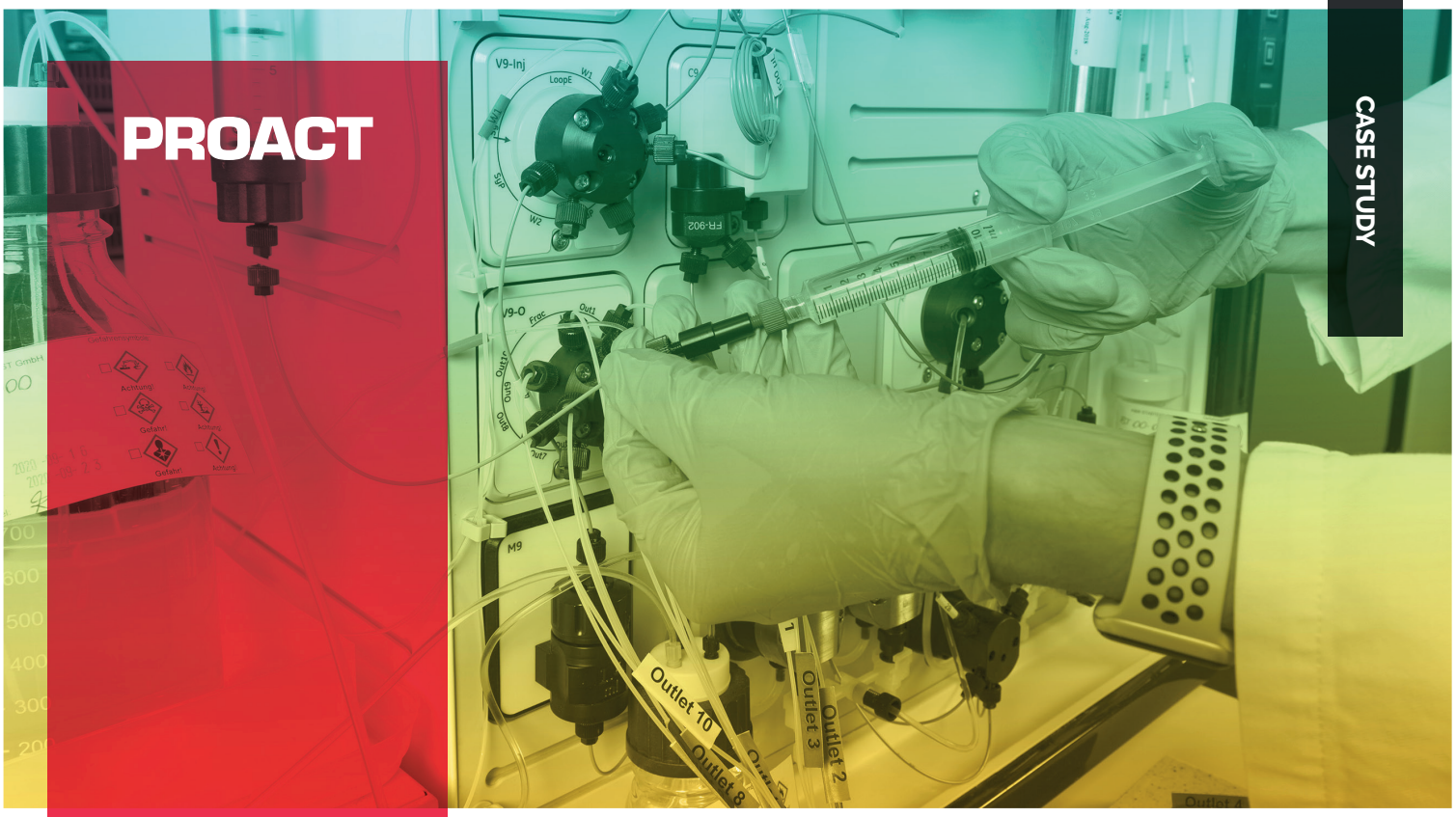
PROACT

CASE STUDY



A&M Stabtest GmbH

A new IT infrastructure is needed — compatible with the existing building and all the regulations of the pharmaceutical industry

For the construction of a new building at the company headquarters in Bergheim, A&M STABTEST GmbH needed a completely new IT infrastructure including all the associated components: Network, storage, server hardware, virtualisation, workspace, security and backup. At the same time, the current IT in the existing building was to be adapted to the new system. On the one hand, this had become outdated over time and on the other hand, A&M STABTEST naturally wanted to use the synergies that result from coordinated IT systems — true to the motto: "One company, one IT system".

"As one of the largest analytics service providers for the pharmaceutical industry in Europe, we have to comply with all regulatory requirements in our industry. This includes, among other things, constant, error-free and securely running analyses, all of which we realise today via IT applications and structures," says Patrick Pelz, IT system administrator at A&M STABTEST, adding, "Since really everything we do is computer-based, this means that we need IT that offers us minimal downtime as well as a solid, easy-to-use setting." All studies that A&M STABTEST conducts for its customers on the global market must be produced correctly and documented according to the strictest regulations. Derived from the requirements of "Good Manufacturing Practice" (GMP), A&M STABTEST has three core requirements for its IT: Fail-safety, high productivity and short interruption in case of emergency.

Overview

Challenge

A&M STABTEST GmbH, one of the largest analysis service providers for the pharmaceutical industry in Europe, needed a completely new, reliable infrastructure for the IT in a new building that met all the regulations of the pharmaceutical industry, as well as a solution for the previous location that was adapted to this new IT.

Solution

- NetApp MetroCluster IP with SSD storage
- Juniper Network Switches EX4600
- Fujitsu server hardware for VMware ESXi infrastructure
- VMware ESXi infrastructure
- Citrix XenApp virtual workspace
- Veeam Cloud Backup
- Proact Professional Service
- Proact Support (SSC)
- Five days of training for storage infrastructure

It was exactly the right decision to have Proact Germany set up our IT infrastructure in the new building and to bring it to the next level in the existing building. The fact that the implementation went as planned and the administration of our IT has now become much easier proves to us that we have once again chosen the right IT partner."

Patrick Pelz,
IT-System Administrator, A&M STABTEST GmbH

The challenge

While the IT at the existing site had reached the end of its planned life, a modern, fail-safe, easy-to-use solution had to be found for the new location, which should then also apply as a benchmark for the old location. This is the only way to work within the company efficiently, which in times of staff shortages in general and high personnel costs in Germany is increasingly becoming a competitive factor on the global market. In addition, the strict regulations in the pharmaceutical industry also had to be mapped via the IT system and guaranteed at all times. The central Empower® software, which is essential for the analyses, also had to be easy and reliable to use via the new IT structure.

The goal: To build up and expand IT — consistent over both locations

Due to the new construction of a second building, A&M STABTEST needed everything that belongs to a smooth and reliable IT structure and that establishes operational capability: Network, storage, server hardware, virtualisation, workspace, security as well as an efficient backup. All important applications – first and foremost the analysis software – were then to be built on top of this. Patrick Pelz's expectations were clear: "With this investment, we also wanted to simplify the administration of the IT and further increase data security. Therefore, a better backup system and the optimisation of our own firewall were also part of this project."

The solution

In addition to setting up a complete infrastructure, A&M STABTEST decided to upgrade the existing IT at the first location and to adapt it to the infrastructure in the new building. Proact Deutschland GmbH provided the company with all the necessary components in the usual state-of-the-art technology, as well as services for implementation and support. A five-day training of the employees for the new storage infrastructure rounded off the solution.

In the end, the IT project, from the initial scheduling to the execution of the delivery of hardware and the implementation of the new IT infrastructure, went as planned. It is no secret that stumbling blocks also occur in every IT project. But Proact Germany was also able to solve these quickly and satisfactorily for A&M STABTEST.

Professionalism, dialogue on equal terms and everything from a single source — that's what makes the difference at Proact Deutschland GmbH.

The choice of IT partner was easy for A&M STABTEST, as they could look back on many years of positive experience working with Proact Deutschland GmbH. "We know Proact very well and had already had the best experiences with them. Whether it's advice, know-how, competent colleagues or cooperation at eye level — everything simply fits here," Patrick Pelz sums up. In addition, it was an advantage for him and thus also part of the organisation's decision for Proact that everything for the new IT infrastructure was offered and delivered from a single source.

Looking back: Choosing Proact every time

"All in all, a very pleasant project, an extremely enjoyable collaboration," Patrick Pelz reflects. He appreciates the fact that his colleagues were able to take away a lot of knowledge during the joint project, as well as the positive feedback about it from his colleagues.

What I particularly appreciate about the colleagues from Proact Germany is their competence, the genuine transfer of know-how to our team and the cooperation on even footing."

Patrick Pelz,
IT-System Administrator, A&M STABTEST GmbH

New IT infrastructure for the new building and adaptation of the existing IT environment in the old building to that of the new building

Improvement of data security

Reduction of downtime risk

Improved performance thanks to simpler IT administration

About A&M STABTEST

A&M STABTEST GmbH is one of the largest analytics service providers for the pharmaceutical industry in Europe.

A&M STABTEST has been supporting international pharmaceutical and biotech companies in the development of effective and safe medicines for more than 25 years. During this time, they have continuously developed their analytics portfolio to keep pace with the increasing regulatory requirements of international drug regulatory authorities, as well as evolving analytic technologies for innovative medicines. Thanks to its team of more than 350 highly trained and motivated employees, A&M STABTEST is a competent partner for development-accompanying analytics, stability tests and market releases of active substances and medicinal products.

Who is Proact?

Proact is Europe's leading specialist in data and information management with focus on cloud services and data centre solutions. We help our customers to store, connect, protect, secure and drive value through their data whilst increasing agility, productivity and efficiency

We've completed thousands of successful projects around the world, have more than 4,000 customers and currently manage hundreds of petabytes of information in the cloud. We employ over 1,000 people in 13 countries across Europe and North America.

Founded in 1994, our parent company, Proact IT Group AB (publ), was listed on Nasdaq Stockholm in 1999 (under the symbol PACT).

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