

CUSTOMER: ÜBERSEEHUB GMBH

tecRacer builds AWS architecture for ÜberseeHub in the shortest possible time

ÜberseeHub - www.ueberseehub.de - is a joint venture between Sparkasse Bremen and team neusta, a company developing and implementing complex software, mobile and eCommerce solutions. In the spring of 2019, the foundation aimed to create new banking solutions. The new type of advice with digital service solutions is intended to simplify the topic of finance for people. To this end, ÜberseeHub developed the multibanking app „MANNI - Your Financial Coach“. It analyses accounts, gives optimisation tips, keeps an eye on contracts and subscriptions and allows direct contact with the savings bank's advisory team - even for non-customers.



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Modern AWS architecture on a greenfield site

As the company was completely new, no IT infrastructure was in place. ÜberseeHub started on a greenfield site. For tecRacer, the task was to implement a modern executable architecture based on Amazon Web Service (AWS) as quickly as possible. This way, ÜberseeHub benefits from all the advantages of AWS: operable, self-healing and scaling. The whole thing was built in parallel to the first release of the app MANNI - Dein Finanzcoach. The operations team of neusta infrastructure services was supported in the set-up and simultaneously trained and enabled to operate and further develop the AWS infrastructure. The aim was to achieve the highest possible level of automation. Between the stages, it was essential to ensure the separation of personnel. The development team was also made fit in AWS by getting into a modern DevOps working mode.

Focus on encryption for regulatory reasons

The architecture set the stage for the overseas hub to quickly build the pipeline for deploying services.

With the help of infrastructure as code (Terraform), it is thus possible to continuously roll out via Gitlab pipelines to several stages - including the individual microservices of the application on containers. ECS is used for container orchestration. Native AWS services such as Lambda, Cognito, API Gateway, Client VPN and Secrets Manager are used. For a financial app, the regulatory side plays a significant role. Therefore, security is consistently considered: KMS for EBS, RDS, S3 and SSL encryption, SecretsManager for access keys, multi-factor authentication and least privilege - IAM roles, multi-level security group concept, encapsulation of services, separation of stages, organisationally and by account.

Less than four months from zero to production ready tecRacer, with its extensive

experience as an APN (Amazon Partner Network) Premier Consulting Partner, managed to go from zero to production ready together with the customer in less than four months. Up to the soft-go-live of the app, which started with a Family&Friends and a Public Beta phase, tecRacer accompanied the project. The primary support took place in implementing the infrastructure components as code. In addition to the critical development of the AWS target architecture, knowledge building at the customer ÜberseeHub was advanced through pair programming and hands-on workshops. At the same time, tecRacer took on a steering role for the infrastructure team.

Contact person at the client:

Andrea Klanke, Managing Director, and **Dennis Wöltje**, Managing Director, Bremen:

„tecRacer supported us well in enabling us to build the AWS infrastructure. The goal was for our team to be able to build, develop and operate the stages and the pipeline for deployment on their own. This allowed us to launch the go-live of our financial advice app MANNI - Dein Finanzcoach in a secure environment on the scheduled date.“



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Project goals

- Establishment of IT, creation of operational structures
- Development of the AWS target architecture as quickly as possible in parallel with app development
- AWS training of the neusta operations team and the development team
- Highest possible level of automation and modern DevOps work mode
- Separation of personnel between the stages

Project duration

November 2019 until April 2020

Project performance tecRacer

- Implementation of the infrastructure components as code
- Knowledge building and empowerment of the development team at the client through pair programming and hands-on workshops
- Control tasks for the infrastructure team
- Process and organisational recommendations, also for future developments

About tecRacer

tecRacer is based in Hanover and has offices in Duisburg; Frankfurt am Main, Hamburg, Munich, Vienna, Lisbon and Lucerne. It consists of the division's Cloud Consulting - Amazon Web Services, Agile App Development - Web & Mobile and Managed Services.

tecRacer is an Amazon Web Services Authorised Training, Premier Consulting and audited Managed Services Partner and offers official training, consulting, projects and managed hosting around Amazon Web Services.

tecRacer was founded in 1999 as the business unit „iRacer“ of Herrlich & Ramuschkat GmbH. In 2006, tecRacer GmbH & Co. KG was founded as a separate company. Today, the owner-managed company employs more than 120 permanent staff and has more than 450 customers and 1,500 projects worldwide since 1999.

You can find more information at www.tecracer.com

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