



| STATUS REVIEW

MAJOR MILESTONES...

In 1998, Rotarians from Geneva created the **RCMS** (*Rotary Club Management System*) for club and district management and communication; it was adopted by the Swiss districts, one district in France and the districts of Belgium and Luxembourg.

At the beginning of 2019, 17 Districts and 945 Clubs, in 5 countries, are actively using RCMS to manage club and district life. However, faced with the changing needs of clubs and ever-increasing programming and security standards, a Belgian-Swiss team, led by Olivier Gardiol, came to the conclusion that RCMS was obsolete. Finding no suitable existing solution, **the team decided to develop a new system**, while respecting the philosophy of **“By Rotarians, for Rotarians”**.

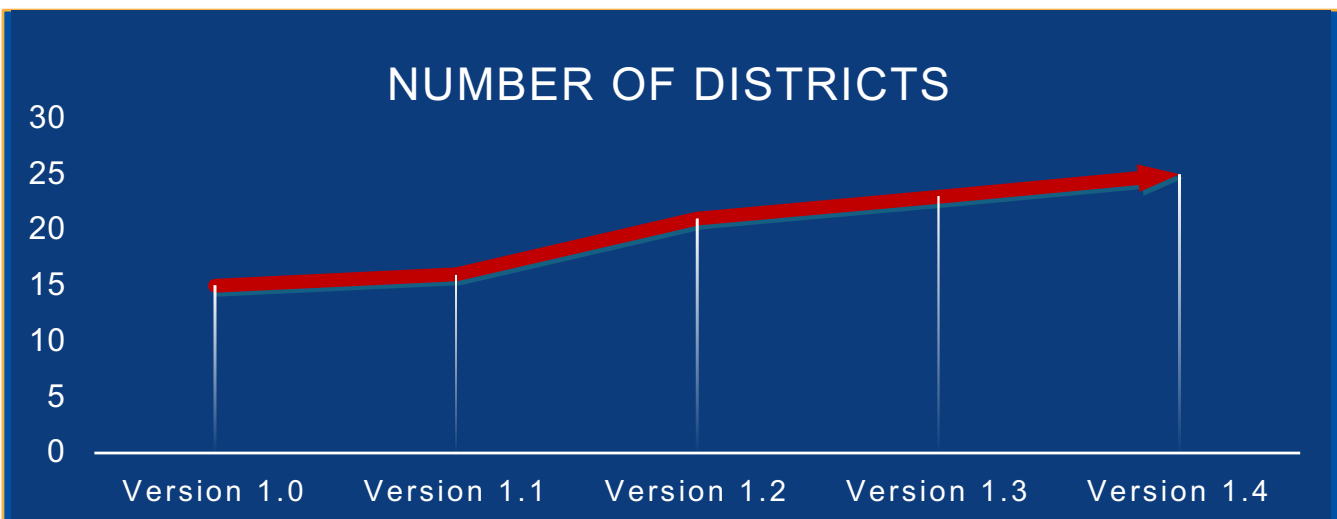
THUS BEGINS THE POLARIS AVENTURE...

The aim is to **develop a scalable infrastructure for the next 10-15 years**. The new system is **entirely financed by the MAR** (*Media Association of Rotary CH&FL*), without impacting the annual clubs' license fees allocated to cover the costs of use, hosting and maintenance... After a call for tenders, **Cloudtec SA**, based in Bern (CH), was chosen as partner to **guarantee long-term professional support**. The new RCMS is named **Polaris**.

Migration to Polaris 1.0 takes place on January 12, 2021 for the Swiss districts, immediately followed by other districts, in 5 countries, that also chosed Polaris. **Polaris 1.4 was activated at the beginning of September 2024 in all 25 user districts**, both Rotary + Rotaract and Inner Wheel, in 10 countries (*Switzerland & Liechtenstein, Belgium & Luxembourg, France, Sweden and Iceland, Spain and Austria & Bosnia-Herzegovina*), i.e. in **1,500 clubs** for almost **60,000 members**.

DATES AND FIGURES...

	Polaris 1.0 12.01.2021	Polaris 1.1 31.12.2021	Polaris 1.2 31.05.2022	Polaris 1.3 30.06.2023	Polaris 1.4 02.09.2024
Districts	15	16	21	23	25





FUNCTIONALITIES

A PRACTICAL TOOL FOR ALL USERS...

Polaris is a web-based application accessible on smartphone via an Internet browser (Safari, Chrome, ...). All functions such as News, registration to events, Contacts or Search are available. It can be saved as an "App" on the smartphone screen.

The screenshot shows the Polaris web application interface for a Rotary Multidistrict. Red arrows point from callout boxes to specific features on the page:

- Home**: Club/district life, Membership, The club/District Documents, My settings, My presence, My finance, Logout
- Club/District news and informations**: Points to the main content area.
- Other Clubs/Districts news and informations**: Points to a sidebar section.
- Logged in**: Points to the user profile icon in the top right.
- HELP button**: Points to the 'HELP' link in the top navigation bar.
- Club/District Calendar**: Points to the 'CALENDER' section on the right.
- Club/District Contacts**: Points to the 'MIJN CLUBS' link in the top navigation bar.

A COMPLETE TOOL FOR ADMINISTRATORS...

Polaris combines all the essential features for the life of Rotary communities, with functionalities for both **membership management** (clubs, districts and other organizations) and **communication** (events, projects, newsletters, etc.). The system is **certified by Rotary International** for automatic data synchronization and **complies with RGPD**. Polaris is developed on an ongoing basis and supported by volunteers in clubs (CICO), districts (DICO) and the Polaris team.

Tool for Clubs, Districts, Foundations, Friendships ...

