

NEWS

The ubiquitous digital library

2050 - Epoch of the visual representation of invisible knowledge

31 May 2026, Tobias Engl



This is how an ordinary day begins in the world of the ubiquitous Digliotheek, a gigantic knowledge repository with a personal keeper. What was called a library thirty years ago is no longer a place or an app, but a level of everyday life. An invisible network that provides the right information in the right place at the right moment. When you enter a foreign city, you also enter its knowledge space - the traffic situation, official routes and emergency points are available in the corner of your eye. Anyone entering a hospital is guided through the corridors, with waiting times and findings, anonymous and yet personal. Anyone attending a conference knows who they are talking to before they shake hands and understands every language as their own. The library has become an atmosphere.

The real miracle, however, is not the collective cloud, but the intimate world of knowledge that every person carries within them. The chip is smaller than a grain of sand and far more than a memory. It filters, sorts, thinks and expands consciousness and thinking speed hundreds, sometimes thousands of times over. Where it used to take seconds to make a decision, humans and AI now make hundreds of considerations in fractions of a second - comparing offers, questioning diagnoses, assessing risks, checking contracts. The personal digital library is not an archive, but an accompanying, advisory medium that never sleeps and supplements exactly when it is needed; no sooner and no later.

Screens no longer exist in this world. The retina projection superimposes layers over the visible. Ratings, opening hours, signposts rest in the field of vision, a blink makes them disappear. Neural direct access makes knowledge appear without reading, without hearing. Matrix rooms turn walls, tables and ceilings in conference rooms and operating theaters into informative surfaces. And for those who want to keep their distance, there are smart lenses and glasses. Information everywhere, exactly when you need it.

ScreenWay, then a small Munich-based company, began hanging screens where previously only paper had hung ... in hotels, lobbies, conference rooms and waiting rooms. What was simply called digital signage was the first step in a long transformation. Flat displays became sharper, networked, eventually invisible displays; displays became projections on any surface; then they detached themselves from matter and finally appeared directly in our consciousness. With this transformation, the company changed its name: ScreenWay became ScreenAway, or "SCAW" for short. A quiet pun that became the signature of an era, because the way of the screen was also the way away from the screen.

SCAW was never made big by hardware, but by an almost old-fashioned idea. The right information in the right place, at the right moment, for the right person. "We have never sold screens," says the company. "We helped guests to feel welcome, patients to find their way around, travelers to arrive correctly. This task still exists, it just looks different." But what does learning mean when all knowledge is accessible? No longer storing, but understanding. Knowing data is trivial; penetrating it, taking responsibility for its consequences, distinguishing the right from the wrong - that is the education of this millennium. The digital library delivers knowledge, the chip processes it; what neither delivers is taste, courage and wisdom.

Lena closes her eyes in the evening and switches her chip to sleep mode, an old privilege, the night without any networking. She takes a book from the shelf, paper, printed, heavy in her hand. She understands the sentences more slowly now, has to look up words, gets lost in paragraphs. It is exhausting. It is slow. It is wonderful. The Digliothek holds the knowledge, SCAW organizes it and makes it visible. But perhaps the most beautiful thing this world has produced is that it reminds us of what it means to be human - that being who can still marvel even without omniscient images. Welcome to the Digliothek. In the world. In yourself. At ScreenWay.