

CASESTUDY



**SCHUBERG
PHILIS**

Racktivity offers the best in class solution to help Schuberg Philis manage their daily challenges

Since 2003 many organizations have outsourced their mission critical application infrastructures to Schuberg Philis, an outsourcing service provider based in the Netherlands and operating with a global reach. The company offers their customers 100% functional uptime for their business critical and vital infrastructures. Schuberg Philis takes end-to-end responsibility to ensure the availability of these systems.

The customers of Schuberg Philis are active in various industries but share similar business profiles. Most of them operate in regulated markets and have a strong need for high availability, confidentiality and integrity.

Mission Critical Cloud

In 2012 Schuberg Philis decided to start building their own Mission Critical Cloud infrastructure to complement and support the managed services that they were already providing to customers.

With this Mission Critical Cloud-platform Schuberg Philis offers its customers a unique, highly flexible hybrid cloud that delivers maximum flexibility and availability. To ensure this level of control over the entire chain Schuberg Philis keeps investing in developing strong relationships with partners that are corresponding to its own reliability, responsibility and flexibility standards.

“For optimal management and efficiency of the IT equipment you need to know what is happening on the electrical part of the IT equipment. The products from Racktivity are the must have tool for every IT engineer. The Racktivity products are professional, easy to use and reliable power distribution units. As a customer looking at the products you know they have been manufactured by technicians, we at Schuberg Philis are also technicians, and that’s why we like to work with Racktivity!” adds Arjan Westerhoff, Data Center Manager at Schuberg Philis.

•schuberg philis customers

Syntrus Achmea Asset Management
www.syntrusachmea.com

Vattenfall
www.vattenfall.com

Rabobank International Direct Banking
www.rabobank.com

Eneco Energy Trade
www.energytradeuk.eneco.nl

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Racktivity

To ensure this level of control over the entire chain Schuberg Philis keeps investing in developing strong relationships with partners that are corresponding to its own reliability, responsibility and flexibility standards.

One of the partners they needed for this specific 'Mission Critical Cloud' project was a company specialized in power management, enabling them to reduce their OPEX while ensuring and maximizing their business continuity.

"The Racktivity products are of the highest quality and their flexibility ensures us that they are a steady and reliable partner for the future!"

- Arjan Westerhoff, Data Center Manager at Schuberg Philis

.solution

During an extensive solicitation to several companies to find the appropriate power management partner Schuberg Philis concluded Racktivity has the best in class solutions to help them manage their daily challenges.

To guarantee and maximize their uptime they equipped the servers of their Mission Critical Cloud infrastructure with Racktivity intelligent EnergySwitch PDUs (Power Distribution Units).

Racktivity EnergySwitch PDUs are equipped with unique features such as Electronic Fast Fuse Protection (EFPF), zero crossing switching and inrush current protected relays, helping the datacenter maximize its business continuity.

Electronic Fast Fuse Protection (EFPF)

A near-short circuit up to 200A in servers can result in one or several racks going down. Thanks to the Electronic Fast Fuse Protection (EFPF), the EnergySwitch PDU isolates the responsible server. This results in only one server going down instead of a full rack (or even more).

An important additional gain is that instead of starting up a full rack or multiple racks again without knowing the cause of the downtime (with the risk everything goes down again), the faulty server is immediately isolated and identified, enabling a swift disaster recovery.

Zero crossing switching

In alternating current (AC) the zero crossing is the instantaneous point at which there is no voltage present. When electrical power is switched, the EnergySwitch PDU outlets will only switch at an instant when there is no current (zero-crossing) so no electrical interference is generated. Thereby, Racktivity EnergySwitch PDUs mitigate risk of sparks and prevent relays to start sticking. Both aspects are disaster prevention features and will heavily impact the MTBF, causing the PDUs to have a longer lifespan than other PDUs.

Control of inrush current

The outlets of the EnergySwitch PDUs switch on one after the other, dividing the inrush current over a certain time lapse to prevent servers going down due to an overload of power.

Managers can define themselves how long the delay of start-up is. This control of inrush current offers a protection against starting racks to drop.

In addition to these features Racktivity PDUs also provide the data centers with back-up access to the servers in case they lose their prime management connection.

"As 100% functional availability of our services and data is priority number one, we knew these were the functionalities and therefore the products we needed. Their EnergySwitch PDUs protect our data center against downtime and maximize our reliability." says Arjan Westerhoff, Data Center Manager at Schuberg Philis.

But not only do the Racktivity EnergySwitch Smart PDUs contribute to the optimization of the business continuity, they also help minimize the OPEX of the Schuberg Philis' datacenter.

The PDUs are built upon Racktivity's real-time operating system, EnergyOS™ to provide the highest degree of granular real-time PowerQuality type metrics. EnergyOS™ implements the hardware-related portions of Racktivity's EnergyDNA™ technology, providing real-time remote PDU-level and outlet-level true RMS monitoring of current (A), voltage (V), power (VA, W), power factor (%) and energy consumption (kWh) with - 1% error margin (accuracy).

The EnergySwitch PDUs also pull their weight to help the carbon footprint go down. Thanks to the use of bi-stable relays, energy efficient power supply and 80Mhz chip (vs 500 Mhz up to 1.000 Mhz as industry standard), the PDUs feature ultra low power consumption.

.future developments

The Mission Critical Cloud of Schuberg Philis is not a static project, it is in constant evolution.

Therefore it was of the utmost importance that Schuberg Philis would find a partner as flexible and reliable as they are, who is able to grow along with them in the coming years. Using the unique feature set of the Racktivity power management equipment enables Schuberg Philis to enforce and expand its risk management required for the Mission Critical Cloud platform.

"We are impressed with the professionalism, receptiveness and responsiveness of Racktivity's teams to our specific needs and requests. We are convinced that, by choosing Racktivity, we have found a partner who understands our challenges and can provide us with the necessary solutions in the framework of our partnership. Their products are of the highest quality and their flexibility ensures us that they are a steady and reliable partner for the future!" concludes Arjan Westerhoff, Data Center Manager at Schuberg Philis.

.about Racktivity

Racktivity, an innovator in next-generation power, energy and environmental management solutions offers the industry's only integrated hardware and software for critical infrastructures.

The DCPM suite, a Service Provider Infrastructure & Data Center Performance Management System, measures, monitors and manages power across distributed data centres and gives customers full visibility and control of their energy consumption while integrating seamlessly with other applications and PDU appliances.

Racktivity's EnergySwitch family of smart Power Distribution Units (PDUs), and sensors equips infrastructures with the most advanced metering, switching and predictive analysis capabilities available on the market today.