

DATA PROTECTION COMPLIANCE AND MINIMAL EFFORTS THANKS TO SOFTWARE-DEFINED ARCHIVE

"I he best thing about iCAS? It works reliably in the background, always, without administrative effort."

Christoph Ruppert-Preu,
Deputy Head of IT District Office Schweinfurt





Sector:

Local authority

Background:

The Schweinfurt District Office previously used a hardware solution for the long-term archiving of data from enaio. When this became outdated, the IT management of the district office began to look for an alternative to replace the previous physical solution.

Challenges:

- Audit-proof, software-defined long-term archiving of data from the existing enaio
 with approx. 600 users
- Replacement of the physical hardware solution
- Seamless integration into the existing
 IT infrastructure

Solution:

iTernity iCAS Middleware
OPTIMAL SYSTEMS enaio

Image (Canva): The district of Schweinfurt is located in the eastern half of the Bavarian administrative district of Lower Franconia and completely surrounds the independent city of Schweinfurt, which is the seat of the district office.

THE SUCCESS AT A GLANCE



Quick and easy deployment and setup of the new solution



Easy data migration from the previous hardware solution to iCAS



No effort with the archive solution for IT: iCAS runs as a silent worker in the background



Smooth interaction with the enaio document management system (DMS) from OPTIMAL SYSTEMS



Seamless integration into the existing IT infrastructure and the existing backup concept



DISTRICT OFFICE SCHWEINFURT

The Schweinfurt District Office is a public administrative organisation of the district of Schweinfurt in the Main-Rhön region in the north of Bavaria. The authority offers the approximately 117,000 inhabitants of the district a wide range of services in the areas of citizen services, vehicle registration, health, environmental and nature conservation, waste management and social affairs.

Around 600 employees work at the Schweinfurt District Office, almost 20 of whom work in the IT department. The specialists are responsible for the entire IT infrastructure of the district office.

STARTING POINT: THE DESIRE FOR SMOOTH PROCESSES AND LOW FEFORT

The outdated hardware solution for archiving was to be replaced in order to continue to guarantee a smooth workflow for all users.

All data to be archived at Schweinfurt District Office comes from the enaio ECM software from OPTIMAL SYSTEMS. In enaio, there are configured archiving runs, e.g. for data from the registration and



Key data: District Office Schweinfurt

- Administrative authority of the district of Schweinfurt in northern Bavaria with around 117,00 inhabitants
- Approx. 600 employees

driving licence office, the social welfare office, the foreigners and naturalisation office, the trade office and the building authority. Personnel files and documents from the invoice workflow are also among the documents to be archived. All data must be stored in an audit-proof manner in accordance with strict specifications and may not be changed, manipulated or deleted. The retention periods for the various documents to be archived comply with different legislation (e.g. EU GDPR, AO, GoBD) and are generally 6, 10 or 30 years.

Until 2018, Schweinfurt District Office relied on a hardware-based archiving solution that no longer met current requirements in conjunction with enaio. The IT team therefore looked for an alternative for the authority's long-term archive.

Christoph Ruppert-Preu, Deputy Head of IT at Schweinfurt District Office, recalls the initial situation as follows:

"Previously, our central enaio software was connected to a hardware-based archiving solution. However, this was getting on in years and was repeatedly affected by malfunctions. To replace it, we wanted a software-defined archiving approach that would integrate seamlessly into our existing IT infrastructure, grow with our requirements without any problems and prevent us from being subject to vendor lock-in. iTernity provided the solution that best suited our needs."



GOALS AND SOLUTION SELECTION

In addition to the desired freedom from disruption and a minimum of administrative effort for the IT department, the Schweinfurt District Office focussed on the following goals and conditions:

- An audit-proof, legally compliant archive without vendor lock-in.
- The archiving system should be able to be integrated into the existing structures as smoothly as possible. It should be possible to continue using the existing IT systems (investment security).
- It had to be possible to migrate the existing data from the hardware solution to be replaced to the new archiving system without any problems.
- The archive should be easily expandable at any time and at short notice in order to keep pace with the constantly growing volume of data.

In addition to the software-based solution from iTernity, there were also physical hardware solutions to choose from. As iTernity's offer met all of the Schweinfurt District Office's requirements for an archive solution as well as the desire for future hardware independence, the IT management decided in favour of the iCAS middleware.

Deputy Head of IT Christoph Ruppert-Preu, who played a key role in the selection process, on the decision in favour of iCAS:

"In addition to the extremely low set-up and administration effort, another decisive factor for us was that we simply chose another virtual server for iCAS in our existing server landscape, which has its own storage area, but which we were able to fully incorporate into our backup concept."

Like many other areas, the public sector is also confronted with rapidly growing data volumes. Across all sectors, the global volume of data is expected to almost double from 130 ZB today to 230 ZB by 2026.

At Schweinfurt District Office, this is reflected in a major expansion of the enaio document management system. According to Ruppert-Preu, particularly large amounts of data are generated in the building authority, youth welfare office and veterinary office.

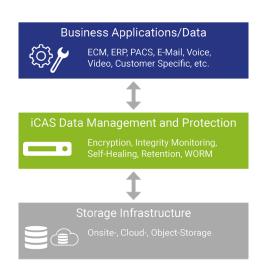
"Up to now, we have generally followed a hybrid approach, i.e. there are still paper files, but digital files are also created. From an agreed cut-off date, work is then only carried out digitally. Once a department has recognised the advantages of electronic files, colleagues will also digitise their existing files. As a result, a huge amount of additional data is generated."



According to Ruppert-Preu, the uncomplicated option of being able to grow step by step with the data volume played a very important role in the decision in favour of iCAS. Since the implementation in 2018, the Schweinfurt District Office has extended the licence for the iTernity solution every year.

TODAY'S ARCHIVE ARCHITECTURE OF THE AUTHORITY

The archiving process at Schweinfurt District Office with the iCAS middleware is organised as follows: All documents from the ECM enaio are stored with iCAS for the defined retention periods in an audit-proof manner and protected against manipulation, modification and deletion. The archiving process is transparent for the user. iCAS acts as a reliable worker in the background and is not visible to the user. Above all, the fact that iCAS - once implemented - causes only minimal administrative effort for the IT team has impressed those responsible for IT at the Schweinfurt District Office.



The functionality of iCAS:

As a software-based solution, iCAS connects specialised applications, such as the ECM enaio from OPTIMAL SYSTEMS, with the storage infrastructure and is independent of both sides. The software solution runs on Windows servers and can be operated both physically and, as in the case of the Schweinfurt District Office, virtually. iCAS is based on standard hardware, can be used with on-premise, object or cloud storage solutions and ensures compliance, data integrity protection and WORM (Write Once Read Many) storage. Thanks to its software-based architecture, iCAS offers a high degree of flexibility and security, even for future and unforeseeable developments.

The main advantages of iCAS quickly became apparent to the Schweinfurt District Office:

- Fast, uncomplicated provision of the solution and low time and labour costs during setup.
- iCAS runs efficiently and smoothly in the background. Thanks to minimal maintenance effort, resources in the IT team are freed up for more important tasks.
- No additional effort for legal compliance: thanks to iCAS, documents are stored in an audit-proof and unalterable manner (KPMG-certified).
- The solution grows with you without any problems even when data grows by leaps and bounds.



LOOKING TO THE FUTURE - THE NEXT STEPS

Today, the data of all departments of the Schweinfurt District Office is archived from enaio with iCAS in an audit-proof, long-term archive. The archiving of "general document management" in iCAS, i.e. documents that are not generated from a specialised procedure, is still pending. This is in preparation, but not yet finalised. The deputy head of IT is relaxed about the future of long-term archiving - after all, the enaio and iCAS solutions that the Schweinfurt District Office has opted for are also ideally equipped for an even more data-intensive future.

Christoph Ruppert-Preu is completely satisfied with iCAS:

"It simply works and does exactly what it is supposed to do."



DATA ARCHIVING MADE SIMPLE

iCAS is a flexible middleware for retention management & WORM storage. The solution integrates perfectly into heterogeneous infrastructure landscapes. While you take care of your core business, iCAS reliably protects the integrity and availability of your data in the background.



The archive intelligence is tied to the software-layer, not to the



COMPLIANT

iCAS assures regulatory and compliance requirements



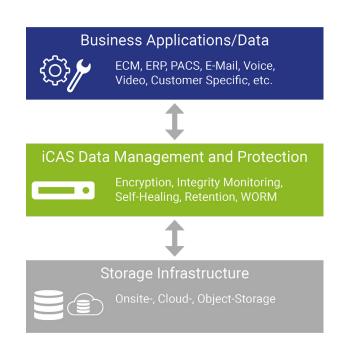
FLEXIBLE

IBLE TAMPER-PROOF

Middleware between your business application and the storage infrastructure

iCAS provides WORM storage, encryption and retention management

THE CENTRAL PLATFORM FOR YOUR DATA MANAGEMENT



iCAS protects data integrity and availability, even if the underlying storage technology and hardware changes in the future. As a software-defined solution, iCAS lays the foundation for audit-proof data archiving and protects your investments in hardware, software and services.

iCAS adapts to your IT infrastructure and adds compliance, data integrity protection and WORM storage (Write Once Read Many) to your existing systems.