

CADFEM GmbH Top simulation thanks to the cloud

When engineers want to know during the development phase how their products will perform in practice, they turn to CADFEM GmbH. The company, headquartered in Grafing near Munich, is part of the CADFEM Group, which in turn not only distributes Ansys' leading simulation software in more than 35 locations around the world, nine of which are in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland, but also calculates complex models and predictions for many customers.

On the basis of these findings, companies improve their production processes, optimize components, and detect possible malfunctions at an early stage. In order to more flexibly map the fluctuating need for computing power for the demanding simulation processes, CADFEM uses the Open Telekom Cloud in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. With this solution, the simulation experts are always in a position to quickly and easily deploy additional IT resources to meet high demands and to scale almost without limits. In this way, the company avoids the costly purchase of its own hardware and always has an overview of all the expenses thanks to the Open Telekom Cloud's usage-based billing model.

Deutsche Telekom and CADFEM

The Task: CADFEM was looking for flexible and cost-effective IT resources to run simulations. Due to the varying performance requirements for the computing processes, the company needed a scalable and demand-oriented IaaS offering. The company wanted the data to be processed exclusively in Germany.

The Solution: Due to its usage-oriented billing model and versatile configuration options, the company opted for the Open Telekom Cloud. CADFEM now obtains the necessary computing power flexibly via Elastic Cloud Server and simply books additional capacity during peak loads.

The Advantages: The company is no longer reliant on costly hardware leasing and server housing, but instead obtains its resources flexibly from the cloud. In this way, CADFEM guarantees its employees scalable computing power and benefits from a cost-effective mix of fixed basic usage and additional demand-based services.



The Customer: CADFEM

CADFEM has been supporting companies from many different industries with simulation and calculations in research and product development for more than 35 years. In addition to the nine locations with a total of 250 employees in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland, the CADFEM Group is present in many other international locations, so that the company's expertise is applied all over the world. In its core business, as an Ansys Elite Channel Partner, CADFEM also offers the licenses of the US market leader for simulation software.

The Challenge

In the past, in order to perform its computational services and simulation tasks at the required speed, CADFEM rented data center space and built its own system there using leased blade servers.

Employees accessed their assigned resources with their laptops and performed their calculations that way. The problem was that only a limited performance quota was available to the individual employees. If an expert needed more capacity for a particularly demanding computing operation, this was only possible with a certain amount of preparation. The rigid allocation of servers also increased the organizational effort in the event of personnel changes. The company was, therefore, looking for a secure and data-protection-compliant alternative to operating the hardware itself.

The Solution

With the Open Telekom Cloud, CADFEM can now use highly-scalable and data-protection-compliant computing capacities for its simulations without having to carry out complex configurations on its own hardware. The solution uses Elastic Cloud Server to provide virtual machines for a wide range of requirement scenarios, thus enabling the precise deployment of resources.

CADFEM uses a fixed, high-performance graphical flavor from the Open Telekom Cloud as standard, i.e., a basic configuration of resources that are used for the virtual machines. If a simulation requires additional computing power, employees can flexibly select hardware with the appropriate resources from the cloud.



The Customer Benefits

Thanks to the new solution, CADFEM benefits twice over: The effort of constantly adapting its own systems to new requirements is eliminated, as is the time-consuming and labor-intensive maintenance of the servers. Instead of being tied to a fixed hardware contingent for several years with leasing contracts, employees now benefit continuously from the latest technological developments. The Open Telekom Cloud has also helped to harmonize the company's IT landscape across its locations.

As their data is processed exclusively in secure, highly-available, and certified data centers within Germany, customers also benefit from the new CADFEM solution. Particularly important for the company: The TISAX certification, which enables CADFEM to continue to work closely with partners from the automotive industry.

Another plus point for users and customers: Since the Open Telekom Cloud offers a usage-based billing model, CADFEM now only has to pay for the capacity that it uses. This allows CADFEM to allocate the costs for the IT infrastructure precisely to the respective projects and pass them on transparently to the customers.

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