



SUCCESS STORY

LEEBFOLIEN SWITCHES ITS DATA CENTER IN RECORD TIME



Freudenberg IT (FIT) assumed SAP operation for LEEBFOLIEN GmbH & Co. KG at the end of July 2003. Within only seven days, the IT consulting company migrated the existing SAP R/3 system to its own data center and implemented operation seamlessly.

LEEBFOLIEN, based in Memmingen, Germany, is one of the leading manufacturers of flexible packaging in southern Germany. Using foils of aluminum, plastics, cellophane, and paper materials, the company manufactures wrappers for sandwiches, sweets, butter and cheese, as well as aluminum covers for cups. Until 2003, LEEBFOLIEN's SAP R/3-System 4.OB was hosted by a local service provider. When this partner unexpectedly filed for bankruptcy, a reliable new host needed to be found for operating the SAP system by July 31, 2003. After a round of talks with other hosting service providers, contact was established between the packaging manufacturer and Freudenberg IT through a customer recommendation. This initial contact occurred in mid-July 2003.

After a very successful initial visit and a convincing presentation, both parties decided on the spot to mutually pursue the ambitious and short-noticed system migration. "Freudenberg IT has convinced us with their proven experience in the operation of SAP systems and assured us that they were able to transfer the SAP R/3 system within the tight time frame given," reports Uwe Stifel, Director of LEEBFOLIEN GmbH & Co. KG.

Migration within seven days

On the same day, a router connection was set up from Memmingen to the Freudenberg IT data center in Weinheim. Next, Freudenberg IT's experts visited the previous hosting partner in Kempten and secured the data of LEEBFOLIEN's two-level system landscape for the new test system.

By July 24, 2003, the test system was already installed at the Freudenberg IT data center. The next day, the LEEBFOLIEN data was uploaded and the test system configured accordingly.

The biggest challenge was without a doubt to achieve a heterogeneous system migration of the SAP database from Windows 2000 to the Oracle database of the target Linux system.

Thanks to flawless cooperation between the new partners, the test system could already be approved by LEEBFOLIEN on July 26, 2003.

After a trouble-free Sunday, the actual migration of the production system commenced on Monday. In order to transfer the system, an offline time slot was scheduled from Monday afternoon to Tuesday evening. This tight time frame of only

one day meant that all the required tasks needed to be executed with the greatest precision.

At about 1 a.m. on Tuesday, the system was fully unloaded from the former data center in Kempten and arrived at Freudenberg IT's data center at around 4 a.m. By 7 p.m. the migration was complete, and the LEEBFOLIEN key users commenced system activities.

On Tuesday, July 29, 2003 at 8:30 p.m., LEEBFOLIEN released the system for general operation. The system was fully stable by Wednesday, already providing excellent response times. A number of system modifications followed, such as the connection to the logistics service provider, print management, and adjustments to the RFC connections.

Within only seven days, the packaging manufacturer's sixty users were able to make full use again of their SAP R/3 system with applications for accounting, human resources management, stock management, and production planning.

Conclusion

Freudenberg IT achieved a seamless transfer of the SAP system from LEEBFOLIEN to its own data center with complete flexibility and reliability – in spite of a very narrow time frame. In the process, the issue of migrating to Oracle and Linux was also resolved successfully. Operation of the SAP R/3 system is highly stable and response times are excellent.



"With FIT Compact we finally have the security, availability and flexibility we need to operate our IT systems. Not only that, FIT offers an extremely efficient hosting plan that supports our long-range planning efforts and helps protect our investments. Of course, we also profit from their profound knowledge of the industry and their breadth of experience in SAP operations. In short, with FIT Compact, we're benefiting from a comprehensive and attractive hosting package from an experienced and reliable provider", says Bernd Finkenzeller, commercial Director of Leeb GmbH & Co. KG.

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