

CUSTOMER: JAF INTERNATIONAL SERVICES GMBH

## tecRacer brings JAF International Services GmbH quickly to the home office

JAF International Services GmbH is one of the leading wholesalers of wood and wood products in Central Europe. The company supplies more than 30,000 customers with over 83,000 different articles. More than 20,000 products of the assortment are permanently stored in more than 245,000 square metres of space. To enable the almost 3,000 employees throughout Europe to work during the restrictions of the pandemic, tecRacer helped with cloud-based IT and the establishment of a communication platform.

### Suddenly home office instead of handshake

The local timber trade, founded over 70 years ago by Josef and Antonia Frischeis in Stockerau, Lower Austria, has long since developed into an international company with 58 locations in 18 countries in Central Europe. The company is still owner-managed; decisions are made quickly and independently in-house. On its website, the JAF group advertises handshake quality. When restrictions to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus meant that the good old handshake had to be replaced by distance, a quick transition to decentralised working and digital meetings was required.

### Connecting cloud and networks in diverse regions

First, a hybrid cloud network architecture was built across multiple regions. Local computing capacity is linked with location-independent IT in the cloud. tecRacer was awarded the contract for the private connection of the on-prem networks to the AWS Cloud. Existing Active Directory systems can thus be integrated into the user authentication for the meeting and collaboration tool AWS Chime. The AWS Directory Services were connected to the existing Active Directory (AD) via the AWS AD Connector to authenticate the meeting users for AWS Chime. With Lightweight Directory Access Protocols (LDAPs), the user authentication of AWS Chime is mapped securely and encrypted with the on-prem Active Directory. Expanding the on-prem data centre to a hybrid cloud setup opens up further possibilities for digitalisation in the AWS Cloud.



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### Digital collaboration and communication with AWS Chime

The challenge was to enable employees to work from home quickly and securely. User authentication and access to the data in the cloud are one thing; ensuring communication within the teams was equally important. For this purpose, a collaboration platform based on AWS Chime was set up. tecRacer provided support in setting up the home office solutions and digital meeting capacities. Meetings, chats and phone calls can be conducted in a single, secure application. The annoying jumping between applications is eliminated. Scaling for more capacity is automatically handled by AWS.

### Contact person at the customer:

Robert Klausner, Stockerau, Vienna

*"tecRacer has supported us in setting up and using the cloud possibilities of AWS in the best possible way. Now not only our data but also our employees are linked ideally via Amazon Chime."*



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**Project goals**

- Establishment of a hybrid cloud network architecture across several AWS regions (distant geolocations), specifically in this example the regions
  - Frankfurt – as a hub for the 2 VPN connections on-prem data center and on-prem HQ
  - North Virginia – as a hub for AWS Chime necessary AD Connector in this region
- Connection of AWS Directory Services to on-prem AD (Active Directory)
- TLS encryption of the LDAP protocol
- Activation of the AD authentication for AWS Business Applications in the special AWS Chime

**Project duration**

April 2020

**Project deliverable tecRacer**

- Establishment of a communication/collaboration platform based on AWS Chime
- Support in building home office and digital meeting capacities via AWS Chime
- Foundational hybrid cloud network with connection to on-prem as the basis of user authentication and cloud extension of the Data center for existing and upcoming cloud projects

**About tecRacer**

tecRacer, headquartered in Hanover and with locations in Duisburg, Frankfurt, Hamburg, Mannheim, Munich, Vienna, Lucerne, Geneva and Lisbon, offers Amazon Web Services Consulting (AWS) & Training Services from a single source - seamlessly integrated, across the entire cloud lifecycle - from strategy to implementation to operation.

The strategy also remains the clear focus on Amazon Web Services. Here, according to an independent study by Crisp Research, tecRacer is probably the most competent and important partner in Germany. And the focus on AWS proves tecRacer right: As part of the AWS Partner Summit 2021, tecRacer received the „AWS Consulting Partner of the Year“ award. The owner-managed company, which was awarded as a Top Employer for medium-sized companies, now employs more than 150 permanent staff, has trained more than 12,000 participants in AWS and has already successfully implemented more than 250 AWS Consulting projects.

For more information, visit [www.tecracer.com](http://www.tecracer.com). Or contact us at [aws-sales@tecracer.com](mailto:aws-sales@tecracer.com).

