

## CASE STUDY

ARTHUR WEBER AG, SEEWEN:

# 100 PERCENT SERVICE AVAILABILITY

The new data centre of Arthur Weber AG meets the highest quality and security requirements. Datwyler supported this project from conception through to commissioning.

Arthur Weber AG, based in Seewen, Canton of Schwyz, is one of Switzerland's leading suppliers of structural product systems, tools and ironmongery. The owner-run family business was established in 1868 as a hardware company and today employs a workforce of more than 900 at over 30 locations.

At the head office Arthur Weber operates a data centre which provides the business-critical IT applications. This is where the data from all the sites converge. Two years ago it was decided to replace the existing data centre with a modern one which would cope with the company's increasing quality, security and data protection requirements. "A reliable and highly available ICT infrastructure is an obligation for a company like Arthur Weber AG," explained Philipp Weber, Director of ICT.

An on-premise data centre is a basic component of IT strategy because the company wants to retain data sovereignty in-house. By comparison with a cloud connection the in-house solution also offers a better cost-benefit ratio: the ICT Director is convinced that "security in a manageable and self-administered environment is easier to handle than in or with an external one." For this purpose Arthur Weber AG has its own specialist department with a great deal of expertise.

The customers will also benefit from the new data centre, and not only as regards data security: "It was particularly important to us to be able to continue serving them even in the event of a possible power failure or Internet outage," says Philipp Weber. "It's all about responsibility, trust and long-term relationships, so that we can



be a strong and reliable partner for our customers in future as well."

### Stringent requirements

In October 2021 Datwyler was commissioned by R. Mettler AG, the planning consultants responsible, to prepare a non-binding offer based on the available key data. Possible solutions were explored when the ICT team and the consultants visited Altdorf in January 2022, and further project details were clarified. It quickly became clear that a Mini Data Centre would be the best way to meet the requirements. Datwyler was able to provide a tailor-made solution which made optimum use of the existing space. The order was placed in the spring of 2022 because, as the ICT Director said, "the price and the proposed solution added up."

Thanks to forward planning by the Datwyler service team the Mini Data Centre was already installed in September 2022 – despite supply difficulties in the market. Datwyler delivered the customer-specific solution in fully preassembled



bled form so as to save time on site. The existing IT infrastructure was integrated into the new data centre and expanded.

## Failsafe solution

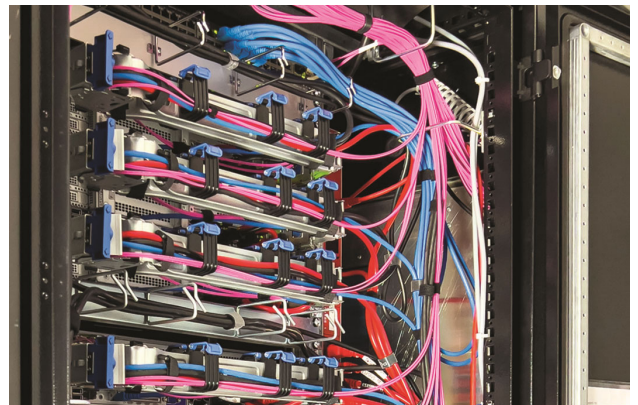
The new Mini Data Centre comprises a system rack containing the USP system among other things, and three connected server racks. The fully enclosed solution is air conditioned by two slim in-row coolers and a classic redundant DX system with split unit and compressor. In each rack a normal network PDU and a USP-assisted “intelligent” PDU (iPDU) take care of the power distribution. A mobile standby power system, which can operate the data centre for days in an emergency, stands ready in the event of a power failure. There is also a system for early fire detection.

The DIMS – Datwyler’s Infrastructure Monitoring System – used to monitor the Mini Data Centre was specially configured for Arthur Weber AG. Current energy consumption, backup times and other important parameters can be seen at a glance on the system dashboard at all

times. In the event of a fault in the IT infrastructure the DIMS transmits alerts via email or SMS.

## Reserve capacity for future applications

Philipp Weber sees the biggest advantage of the new data centre as being that it minimises the risk of outages, which can incur considerable expense. “We previously had two racks – without redundant cooling and cabling – and only one small UPS which was just enough to shut down the servers in the event of a power failure. With the new solution we can also iron out local interruptions during the night or at the weekend. Now even in a worst-case scenario in Seewen the other sites can continue working thanks to the clean geo-redundant connection.”



His conclusion is positive in every respect: “We now have a neat, reliable solution which gives us 100 percent service availability. It is scalable, and thanks to the allowance made for reserve capacity the new Mini Data Centre can also be used for future applications.”

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