

Silent Cubes Success Story

Project: Stryker Trauma GmbH
Solution: Docuware
Partner: Vater Group

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Burkhard Henning, IT Administrator, Stryker Trauma GmbH

electronic data, including bills and receipts, drawings and figures, letters, files and emails, into one centralized document pool which is then archived on the Silent Cubes.

Stryker GmbH uses the archiving system to store data from various departments such as R&D, Accounting and Customer Service, for example. Apart from engineering drawings and quality reporting documents, the system now also stores invoices, tax records and shipping documents, although the focus remains on production data – accounting for approximately 100,000 documents per year, roughly 1.3 million individual sheets of paper. Because it's vitally important to the company to reliably and unalterably store test results and quality reports for long periods of time, yet have them be able to be retrieved quickly should there ever be internal or external inquiries or reviews, a huge volume of such documents are archived on Silent Cubes.

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Successful system implementation and start-up

The FAST LTA Silent Cubes and the DocuWare document management system have been up and running at Stryker since the beginning of 2009. The actual installation of the storage cubes could not have run any smoother; the whole process was completed in a single morning by a team of FAST LTA technicians and staff from Stryker's own IT department. "Right from the start, the system was up and running without a single problem. We actually didn't expect the installation would go so smoothly! That alone made us more than pleased. Plus, because the solution is so intuitive to use, we didn't even have to hold any employee training," relates Burkhard Henning, head of Stryker's IT department. The company installed two Silent Cubes, each with its associated Head Unit, at two separate fire-safe sections of the building. By having these two storage cubes replicate each other, Stryker meets all compliance regulations and now enjoys revision-safe archiving.

Burkhard Henning,
Stryker

As the number of applications Stryker uses continually increases, so does the need for comprehensive long-term archiving and the interest of its staff in the new archiving system. "Now that word's gotten around about how easy the archiving and retrieving of data on one's own monitor is, the demand for electronic data availability keeps rising. I've lost track of how many employees have asked to be given access to the system," remarks IT specialist Henning on the employee feedback he's received. Despite such increasing use and the growing volume of data, there has never been any lag or delay in accessing any of the data, a factor assuredly attributable to such aspects as the generous 1 TB Silent Cubes cache.

The hard disk-based Silent Cubes solution has also allowed Stryker to do away with its previous complex and error-prone tape backup procedures. The expensive file server option is also becoming a thing of the past, now only being used for local buffering. The Cubes integrate very easily and smoothly into the DocuWare system and are thus also compatible with all popular archiving solutions. The fact that the storage cubes are extremely energy-efficient like-wise carried quite a lot of weight. While Stryker still has its old files archived in paper form, all this older information is now also being gradually digitized for storage in the new archiving system; an example of this being all procedural claims management information being electronically documented and archived over the course of 2009.