



case study

hensoldt @ KGS Software GmbH



Hensoldt Holding GmbH is a multinational defense company based in Germany. It was created in 2017 as a spin-off from former Airbus Defence and Space for sensor technology divisions dedicated to defense, security and aerospace. Product areas include radar and optoelectronic systems, electronic warfare and avionics. With 5,500 employees in 11 key sites, the company generated a turnover of USD1.3 billion in 2018. www.hensoldt.net

short version

Initial Situation

The multinational defense company Hensoldt archives its data and documents with IBM FileNet P8 introduced many years ago. The process is very time consuming and incurs high costs.

Challenge

IBM FileNet P8 was perceived as a “black box” solution, which meant that Hensoldt always had to fall back on the provider and external FileNet experts to resolve issues or implement change requests.

Solution

After changing over to the tia® intelligent archiving solution from kgs, Hensoldt now has direct system access and can implement changes promptly, transparently and without external help.

Result

Tasks that previously preoccupied an entire team of external experts can now be handled by two in-house SAP Basis and IT infrastructure professionals, who manage the 8 terabytes of archiving data reliably and with ease. Only 10 percent of the previous costs are incurred, and archiving has become much leaner thanks to making an entire system layer obsolete.

intelligent archiving

Eight Terabytes of Data

Defense company Hensoldt opted for products from kgs and now benefits from lean processes, reduced effort, lower costs, high transparency and greater flexibility.

Hensoldt is a spin-off from Airbus Defence and Space for sensor technology and was founded in 2017. The defense company previously used the IBM FileNet P8 software solution for data and document archiving. However, the company was not very satisfied with this product because of the substantial time and cost involved in maintaining it. Thomas Holzmann, SAP Basis Administrator at Hensoldt, finally decided to put an end to this unsatisfactory situation. "IBM FileNet P8 was somewhat of a black box for us. Whenever problems occurred, it always took quite long to resolve them, because in many cases we had to consult our provider and external FileNet experts.

Lean Archiving

The data to be managed and archived amounts to roughly 2 terabytes of ERP data and 6 terabytes of PLM data – primarily SAP documents and product-related documents and files. Holzmann was convinced that there had to be a better way to archive this data pool other than using IBM FileNet P8. Ideally, the replacement should be highly integrative so as to make an intermediate archiving layer superfluous. When discussing this plan with his provider Datagroup, Holzmann learned about the intelligent archiving tools from KGS Software GmbH. " Their approach and solutions convinced us right away in various regards: his requirements specification, the features of When



Quelle: Hensoldt

Holzmann compared the key items defined the kgs tools stood out, as did the software manufacturer's longstanding SAP expertise. "Since all our archiving needs revolve around SAP documents, kgs's close ties with SAP and the fact that it is



Thomas Holzmann, SAP Basis Administrator
Hensoldt



„kgs offers a lean archiving system that takes its cues from the leading ERP system and smoothly integrates with our corporate environment.“

a fully SAP-integrated solution naturally made for strong arguments in their favor,” recalls Holzmann, who was involved in the decision-making process together with a project manager and an archiving manager. However, what impressed him and his colleagues most was the price. Holzmann puts it like this: “We are talking about a cost ratio of 1:10 – in other words, archiving with IBM FileNet P8 cost us ten times as much as the kgs solution.”

Curtain Call for kgs

In December 2018, the kgs concept was tested, and in January 2019 the decision was made to introduce the document router, content server and the migration solution. In March 2019, the project was set up and launched. At the beginning of July, the kgs tia® (the intelligent archive) solution went live. During the first six months of operation, it was run alongside FileNet. “We had previously agreed on a PoC (Proof of Concept), which – in addition to confirming the technical specs – ended up becoming a training session for us. The kgs consultants showed us in great detail and clarity how we can use the tools ourselves,” says the SAP Basis administrator. All participants were soundly impressed with how the consultants presented the key essentials in an uncomplicated and transparent manner. Within six weeks after the migration commenced, all data and documents – a total of 8 terabytes – were migrated to tia®. It took two weeks to migrate the ERP-relevant data, followed by another three to four weeks for the PLM-relevant data. “During the migration, I knew beyond any doubt that we had hit the jackpot with kgs,” Holzmann admits. “Making the system change from IBM FileNet P8 to kgs happen in such a short time really blew my mind. I never expected anything like this.”

Thomas Holzmann, SAP Basis Administrator Hensoldt

„Now we can handle an archive volume of 8 terabytes with only two people. Previously, this would have been utterly impossible.“

From his experience, this migration project was highly transparent, comprehensible and very well documented. IT management joined him in praising and expressing appreciation for the project. “We also received a final documentation that will facilitate financial audits, which makes us rest easy in this regard as well.”



Thomas Holzmann, SAP Basis Administrator Hensoldt



„The speed and reliability of the installation and data migration really blew my mind.“

New kgs Projects

After this positive experience with the introduction of the kgs tia® archiving system at Hensoldt Sensors, Holzmann considered rolling out kgs across the group and even introducing it at the affiliated company Hensoldt Optronics. “Although we at Hensoldt Sensors have been mainly archiving ERP and PLM data, and the other company divisions primarily work with SAP Business Warehouse data in addition to ERP files, I am convinced that they could also benefit greatly from this solution,” states Thomas Holzmann.

He strongly recommends kgs to others, not just internally. “The kgs archiving tool offers precisely the features that truly matter. It is a lean and efficient solution. Moreover, it’s easy to use, delivers maximum transparency and allows IT teams to manage the system themselves, thus putting an end to having to rely on an external service provider,” summarizes the IT administrator.



in use

Content Server

The tia® Content Server is a high-performance archive solution that integrates seamlessly into SAP and makes costly rollouts of client components unnecessary. In addition, the tia® Content Server also has complete integration with various storage or HSM solutions and can run on a variety of operating systems; existing server and storage infrastructure can be used and additional investments for document or data archiving are obsolete.

Migration

The tia® migration software was developed for simple and controlled archive migration in the SAP environment. It can be seamlessly monitored to ensure that the legal requirements are met when changing archives. The software also provides proof that all objects have been transferred correctly. The tia® migration can use any SAP ArchiveLink®-capable archive as source and target system and can be switched over to the new archive as soon as the migration starts.

Document Router

With the tia® Document Router, a company can make documents from a wide variety of sources usable in SAP, making it a universal input manager. The tia® Document Router can be used for all SAP ArchiveLink® certified archive systems, document management systems and enterprise content management systems. It supports all SAP storage scenarios, including early archiving and late archiving with barcodes, archives documents in any Archive-Link®-compliant archive system and establishes links to SAP business objects; the software runs on all Java-compliant hardware and operating system platforms and is suitable for the mass import of large volumes of data.



Thomas Holzmann,
SAP Basis Administrator Hensoldt



„I can definitely recommend kgs to others because it's easy to use, provides maximum transparency and allows companies to maintain the system themselves without having to rely on an external service provider.“



www.kgs-software.com

Legal Notice:

KGS Software GmbH
Dornhofstraße 38 A
D-63263 Neu-Isenburg

Contact:

+49 6102 8128 522
info@kgs-software.com