

KUBERNETES CLUSTER IN THE FIRSTCOLO DATA CENTER

HASOMED: Holistic Data Management

The family-owned business HASOMED GmbH develops, produces, and distributes innovative solutions for neurological rehabilitation, as well as for the prophylaxis and therapy of neurodegenerative diseases. As the global market leader in this field, the team bears a very high responsibility and has set the objective of continuously improving its products and services to inspire customers in the long run. These high standards have paid off. The self-developed software “Elephant”, which supports psychotherapists in the comprehensive organisation of their clinics, is certified by the KBV and has received the data protection seal of approval “ePrivacyseal”. In addition, HASOMED has long been a member of InnoMed e.V., IISART e.V. and the Cluster Medizintechnik Sachsen-Anhalt.

With the transition to a fully managed Kubernetes cluster in the firstcolo data center, HASOMED is effortlessly mastering the ever-increasing complexity of its market. Thereby, creating high-quality software solutions for its customers, that are characterised by reliable operation and strong protection capabilities.

Highest standards for agility and data protection

OBJECTIVE

Due to the increasing demands for agility, the medical device manufacturer was looking for a new solution which could speed up the traditional, but very lengthy on-premises delivery of products. Since the protection of patient data has the highest priority for HASOMED, one of the main requirements of the new solution was also to ensure that data processing was highly secure and in compliance with data protection regulations.

In order to ensure that these requirements are met, HASOMED ultimately opted to choose the multiple certified data center and managed services provider firstcolo in their search of a new service partner. The main criteria for this decision were on the one hand the German data center site and the associated compliance with strict German and European data protection standards. On the other hand, the attractive offer of individually sized and highly performant servers in addition to firstcolo's consulting service also were decisive factors.

As with firstcolo, HASOMED is highly customer-focused, so the customers' approval was a basic prerequisite for a flawless migration of the IT infrastructure to the data center.

” Oliver Mantke

HASOMED GmbH | Head of Development

“Our concern and vision for the project were immediately understood on a professional level. During the conceptual design we were personally supported from the very beginning and the infrastructure was optimally dimensioned for our project. After almost one year in the firstcolo data center, we are still very positively impressed by their professional approach and the high-quality standard.”

Delivering a modern container management system

IMPLEMENTATION

While searching, HASOMED considered several solutions. In addition to conventional dedicated servers and virtual machines in an external data center, another idea was to map all necessary resources in-house. These different approaches were discussed in close collaboration and eventually, a fully managed Kubernetes cluster prevailed. The cluster is operated on powerful dedicated servers in the firstcolo data centers.

As a container management system, Kubernetes provides a powerful environment for automatic provisioning, scaling and administration of so-called containers. Applications are stored in a container and do not need an operating system or a kernel. Therefore, these containers are much lighter and more dynamic than other virtual machines. Consequently, the applications in the containers can be executed, transported, and rolled out even faster. HASOMED's ongoing problems such as the time-consuming development and subsequent delivery of software products, were directly addressed and solved.


By making use of Kubernetes, hardware resources that are necessary for the operation of applications can be used even more efficiently. Like this, HASOMED optimises its operating costs and the total cost of ownership is much lower than that of comparable solutions. firstcolo's setup simultaneously provides enough space for a future expansion of the computing resources. A quick upgrade is especially necessary when new products are to be tested and launched on the market. Due to the high scalability that Kubernetes offers, there is nothing to prevent a quick adjustment and this is exactly what sets the infrastructure apart from other solutions.

Competitive advantage and improved time-to-market

RESULT

Despite the many advantages, HASOMED was initially hesitant whether the Kubernetes cluster was the right choice. After all, it is the first time that the team is working with a container management system. However, the concerns were soon forgotten as the cluster was put into operation quickly and effortlessly. Since then, the team profits from the high level of agility and has simultaneously saved resources that would otherwise be required for the administration of the infrastructure, because the entire management is carried out by firstcolo's specialists. This allows HASOMED to focus entirely on its core business and improves the time-to-market across the entire product portfolio. The result is a strong competitive edge over other service providers in the industry.

All virtual machines in the Kubernetes cluster are always operated in a high-availability setup. This provides additional reliability and simplifies the installation of updates and security patches. Changes in the cluster can be executed without downtime of the virtual machines. The LDAP network protocol and the role-based access control (RBAC) also ensure higher security within the cluster since they simplify the administration of the users in the cluster and regulate the access rights of individual users. As a result, HASOMED's high security requirements can easily be met.

A large, abstract graphic featuring a series of blue, wavy lines that resemble a digital signal or a data stream, set against a dark background.

firstcolo is your partner for data center and managed services

About firstcolo

As a modern operator of IT infrastructure, firstcolo runs high-availability data centers at German and European sites with core competencies in colocation and cloud services, managed services and DDoS-protection.

At firstcolo, the IT systems of numerous industries are given a secure, cost-effective home that meets contemporary requirements. The customer base consists primarily of entities with an exceptional demand on service quality and IT security.

Further information regarding our highly modern data center can be found at www.first-colo.net.