FAST LTA

Customer Case Study | Silent Bricks | Medical Backup and Immutable Archiving

How Klinikum Werra-Meißner archives patient data immutably and stores backups offline

The hospitals in Eschwege and Witzenhausen need to keep patient data available over the long term and be able to restore it after a failure. Gesundheitsholding Werra-Meißner has used Silent Cubes for archiving since 2010 and added Silent Bricks for Veeam backups around 2016. Removable modules are stored separately in a fireproof safe.

An archive built to last for years

Klinikum Werra-Meißner provides healthcare services at two locations. The IT department of the overarching Gesundheitsholding Werra-Meißner manages patient records, medical images and other data that must be retained for long periods while remaining quickly accessible. For backups, the time required to regain access to systems after an incident is also important. New infrastructure represents a major investment for a hospital, making longevity and expandability key considerations.

In 2010, the organisation implemented Silent Cubes from FAST LTA for its document archive, including Medico from CGM. Later, imaging data from Infinitt PACS and the REDDOXX email archive were also added to this storage. The Cubes are configured redundantly and operate in parallel across both of the healthcare organisation's data centres. The WORM functionality protects finalised data against modification.

The experience?

"In terms of recovery time, I have a clear advantage over tape."

Michael Günther, Head of IT at Gesundheitsholding Werra-Meißner



Photos: Klinikum Werra-Meissner, July 2025

COMEX

Tape replaced by removable backup modules

Around 2016, Werra-Meißner replaced its previous tape-based backups with Silent Bricks combined with Veeam for its VMware environment. The team stores individual Bricks as removable media in a fireproof safe. Once a module is physically disconnected, that copy is no longer accessible over the network. Head of IT Michael Günther also saw an advantage in recovery time compared to tape.

The initial implementation of Silent Bricks required adjustments due to the large backup volume and long backup durations. After these adjustments, the combination operated reliably, according to Günther. This experience is more important than a general promise of easy installation: the team first had to adapt the solution to its own backup processes.

Long-term use with room for replacement

When Günther looked back in 2025, the Cubes had been in use for approximately fifteen years and the Bricks for almost ten years, without significant problems according to him. As data volumes grew, the organisation could add modules instead of immediately purchasing an entirely new system. This allowed archiving and backup to remain separate tasks within the same broader storage strategy.

In 2025, the IT team was already considering a successor for the older Bricks. For Günther, what matters is that the existing environment remained usable for many years and that backup copies can be physically removed from the network.