



Lean file servers in city administration

The city of Sindelfingen with around 60,000 inhabitants is home to the famous Mercedes Cars which are built there. The public IT administration uses FILEminimizer Serve for an efficient use of existing storage capacities and a higher productivity of its employees.

CUSTOMER PROFILE

The city of Sindelfingen is located in the European metropolitan region of Stuttgart, which is home to around 2.7 million inhabitants. The Stuttgart region contains around 1 million employees who are subject to social insurance and produce a GDP in excess of €95 billion, a figure which is more than some EU member states for example.

CUSTOMER CHALLENGE: EXPONENTIAL STORAGE GROWTH

The city's employees regularly use PowerPoint, Word and Excel to create and store presentations and documents which are often sent also via email to external and internal parties. The IT administration of the City saw itself soon in a very difficult situation: The occupied space on the central file server where these files are stored grew exponentially and was out of control. Employees continued to claim about undeliverable emails and congested Mailboxes. The IT administration did an internal analysis which showed that big Microsoft Office files on the central file server consumed the nearly all of the existing storage capacity. These files were also responsible for the email communication problems. The IT administration of the City was looking for after a centralized solution. Stephan Aufsfeld, who was in charge of this project confirmed: *"We have over 400 users whit a broad range of IT competence from beginner to expert. Therefore we were looking for a centralized Server solution and found FILEminimizer Server."*

THE SOLUTION

The City's IT administration evaluated several solutions and chose to implement FILEminimizer Server by balesio. The software can optimize Microsoft Office files directly on a file server through easily configurable optimization profiles. Thus, Microsoft Office files can be systematically reduced in size, on average by 70% without changing the native Microsoft format or the file quality. A compressed PowerPoint file is always accessible for viewing, editing, etc. without a prior unzipping process. The optimized files are easier to send via email and email size limitations weren't an issue anymore. Each employee now saves valuable time while sending Microsoft Office attachments via email..

BUSINESS BENEFITS

The City's IT administration is now using the software on a daily basis and runs its defined optimization profile via the built-in scheduler function. The daily and automatic optimization could flatten the data growth rate on the file server enormously and significantly relieved the network. A part from the performance increase in the IT infrastructure, also the employees enjoy the benefits, as Stephan Aufsfeld confirms: *"We could significantly reduce IT support in the help desk due to undeliverable emails and too large attachments. One of my colleagues even asked if we had new servers because his optimized files loaded much faster now."*



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Stephan Aufsfeld
IT Administrator,
City of Sindelfingen

Key Highlights

ORGANISATION:

City of Sindelfingen, near Stuttgart/Germany, 60,000 inhabitants

INDUSTRY:

Government

CHALLENGES:

- exponential storage growth on file server
- increased support due to undeliverable emails and congested mailboxes

SOLUTION:

FILEminimizer Server

ACHIEVED RESULTS:

- Existing storage space has been gained back
- Growth rate on storage could be flattened
- Productivity increase / better email communication
- Network traffic could be reduced