

Success Story

Maximum Performance and Stability with the Enterprise Cloud by 1&1 IONOS

coretress expands the cloud infrastructure of a multi-shop system

The full-service IT system company coretress GmbH from Cologne offers a comprehensive service portfolio for small and medium-sized companies. Since it was founded in 1999 by Meik Romberg and André Schiller, individual consultation has played a central role. The company name “coretress” is a play on the English words “core” (the central component of a computer unit in IT) and “fortress”. The IT system company chose IaaS specialist 1&1 IONOS to help it set up, update, and expand a cloud infrastructure for an eCommerce shop system with multiple individual shops.

„Innovative approaches are our trademark. We recognize potential, help companies to significantly increase the efficiency of their infrastructure, and make our motto “optimize your business” a reality. We see ourselves as a partner who makes customer satisfaction its top priority. Personal contact and partnerships are extremely important to us.“

André Schiller

Managing Director of coretress GmbH

The spectrum encompasses the areas of IT service with desktop and server management, IT infrastruc-

ture, analysis, virtualization, and IP telephony. This includes IT security with antivirus, backup, IT security check, firewall, and patch management, as well as cloud IT with e-mail archiving, cloud workstations and servers, data protection, and firewall in the cloud.

Cloud Expertise is in Demand

Every customer project starts with independent, neutral, and competent advice on technical observations and decisions, e.g., prior to introducing new systems. In this process, careful analysis, planning, and design are the cornerstones for sustainable IT solutions. The technical solutions we provide are as varied as the requirements of the companies we work with. Lots of projects require a modern and web-based IT environment that meets today's demands for performance and stability in real time. More and more customers are looking for a secure and flexible cloud infrastructure combined with specialist knowledge on how to launch it.

Challenging IT Setting

This customer project concerns one of the leading eCommerce shops in the food supplement sector.



More precisely, it is a multi-shop system with over 400,000 customers and more than 2,000 orders every day. The challenge was how to update and enhance the existing IT settings in the front end and back end, and how to expand the online shop with new software components. The shop management software xtCommerce needed to be updated to the latest version and a new ERP solution and an SAP HANA database needed to be set up using SAP Business One. All connected services and programs were linked via the shop API for direct data exchange. The system load of an online shop can of course fluctuate strongly depending on the season or campaigns. The innovative Enterprise Cloud API for planning the RAM and CPU resources, as well as a stable and fail-safe server infrastructure are indispensable for this – and no digital progress can be made without the cloud.

Testing and Using the Cloud

The project began in the 3rd quarter of 2017 with market research into the eligible cloud providers. As coretress GmbH places great importance on data protection and IT security, the selection process concentrated on German providers with a server location in Germany. It became apparent that 1&1 IONOS is not only a genuine alternative to the well-known top providers on this matter, but also in terms of value for

money. After several successful preliminary test runs with smaller, real customer projects, coretress made the decision to cooperate with 1&1 IONOS. Other important criteria included stability, performance, reliability, and system distribution in real time.

„The Data Center Designer of the Enterprise Cloud is a unique visualization tool for creating and managing virtual data centers. The graphical user-friendly interface offers all the functionalities that we are familiar with in a physical data center. The REST-based cloud API allows me to design, configure, and manage my IT infrastructure simply and intuitively using the drag & drop function. The Enterprise Cloud also has 2-factor authentication enabled as standard.“

André Schiller

Managing Director of coretress GmbH

The competent support from 1&1 IONOS started during the initial test instance. An expert team of experienced system administrators is available to every customer 24 hours a day, 7 days a week as a matter of principle. Technical problems can be discussed with the support engineers at any time on an equal footing – without any additional costs or long-term maintenance contracts.

Entering the Cloud One Step at a Time

The project is currently in the implementation phase after the selection of the Enterprise Cloud and the procurement of new software. The individual elements are being selected step by step and are being integrated and thoroughly tested in the environment one at a time. André Schiller, qualified production technology engineer, explained the process:

„We are entering the cloud one step at a time. In doing so, we are relying on iterative test cycles and agile project management in close consultation with all parties involved in the project. A cautious and modular update and upgrade release process is essential for us.“

The relocation will therefore be performed in various packages and should be completed in the 2nd quarter of 2018. Taking into account the number of individual services and their diversity, this is a truly ambitious project. After commissioning each individual package one at a time, its behavior will be monitored very closely: Is the newly composed setting correct? Do the individual components interact in the desired manner? Or do the resources need to be redistributed when typical eCommerce

order peaks are pending? Experience has shown that smaller system adjustments will be required in projects of this size. The modern eCommerce multi-shop system is therefore constantly being further optimized and adjusted.

Professional Cloud Server

With the Enterprise Cloud, it is possible to relocate multiple front end and back end servers, various ERP solutions, such as SAP Business One, and databases, such as SAP HANA, as well as the actual online shop, to the cloud easily, quickly, and securely.

“We introduce companies to the cloud step by step. This enables us to increase our customers’ efficiency and flexibility. The Enterprise Cloud servers are highly available, scalable, and economical to operate. This means that our budget planning is reliable and cost efficient. To date, we have had 100% performance and stability – and we’re “made in Germany”.“

André Schiller

Managing Director of coretress GmbH