



Office 365 steigert Produktivität auf iPad und Windows Client.

Known for its cleaning and care products – Erdal, Frosch and tana – the innovative Werner & Mertz is well-established in Europe and Japan. Its iconic frog mascot has been on display at the company's Mainz headquarters for 145 years. Supported by a strong family tradition, Werner & Mertz has become a European leader in specialised care products, attributing its success to an innovative spirit and long-standing ties with its home town. Through its products and initiatives, the manufacturer regularly brings fresh ideas to the market.

Starting point. It's a long-standing tradition at Werner & Mertz to shape the market through new advancements, improve customers' lives through new products and help protect the environment through improved formulas. This innovative prowess is only possible through the use of cutting-edge techniques and technology. Superior product quality is ensured by product development teams as well as a proprietary system to evaluate raw materials, formulas and packaging components. Employees working in these areas depend on Werner & Mertz to provide an IT infrastructure that lays the groundwork for efficiency – requiring state-of-the-art technology. Previously, the company spent a lot of time manually installing and maintaining Microsoft Office components. The IT department therefore wanted to implement Office 365 and benefit from its many features.

Project objectives. Werner & Mertz needed an integrated solution to prepare its software structure for the future. Specifically, it was looking for licences that would cover multiple devices, so that staff working on iPads would be able to jump seamlessly to another device while still using the same version of Office. In addition to standard Office applications, Werner & Mertz wanted to tie in online services like Lync with its corporate communications. Further priorities were reducing the time spent by its IT department on maintaining and operating software, and enabling it to respond even more quickly to new requirements. By using online services instead of locally installed software, the company would not only take its IT to the next level, but also improve employee productivity.

“Our company is able to benefit from innovative Office 365 software, thanks in large part to Bechtle's excellent support. We now have access to the entire Office suite on all end devices without any compatibility issues. This has not only improved everyday employee efficiency, but also simplified user management for our IT department.”

Mario Dörfler,
IT Purchasing/Group IT,
Werner & Mertz GmbH

Process. To ensure that Office 365 would be introduced as smoothly as possible for all users in an organisation as large as Werner & Mertz, it was necessary first to assess what exactly the company required of its Office programs. Bechtle's experts therefore conducted workshops with Werner & Mertz's IT specialists to come up with a basic plan. Based on this plan, Bechtle recommended Office 365 Pro Plus and Office 365 Enterprise E3 and drew up a detailed plan for defining, configuring, installing and operating Office 365.

Solution. To implement Office 365, Bechtle's software specialists first defined and configured the tenant for Werner & Mertz. This tenant lets administrators configure services and manage users and subscriptions. Bechtle then built a load-balancing Active Directory Federation Services (ADFS) infrastructure between the existing local Active Directory and Office 365 to enable a direct connection between the two. User information is thereby automatically available in Office 365, eliminating the need to record it manually. Once Bechtle had designed, tested and implemented an installation and configuration routine for Office 365 Pro Plus, Werner & Mertz was ready to harness its newest innovation. The selected Office 365 version provides all employees with the full range of Microsoft Office features on up to five devices per licence, including PCs, tablets, iPads and nearly all popular smartphones. As a result, they benefit from highly available, flexible and productive services. And Werner & Mertz's IT department is able to manage configuration options in detail through the administrator portal – an admin app even lets them manage services on the go.

Business benefits. Switching from Microsoft Office to Office 365 has allowed Werner & Mertz to apply the same licence to multiple devices. Because of this, the company's frequently used iPads now run the same version of Office as its desktop computers. In addition, Office 365 is an ideal platform for meeting future requirements, as it can be expanded or reconfigured at any time (for example to integrate new features) from a central location. Bechtle's consulting services ensured that the project was implemented in a timely manner without interrupting company operations. Office 365 also makes it possible for Werner & Mertz to use online services such as Lync in future and respond quickly and flexibly to requirements as they arise.

CUSTOMER PROFILE



WERNER & MERTZ

Werner & Mertz is a leader on the European market, known for brands such as Erdal, Frosch and tana. For over 145 years, it has cultivated close ties with its location in Mainz. This commitment to its hometown, coupled with the company's innovative spirit, enables Werner & Mertz to bring fresh impetus time and again through its products and initiatives. Werner & Mertz continues to forge ahead to become the European market and innovation leader for specialised care, supported by established brands, highly skilled and motivated employees, and a company-wide commitment to sustainability. As at 2014, the company employed some 900 people, 600 of whom are in Germany. In 2012, it reported total revenues of 305 million euros, four-fifths (239 million euros) of which were earned on brand-name products sold under its consumer segment. Its professional segment accounted for a solid one-fifth of revenues (66 million euros).

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www.werner-mertz.de

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