

» CUSTOMER SUCCESS STORY

BG HOLZ

TECHNOGROUP KEEPS YOUR IT RUNNING

STARTING POSITION

- + EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY INSURANCE ASSOCIATION
- + ACCIDENT INSURANCE PROVIDER FOR THE TIMBER INDUSTRY
- + PREVENTION OF HEALTH RISKS
- + REHABILITATION OF THE PEOPLE AFFECTED

IT

- + IBM SERVERS (EXCHANGE, SQL, TERMINAL SERVERS)
- + WINDOWS SERVER AS THE OPERATING SYSTEM
- + LEGACY SOFTWARE WITH IBM MAINFRAME

CHALLENGE

- + FEW EMPLOYEES
- + STREAMLINED SYSTEM

SOLUTION

- + MAINFRAME
- + RELAXATION OF THE BURDEN ON THE EMPLOYEES THROUGH THIRD-PARTY MAINTENANCE

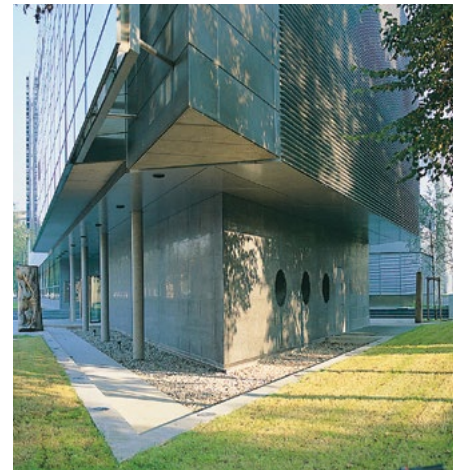




OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY: IT STARTS WITH THE KNOWLEDGE ABOUT HAZARDS AND EXPOSURES
| BG HOLZ



BG HOLZ PROVIDES SAFETY: IN OVER 218,000 COMPANIES WITH OVER 4.7 MILLION EMPLOYEES
| BG HOLZ



THE IT LANDSCAPE AT BG HOLZ ACCOMODATES THE REQUIREMENTS OF MODERN ADMINISTRATION
| BG HOLZ

BISMARCK MEETS THIN CLIENT

TECHNOGROUP AT BG HOLZ

THE STARTING POSITION

Employers' liability insurance associations provide the statutory accident insurance for companies in the German private sector and their employees. They have the job of preventing accidents at work, occupational diseases and work-related health risks. Employees who have had an accident at work or are suffering from an occupational disease are medically, professionally and socially rehabilitated by the employers' liability insurance associations. Furthermore, it is the responsibility of the employers' liability insurance associations to provide financial compensation for the consequences of the accident or disease in the form of cash payments.

The employers' liability insurance association for the timber industry – BG Holz – is the statutory accident insurance provider for 51,600 companies or more than 490,000 employees from the timber industry. These include companies throughout Germany which are involved in woodworking and wood processing, timber production and wood finishing and the machining and processing of synthetic and carving materials. The top priorities include the prevention of accidents at work, professional diseases and work-related health risks. On a day-to-day basis, this is achieved through regular audits and inspections. These include site visits with the goal of improving the safety management, as well as regular training, which is mandatory at the

companies. In the case of complex occupational health and safety problems, specially trained specialists are available to provide safety advice with their expert knowledge. BG Holz's occupational health service provides the employees with the best possible health support at their workplace. As well as advice about occupational health and occupational hygiene, it offers prevention, precautions and workplace inspections. Great importance is generally attached to the provision of information, also with respect to technical and legal facts and contexts. The preventative measures that are a high priority in the work of the employers' liability insurance association include education and training as well as research and development.

THE IT

The IT landscape at BG Holz takes modern administrative requirements into account. The focus is on the IBM servers, which perform most of the tasks (Exchange, SQL, terminal servers). A Windows server is uniformly used as the operating system. An IBM mainframe is also available for the legacy software. Klaus-P. Scharrer started his professional career at BG Holz in 1986 and has been Head of IT since 2007. He considers this to be a vocation, rather than a job, as he lives and breathes IT. Due to his qualified training and many years of experience in the key departments, he is familiar with all the functions and intricacies of BG Holz.

The headquarters are located in Munich. All IT matters are controlled from here. With 14 members of staff, Klaus-P. Scharrer has a strong team, which is divided into the three areas of production, development and network/support. Like him, most of his staff found their way into the IT Department via the specialist departments. The focus was placed on thin clients, terminal servers and Citrix from an early stage. The use of these highly effective and economical systems has had excellent results. The virtualisation of machines and applications will bring a similarly fast return of investment.

“Technology is something wonderful,” says Klaus-P. Scharrer and continues: “But we want to remain manageable for the benefit of the members. This can also be seen in the IT Department, whose staff make up just 3 % of the total workforce due to the use of appropriate and economical systems.” This result is achieved through a consistent use of thin clients and the associated discontinuation of the software distribution or of the extensive support in comparison with conventional PCs. BG Holz has replaced a large proportion of its mainframe-based programs with an MSSQL database and modern and cost-effective software based on the Microsoft-NET framework at the right time. The desired speed is achieved as a result of using the new technologies, and it is now possible to choose from an even larger circle of partners. The “streamlined” and intelligent approach is also reflected in the fact that only 2.5 IT employees are required to support the 470 internal users and for the system and network administration. “A single PC workstation creates more than three times as much work for us as a thin client that communicates with the terminal servers via Citrix,” says Klaus-P. Scharrer. Another result of this approach is that only one third of the usual amount of electricity is consumed. Therefore, green IT has arrived at BG Holz.

THE COLLABORATION WITH TECHNOGROUP

BG Holz’s initial contact with Technogroup IT Service GmbH was in the form of a user report by a Technogroup customer in a trade magazine, as is often the case. On request, the Technogroup team presented BG Holz with an extremely attractive proposal. From then on, there was only one possible direction: forwards. The collaboration began in 2008 with a maintenance assignment for the IBM mainframe and the servers. The discussions continued at a rapid pace, but Technogroup was able to demonstrate that it had the necessary experience and references.

The number of maintenance assignments has now increased gratifyingly and the computer centre hardware is being fully serviced.

“Technogroup provides a ‘quiet’ collaboration. Especially when the work is outsourced and there are not an excessive number of employees available internally, we are free to focus on what we do best”, Klaus-P. Scharrer explains one of the reasons why the collaboration with Technogroup is so efficient, and he continues: “Of course, we did not just jump in at the deep end, but rehearsed a proactive incident. With success. Technogroup also sees itself as a partner. There are clear parallels between hardware maintenance and accident prevention. On both sides, activities are initiated before any damage can occur. And what could be more worthwhile than that?”

TECHNOGROUP

Technogroup is the market leader for third-party maintenance (TPM) in the D/A/CH region – and Evernex is the European market leader. Technogroup is a one-stop shop for services and consulting, covering all important IT systems in data centres. Companies in different sectors can uti-

lise Technogroup’s comprehensive service packages to prevent faults, fix their hardware and affordably extend the service life of their IT systems. Some of the company’s additional services include IT monitoring, network services, refurbished hardware and IMAC services. Technogroup and

Evernex are the number-one provider of spare parts for all major manufacturers in Europe.

www.technogroup.com
www.evernex.com

MORE ABOUT BG HOLZ



On 17th November 1881, in the Royal Proclamation that was set to the German Reichstag and edited by Bismarck, Kaiser Wilhelm I. urged the introduction of social security, especially insurance for the workers against “industrial accidents”. The social security was to solve the so-called “social question”. Three years went by before the Imperial Chancellor Bismarck was able to put the Kaiser’s ideas into practice. The Accident Insurance Act of 6th July 1884 created the legal conditions for the “employers’ liability insurance associations”. These associations were intended as self-governing associations of entrepreneurs. A lot has changed since that time. The

employers’ liability insurance associations have developed into a very successful modern service provider and make a vital contribution to health care with their clinics, which lead the rankings for accident medicine. On 5th November 2008, the German Act for the Modernisation of Statutory Health Insurance came into force. Amongst other things, it stipulated that the number of employers’ liability associations would be reduced from 23 to nine by 31st December 2009.

Another goal is to make occupational health and safety a permanent feature of a company’s organisation. To reinforce this, BG Holz

offers regular training courses for its members. Last but not least, the extensive catalogue of tasks includes the topic “Learning from accidents”. The insights gained from serious accidents at work are outlined here. The range of accidents is wide, from accidents involving forklift trucks and all kinds of falls to the hazards in sawmill plants and fires and explosions. The reports outline the course of the accident and analyse it before going on to describe the protective measures that could have prevented the accident.

<https://www.bghm.de/>

KEEP IT RUNNING



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