Two subprojects of IMPROVE deal with platform problems. More precisely, they discuss the question, how the construction of new or the extension of given tools (see previous chapter) can be made independent of the underlying and used platform.

Each of these subprojects is represented by one section. In Sect. 4.1 information flow management and process data warehousing is discussed. It gives general support w.r.t. administration of heterogeneous data used in integrated environments. Especially, this subproject delivers specific support for its companion subproject on direct process support (see Sect. 3.1).

Section 4.2 deals with management of platform services, namely trading, load balancing, distribution, and similar questions. This, again, is a general question to be dealt in realizations of different and integrated tools in a distributed environment.

These two subprojects belong to the third layer of IMPROVE’s project structure (see Fig. 1.27).