit Content as a Service".

5.2 Making media language-dependent or language-independent via API

In FirstSpirit SiteArchitect, media may be converted between being language-dependent and language-independent via the context menu item "Extras / Make medium language-(in)dependent".

Using the methods

- `makeLanguageDependent`

- `makeLanguageIndependent`

of the interface `Media` (package `de.espirit.firstspirit.access.store.mediastore`, FirstSpirit Access API), this conversion may now be carried out via the API as well. Thus, this functionality can now be offered on a project-specific basis in ContentCreator.

The call to the method `makeLanguageDependent` may specify several languages to which the currently language-independent medium's content and description will be copied.

5.3 New API interface "ConnectionExtractor" allows access to the connection of the logged-in user

The new interface `ConnectionExtractor` (package `de.espirit.firstspirit.web`, FirstSpirit Developer API) offers access to the connection of the logged-in user (within the FirstSpirit web

applications (ContentCreator, Preview, Staging)) via the method `extractConnectionFromRequest(HttpServletRequest)`.

The connection may be used to simplify the communication (e.g. passing of parameters) between FirstSpirit and a third-party application (e.g. integration of third-party content or, in general, in servlet and filter environments).

5.4   Obtaining the most recent login date of a user via API

The package `de.espirit.firstspirit.agency` (FirstSpirit Developer API) contains a new interface, `UserStatisticsAgent`. The newly-implemented method `getLastLoginAsDate(long)` in this interface may be used to obtain the date on which a user with a given ID most recently logged on to the FirstSpirit server. Due to reasons relating to data privacy, the time component of this information will always be set to 0000h (12 a.m.).

5.5   RenderingAgent supports remote links

The interface `RenderingAgent` (package `de.espirit.firstspirit.agency`, FirstSpirit Developer API) supports remote links as well as of the current FirstSpirit version.

6   Repository

6.1   Faster migration from Oracle Berkeley DB 3 to 5

FirstSpirit is using Oracle Berkeley DB version 3 and 5 to hold its content data. Both versions can be used simultaneously on the same FirstSpirit server, in different projects. A migration from one version to the other can be triggered through a drop down list (option "Backend" in the FirstSpirit ServerManager under "Project properties – Repository").
Previously data conversion could, depending on the size of the project, potentially take several hours. In the current FirstSpirit version conversions from version 3 to version 5 can be performed faster. The new conversion method is activated via the checkbox "Use fast-path repository conversion if possible":
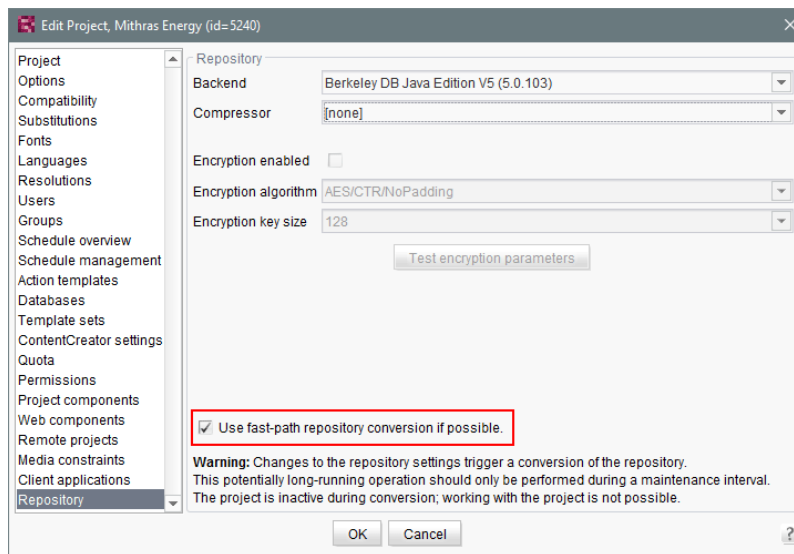
The checkbox is active by default. Faster conversions are only possible when the conversion path is Berkeley Version 3 to 5 and none of the other options in the panel (compression, encryption) are changed.

For further information see *FirstSpirit Manual for Administrators*, Chapter "FirstSpirit ServerManager / Project properties / Repository".

7 System

7.1 Update of libraries

With the current FirstSpirit version, the following, internally used libraries have been updated:

- **Synthetica** (Library for the graphical user interface)
  Update to version 2.3.30

- **ASM** (Library for analyzing and modifying Java bytecode)
  Update to version 6.0

8 Deprecations

For e-Spirit, an important goal in software development is to avoid introducing incompatibilities and migration expenditures related to updating from one FirstSpirit release to the next as much as possible

or to compensate for these within the software. FirstSpirit updates should generally be deployable with little effort or able to be carried out in a fully automated fashion.

However - not least in order to ensure maintainability and to future-proof the software - e-Spirit cannot fully avoid replacing existing functionality with new mechanisms. In the future, functionality that will be removed from the software will be listed in this section, including the date at which time the functionality will be removed.

Functionality	Deprecated as of	Will be removed/ Was removed as of
Oracle Java 7 Support	5.2R15	June 2018
FirstSpirit Developer API: de.espirit.firstspirit.agency.GroupsAgent	5.2R15	May 2018

9   Overview

ID	Description	Categories
72253	As of the current FirstSpirit version, media may be converted between being language-dependent and language-independent via the API. Further information can be found in chapter "Module Development, Scripts, API: Making media language-dependent or language-independent via API".	FirstSpirit API, Media Store
131707	New interface `UserStatisticsAgent` in the package `de.espirit.firstspirit.agency` (FirstSpirit Developer API). Further information can be found in chapter "Module Development, Scripts, API: Obtaining the most recent login date of a user via API".	FirstSpirit API
176678	Optimized rendering of the input components FS_CATALOG and FS_INDEX.	SiteArchitect

ID	Description	Categories
188240	To provide better clarity, language tabs won't be shown anymore in FS_CATALOG components that allow selecting link templates (`<TEMPLATES type="link">`). Further information can be found in chapter "Input components: FS_CATALOG: Representing language independent content (link lists)".	Input Components
192639	As of the current FirstSpirit version, the new interface `ConnectionExtractor` (package `de.espirit.firstspir-it.web`, FirstSpirit Developer API) is available. Further information can be found in chapter "Module Development, Scripts, API: New API interface "ConnectionExtractor" allows access to the connection of the logged-in user".	Developer, FirstSpirit API
200764	In the input component CMS_INPUT_NUMBER, erroneous input will now trigger display of an error message.	SiteArchitect
201384	Passwords in FirstSpirit configuration files can now be encrypted. Further information can be found in chapter "Administration: Encryption of passwords in FirstSpirit configuration files".	FirstSpirit Administrator, Security
201920	If an external web application is to be used for the preview in FirstSpirit (a Single Page Application, "SPA", for example), the respective URL can be entered into the "External Preview URL" text field in the FirstSpirit ServerManager under "Project / Properties / ContentCreator settings". Further information can be found in chapter "Administration: Using preview applications in the ContentCreator (TPP)".	ContentCreator, FirstSpirit Administrator, FirstSpirit Third Party Preview, Preview

ID	Description	Categories
202492	To identify a FirstSpirit element in a certain project language, a new function `previewId()` similar to the `editorId()` function has been introduced. The `editorId()` function has also been expanded to include an additional `details` parameter. An agent has been implemented as part of the API to analyze the return value. Further information can be found in chapter "Module Development, Scripts, API: Expansion of functions for communication between client-side Single Page Application (SPA) and ContentCreator (TPP)".	ContentCreator, Developer, FirstSpirit API, FirstSpirit Third Party Preview, Module development, Preview, Template Development
202938	Recalculation of references has been optimized for slower systems.	FirstSpirit Administrator
203254	Optimization for mass data requests on datasets.	Database, Performance
203352	While displaying objects included in a feature, erroneous behavior could occur.	Content Transport
203385	Improvements of the module "FirstSpirit BasicSearch".	Isolated mode (BETA)
203465	Optimized rendering of the input component CMS_INPUT_PER-MISSION.	ContentCreator
203517	Optimized connection establishment to the cluster slave node after a restart of the cluster master server.	Clustering
203522	Clustering: In the current version of FirstSpirit, problems were resolved that could arise during activation of cluster nodes, especially following an update of the master server.	Clustering, Server Administrator, ServerManager
203818	When the server was restarted, global customer-specific web applications were erroneously always rolled out anew.	ServerManager
203835	Optimized status display when updating a dataset using the functionality "ContentTransport".	Content Transport
203860	Optimized behavior when canceling an archival task.	Archiving
203884	Optimized roll-out of web applications during restart of the FirstSpirit server.	Server Administrator
203895	Improved performance of image media creation during feature installation.	Content Transport, Media Store

ID	Description	Categories
204178	Optimized error handling for missing table templates of data sources.	ContentCreator
204213	When using the method `urlFactory(String)` of the interface `RenderingAgent.Renderer` (FirstSpirit Developer API, package `de.espirit.firstspirit.agency`), erroneous behavior could occur.	Developer
204241	With the current FirstSpirit version repository conversions from Oracle Berkeley DB version 3 to version 5 are executed faster. Further information can be found in chapter "Repository: Faster migration from Oracle Berkeley DB 3 to 5".	FirstSpirit Administrator, Integrated software, Performance, Repository, Server Administrator, ServerManager
204247	In the current FirstSpirit version, updated internally used software. Further information can be found in chapter "System: Update of libraries".	SiteArchitect
204281	The display of user sessions in FirstSpirit ServerMonitoring was intermittently erroneous due to incorrectly stored graph data. Further information can be found in chapter "Administration: FirstSpirit ServerMonitoring: Display of user sessions".	ServerMonitoring
204557	Misconfiguration of the Permission Service could lead to erroneous behavior.	Server Administrator
204577	The interface `RenderingAgent` (package `de.espirit.first-spirit.agency`, FirstSpirit Developer API) supports remote links as well as of the current FirstSpirit version. Further information can be found in chapter "Module Development, Scripts, API: RenderingAgent supports remote links".	Developer, FirstSpirit API, Module development

10 Categories

10.1 Archiving

ID	Description
203860	Optimized behavior when canceling an archival task.

10.2 Clustering

ID	Description
203517	Optimized connection establishment to the cluster slave node after a restart of the cluster master server.
203522	Clustering: In the current version of FirstSpirit, problems were resolved that could arise during activation of cluster nodes, especially following an update of the master server.

10.3 Content Transport

ID	Description
203352	While displaying objects included in a feature, erroneous behavior could occur.
203835	Optimized status display when updating a dataset using the functionality "ContentTransport".
203895	Improved performance of image media creation during feature installation.

10.4 ContentCreator

ID	Description
201920	If an external web application is to be used for the preview in FirstSpirit (a Single Page Application, "SPA", for example), the respective URL can be entered into the "External Preview URL" text field in the FirstSpirit ServerManager under "Project / Properties / ContentCreator settings". Further information can be found in chapter "Administration: Using preview applications in the ContentCreator (TPP)".

ID	Description
202492	To identify a FirstSpirit element in a certain project language, a new function `previewId()` similar to the `editorId()` function has been introduced. The `editorId()` function has also been expanded to include an additional `details` parameter. An agent has been implemented as part of the API to analyze the return value. Further information can be found in chapter "Module Development, Scripts, API: Expansion of functions for communication between client-side Single Page Application (SPA) and Content-Creator (TPP)".
203465	Optimized rendering of the input component CMS_INPUT_PERMISSION.
204178	Optimized error handling for missing table templates of data sources.

10.5   Database

ID	Description
203254	Optimization for mass data requests on datasets.

10.6   Developer

ID	Description
192639	As of the current FirstSpirit version, the new interface `ConnectionExtractor` (package `de.e-spirit.firstspirit.web`, FirstSpirit Developer API) is available. Further information can be found in chapter "Module Development, Scripts, API: New API interface "ConnectionExtractor" allows access to the connection of the logged-in user".
202492	To identify a FirstSpirit element in a certain project language, a new function `previewId()` similar to the `editorId()` function has been introduced. The `editorId()` function has also been expanded to include an additional `details` parameter. An agent has been implemented as part of the API to analyze the return value. Further information can be found in chapter "Module Development, Scripts, API: Expansion of functions for communication between client-side Single Page Application (SPA) and Content-Creator (TPP)".

ID	Description
204213	When using the method `urlFactory(String)` of the interface `RenderingAgent.Renderer` (FirstSpirit Developer API, package `de.espirit.firstspirit.agency`), erroneous behavior could occur.
204577	The interface `RenderingAgent` (package `de.espirit.firstspirit.agency`, FirstSpirit Developer API) supports remote links as well as of the current FirstSpirit version. Further information can be found in chapter "Module Development, Scripts, API: RenderingAgent supports remote links".

10.7   FirstSpirit API

ID	Description
72253	As of the current FirstSpirit version, media may be converted between being language-dependent and language-independent via the API. Further information can be found in chapter "Module Development, Scripts, API: Making media language-dependent or language-independent via API".
131707	New interface `UserStatisticsAgent` in the package `de.espirit.firstspirit.agency` (FirstSpirit Developer API). Further information can be found in chapter "Module Development, Scripts, API: Obtaining the most recent login date of a user via API".
192639	As of the current FirstSpirit version, the new interface `ConnectionExtractor` (package `de.espirit.firstspirit.web`, FirstSpirit Developer API) is available. Further information can be found in chapter "Module Development, Scripts, API: New API interface "ConnectionExtractor" allows access to the connection of the logged-in user".
202492	To identify a FirstSpirit element in a certain project language, a new function `previewId()` similar to the `editorId()` function has been introduced. The `editorId()` function has also been expanded to include an additional `details` parameter. An agent has been implemented as part of the API to analyze the return value.

ID	Description
	Further information can be found in chapter "Module Development, Scripts, API: Expansion of functions for communication between client-side Single Page Application (SPA) and Content-Creator (TPP)".
204577	The interface `RenderingAgent` (package `de.espirit.firstspirit.agency`, FirstSpirit Developer API) supports remote links as well as of the current FirstSpirit version. Further information can be found in chapter "Module Development, Scripts, API: RenderingAgent supports remote links".

10.8   FirstSpirit Administrator

ID	Description
201384	Passwords in FirstSpirit configuration files can now be encrypted. Further information can be found in chapter "Administration: Encryption of passwords in FirstSpirit configuration files".
201920	If an external web application is to be used for the preview in FirstSpirit (a Single Page Application, "SPA", for example), the respective URL can be entered into the "External Preview URL" text field in the FirstSpirit ServerManager under "Project / Properties / ContentCreator settings". Further information can be found in chapter "Administration: Using preview applications in the ContentCreator (TPP)".
202938	Recalculation of references has been optimized for slower systems.
204241	With the current FirstSpirit version repository conversions from Oracle Berkeley DB version 3 to version 5 are executed faster. Further information can be found in chapter "Repository: Faster migration from Oracle Berkeley DB 3 to 5".

10.9   FirstSpirit Third Party Preview

ID	Description
201920	If an external web application is to be used for the preview in FirstSpirit (a Single Page Application, "SPA", for example), the respective URL can be entered into the "External Preview URL" text field in the FirstSpirit ServerManager under "Project / Properties / ContentCreator settings". Further information can be found in chapter "Administration: Using preview applications in the ContentCreator (TPP)".
202492	To identify a FirstSpirit element in a certain project language, a new function `previewId()` similar to the `editorId()` function has been introduced. The `editorId()` function has also been expanded to include an additional `details` parameter. An agent has been implemented as part of the API to analyze the return value. Further information can be found in chapter "Module Development, Scripts, API: Expansion of functions for communication between client-side Single Page Application (SPA) and Content-Creator (TPP)".

10.10 Input Components

ID	Description
188240	To provide better clarity, language tabs won't be shown anymore in FS_CATALOG components that allow selecting link templates (`<TEMPLATES type="link">`). Further information can be found in chapter "Input components: FS_CATALOG: Representing language independent content (link lists)".

10.11 Integrated software

ID	Description
204241	With the current FirstSpirit version repository conversions from Oracle Berkeley DB version 3 to version 5 are executed faster.

ID	Description
	Further information can be found in chapter "Repository: Faster migration from Oracle Berkeley DB 3 to 5".

10.12 Isolated mode (BETA)

ID	Description
203385	Improvements of the module "FirstSpirit BasicSearch".

10.13 Media Store

ID	Description
72253	As of the current FirstSpirit version, media may be converted between being language-dependent and language-independent via the API. Further information can be found in chapter "Module Development, Scripts, API: Making media language-dependent or language-independent via API".
203895	Improved performance of image media creation during feature installation.

10.14 Module development

ID	Description
202492	To identify a FirstSpirit element in a certain project language, a new function `previewId()` similar to the `editorId()` function has been introduced. The `editorId()` function has also been expanded to include an additional `details` parameter. An agent has been implemented as part of the API to analyze the return value. Further information can be found in chapter "Module Development, Scripts, API: Expansion of functions for communication between client-side Single Page Application (SPA) and Content-Creator (TPP)".
204577	The interface `RenderingAgent` (package `de.espirit.firstspirit.agency`, FirstSpirit Developer API) supports remote links as well as of the current FirstSpirit version.

ID	Description
	Further information can be found in chapter "Module Development, Scripts, API: RenderingAgent supports remote links".

10.15 Performance

ID	Description
203254	Optimization for mass data requests on datasets.
204241	With the current FirstSpirit version repository conversions from Oracle Berkeley DB version 3 to version 5 are executed faster. Further information can be found in chapter "Repository: Faster migration from Oracle Berkeley DB 3 to 5".

10.16 Preview

ID	Description
201920	If an external web application is to be used for the preview in FirstSpirit (a Single Page Application, "SPA", for example), the respective URL can be entered into the "External Preview URL" text field in the FirstSpirit ServerManager under "Project / Properties / ContentCreator settings". Further information can be found in chapter "Administration: Using preview applications in the ContentCreator (TPP)".
202492	To identify a FirstSpirit element in a certain project language, a new function `previewId()` similar to the `editorId()` function has been introduced. The `editorId()` function has also been expanded to include an additional `details` parameter. An agent has been implemented as part of the API to analyze the return value. Further information can be found in chapter "Module Development, Scripts, API: Expansion of functions for communication between client-side Single Page Application (SPA) and Content-Creator (TPP)".

10.17 Repository

ID	Description
204241	With the current FirstSpirit version repository conversions from Oracle Berkeley DB version 3 to version 5 are executed faster. Further information can be found in chapter "Repository: Faster migration from Oracle Berkeley DB 3 to 5".

10.18 Security

ID	Description
201384	Passwords in FirstSpirit configuration files can now be encrypted. Further information can be found in chapter "Administration: Encryption of passwords in FirstSpirit configuration files".

10.19 Server Administrator

ID	Description
203522	Clustering: In the current version of FirstSpirit, problems were resolved that could arise during activation of cluster nodes, especially following an update of the master server.
203884	Optimized roll-out of web applications during restart of the FirstSpirit server.
204241	With the current FirstSpirit version repository conversions from Oracle Berkeley DB version 3 to version 5 are executed faster. Further information can be found in chapter "Repository: Faster migration from Oracle Berkeley DB 3 to 5".
204557	Misconfiguration of the Permission Service could lead to erroneous behavior.

10.20 ServerManager

ID	Description
203522	Clustering: In the current version of FirstSpirit, problems were resolved that could arise during activation of cluster nodes, especially following an update of the master server.
203818	When the server was restarted, global customer-specific web applications were erroneously always rolled out anew.
204241	With the current FirstSpirit version repository conversions from Oracle Berkeley DB version 3 to version 5 are executed faster. Further information can be found in chapter "Repository: Faster migration from Oracle Berkeley DB 3 to 5".

10.21 ServerMonitoring

ID	Description
204281	The display of user sessions in FirstSpirit ServerMonitoring was intermittently erroneous due to incorrectly stored graph data. Further information can be found in chapter "Administration: FirstSpirit ServerMonitoring: Display of user sessions".

10.22 SiteArchitect

ID	Description
176678	Optimized rendering of the input components FS_CATALOG and FS_INDEX.
200764	In the input component CMS_INPUT_NUMBER, erroneous input will now trigger display of an error message.
204247	In the current FirstSpirit version, updated internally used software. Further information can be found in chapter "System: Update of libraries".

10.23 Template Development

ID	Description
202492	To identify a FirstSpirit element in a certain project language, a new function `previewId()` similar to the `editorId()` function has been introduced. The `editorId()` function has also been expanded to include an additional `details` parameter. An agent has been implemented as part of the API to analyze the return value. Further information can be found in chapter "Module Development, Scripts, API: Expansion of functions for communication between client-side Single Page Application (SPA) and Content-Creator (TPP)".