CUSTOMER CASE STUDY

Rechenzentrum Würzburg

"Thanks to support from Fujitsu, the experienced experts contracted and the high-performance hardware, we have a cutting-edge data center that meets all requirements of TÜV level 3 certification and offers future-proof technologies."

Norbert Löffler Managing Director RZW GmbH

Fujitsu supported RZW GmbH in planning a modern TÜV level 3 data center and supplied powerful infrastructure components.

At a glance

Country: Germany Industry: IT services Founded: 2002 Website: www.drv-rzw.de

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Challenge

The German pension insurance provider Deutsche Rentenversicherung Bund (DRV Bund) has built a new office building with a data center for its facility in Würzburg, Germany. RZW GmbH rented the data center and was responsible for planning and equipping its infrastructure with cutting-edge, future-proof technology.

Solution

In designing the TÜV level 3-certifiable data center, Fujitsu hired an experienced IT architect and a project manager, who coordinated all subprojects and external partners and supported the relocation efforts during the planning stage. Fujitsu also supplied modern infrastructure components.

Benefit

- State-of-the-art TÜV level 3 data center with future-proof technologies
- Supply of high-performance, individually configured hardware
- Maximum reliability and 99.98-percent availability
- Double-digit percentage increase in energy efficiency
- Building occupation relocation with almost no interruptions



Customer

Deutsche Rentenversicherung Rechenzentrum Würzburg GmbH (RZW) operates one of the data centers owned by the German pension insurance provider and is responsible for the insurance carriers' IT in southern and southwestern Germany as well as the data center of DRV Bund. RZW offers its customers professional IT services, from supplying high-performance hardware components and operating systems to expert services such as data backup, disaster recovery and software monitoring. This ensures a stable and failsafe IT foundation for all pension insurance processes.

Products and services

- 160 x individually configured racks
- 60 x PRIMERGY RX2540 and RX4770 servers
- 4 x Broadcom SAN directors
- 6 x Broadcom SAN switches

- Provision of an IT architect and a project manager
- Planning and design of the data center infrastructure
- Cutting-edge OM5 cabling and MPO technology



A new data center with future-proof equipment was required

In order for DRV Bund's staff to provide optimum overall support to their customers – approximately 75 million citizens throughout Germany – they need to have a reliable, powerful and fail-safe IT infrastructure in the back end. DRV Bund was planning a new data center in its Würzburg location to meet these very requirements without problems today and in the future. RZW GmbH was in charge of designing the infrastructure, including the active and passive cabling, as well as the equipment. "We intended to build our new data center according to TÜV level 3 standards and equip it with cutting-edge, scalable technology," remarks Norbert Löffler, Managing Director of RZW GmbH, defining the key requirements. "This technology was supposed to reliably meet future requirements and remain viable for the next 15 years without problems."

During the planning and construction phase, the day-to-day business of the pension insurance company had to continue without interruption, which required extensive expertise and sophisticated management practices. Another task was to professionally coordinate the collaboration between all companies and internal employees involved in the project. "An important consideration was to carry out the move to the new data center quickly and with very little impairment of the ongoing business processes," Norbert Löffler remembers. RZW's managers therefore went looking for an experienced partner, who would reliably support the project in all its phases.

Cutting-edge technologies ensure TÜV level 3 certification

The IT units of DRV Bund have worked together very closely and successfully with Fujitsu for more than 45 years. During this long business relationship, the IT partner not only supplied hardware and software but also earned points with its extensive consulting expertise in many different fields, such as hybrid IT and IT security. Due to this positive experience, RZW GmbH hired Fujitsu to provide support in planning and designing the new future-proof data center infrastructure.

In a first step, an experienced IT architect drafted a consistent and integrated concept for the entire equipment, including the cabling. One key component is the new OM5 cabling technology, a type of multimode fiber that supports transmission rates of up to 400 Gbit/s and thus covers the rapidly growing demand for bandwidth, especially in data centers. Modern multipath push-on (MPO) plugs are used as the plug connectors, which are ideally dimensioned for multimode fibers. The IT architect also designed first-rate services that reliably ensure the necessary IT security and other requirements of TÜV level 3 certification. In addition to the IT architect, Fujitsu also arranged for a highly qualified project manager, who worked together with experienced subproject managers to professionally implement all processes related to the construction and design of the new data center. He coordinated all stakeholders involved in the project, such as DRV Bund, its consulting company and the data center-specific activities of the external construction company. In addition, he planned and organized the move to the new building in close coordination with the people in charge of operations. As a result, the new data center could begin operating without delay by the predetermined deadline. Fujitsu provided not only professional services and expert knowledge but also high-performance next-generation hardware. This includes 160 modern racks, which were configured individually according to the customer's preferences, 60 x86 Primergy RX2540 and RX4770 servers, 4 Broadcom SAN directors and 6 Broadcom SAN switches.

Relocation without interrupting business processes

"Thanks to good planning and organization in close cooperation with the Fujitsu experts and the high-performance IT infrastructure equipment, we now have an ultra-modern data center that reliably meets all requirements of TÜV level 3 certification and offers future-proof technologies," confirms Norbert Löffler. RZW also now benefits from maximum reliability and 99.98-percent availability, which plays an important role particularly when it comes to processing sensitive social security data. Moreover, the data center has also experienced a double-digit percentage increase in energy efficiency. Working with the solution partner also turned out to be very fruitful: "Our contacts at Fujitsu won us over with their high level of professionalism and reliability as well as their collegiality. During the entire relocation phase, which took several weeks, the business processes were able to continue with almost no interruptions. Our customers' more than 10,000 specialists barely noticed the changes," the managing director sums up.

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