10 warning signs your knowledge is trapped in silos

If you recognise more than four of these signs, you are already losing a significant amount of time and quality..

In most organisations, knowledge is spread across numerous systems, formats and teams. As long as this works, it goes unnoticed. But if several of these 10 warning signs appear, the costs of silos are already becoming apparent – in terms of time, quality, compliance risk and staff satisfaction. The good news is that you do not need to replace your systems to break down the silos.

01
„I am sure I have seen that document somewhere…“

Employees spend more than 30 minutes a day searching for information instead of working.

02
Several truths existing simultaneously

There are conflicting answers to the same question across different systems, and nobody knows which one applies in the current context.

03
Knowledge gets lost in private files

Notes, training materials and practical knowledge are stored on personal hard drives or in private mailboxes. When someone leaves the company or retires, their knowledge disappears with them.

04

Onboarding becomes a test of patience

It takes new staff weeks before they know where to find things.

05

Duplicate work within teams

The same questions are being researched simultaneously by different colleagues.

06

Duplicate data maintenance is the norm

Content is updated simultaneously in SharePoint, the wiki and the file system.

07

AI either hallucinates or remains generic

Pilot projects using ChatGPT, Copilot or other LLMs fail because the AI is unaware of your specific context: no product details, no processes, no business logic.

08

The search function finds words, not meaning

You search for ‘pump maintenance’, but find nothing because the document is called ‘hydraulic unit maintenance’. Synonyms, contexts and alternative terms go unrecognised.

09

Authorisation chaos

It is unclear who is actually authorised to view which content. Sensitive information is stored in folders to which too many people have access – or, conversely, important knowledge is hidden behind authorisations that nobody keeps up to date any more.

10

Endless discussions about tools

When onboarding new applications, the process often breaks down over the question „*Where does this fit in?*“.

What you can do now

Silos cannot be broken down by introducing yet another system – but rather by linking existing knowledge sources together. A knowledge platform such as JUNOfy makes scattered information findable across systems, harmonises content and makes knowledge available exactly where it is needed. Without having to overhaul your systems, without duplicate maintenance, and without time-consuming data migration.

Conclusion

The first step is not a new tool, but gaining an overview: Which systems hold what knowledge – and who actually needs what? If you can answer these questions, the solution to breaking down silos is within reach.

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