



Success Story

Increasing security and resilience with Azure

KOT Insurance Company improves the resilience and security of its SAP systems by migrating to the cloud using SAP on Azure from ITPC.

Identifying optimization opportunities

Headquartered in Zurich, Switzerland, KOT Insurance Company AG conducts reinsurance activities for its parent company, Petróleos Mexicanos (PEMEX), Mexico's state-owned petroleum company. Like many businesses in the

insurance and financial sectors, KOT Insurance is governed by regulatory entities such as the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority (FINMA), so security is always a high priority. In the past, KOT Insurance hosted its SAP systems in a local data center, with Swiss-based ITPC Group delivering managed services for the company's

SAP landscape. KOT Insurance was extremely conscious of the importance of its business information and of ensuring the highest security when it came to accessing this information, so when vulnerability concerns related to its overall IT infrastructure surfaced in 2017, the insurer accelerated its previously made decision to undertake changes to its infrastructure. KOT Insurance was looking to implement a more cost-efficient solution with higher flexibility and security for its systems, and turned to a trusted partner that had already established itself as a leader in SAP cloud migrations: ITPC.

Cloud as the ideal solution

As both a Microsoft Gold Partner with Gold Cloud Platform Competency and a pioneer of SAP on Azure throughout Europe, ITPC outlined the advantages of deploying SAP systems in the cloud over hosting such systems locally. More specifically, ITPC demonstrated how Microsoft Azure was the most suitable cloud option for KOT Insurance, and how the company's SAP landscape could be built up in Azure using a Disaster Recovery solution. As part of ▶

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Lift-and-shift' migration of SAP ERP to Microsoft Azure public cloud, including upgrade of underlying database.

Before

- 3 servers
- Hosted in own Data Centre

After

- SAP systems on Microsoft Azure public cloud infrastructure
- Highest security features available within Microsoft Azure
- SAP infrastructure managed by ITPC (since 2016)
- Using ITPC's shared Solution Manager, running on Azure (since 2016)

Project timeline

- Duration: 3-4 weeks
- Go-Live: February 2019

Benefits

- Improved security and recovery processes thanks to Disaster Recovery Plan
- Increased resilience and scalability of SAP environments
- Reduction in number of technical issues
- Reduced operational and capital expenditure



a highly regulated industry with strict security requirements, KOT Insurance was especially impressed with Azure's inherently high level of security—a feature which, together with the increased flexibility of the systems, was a deciding factor to move forward with the project.

Utilizing its proven SAP on Azure solution, ITPC planned, executed, and performed a “lift-and-shift” migration of the SAP landscape to Microsoft Azure, including rebuilding the infrastructure using a new network design. To further increase the security of the landscape, ITPC created four separate subscriptions in Azure, controlling data exchange with just-in-time access using Network Security Groups (NSGs). The migration itself was completed in less than a month and went live in February 2019.

Flexible for the future

KOT Insurance is extremely pleased with the SAP on Azure solution delivered by ITPC and the greater resilience and security it provides. On Microsoft Azure, the response time of the current support team is far superior to that of the previous one, and the company has been

able to reduce the amount of technical issues with the new Azure-based solution. Additionally, the insurance company now has improved security and recovery processes as compared to the previous platform and hosting provider, thanks to a Disaster Recovery Plan that was implemented following completion of the SAP on Azure migration.

KOT Insurance is currently planning to migrate additional internal applications to Microsoft Azure, which will benefit greatly from the platform's flexibility and built-in security. In doing so, the insurance company hopes to use

“In the last 3 years of cooperation with ITPC, they have demonstrated that their level of professionalism and commitment to deliver projects is their priority. We have noticed that the quality of services is distinguishable and was exactly what we expected from a company like ITPC. We are really happy to work with them.”

Erick Cárdenas,
IT Administrator at KOT Insurance

Microsoft Azure as an ideal solution for reducing infrastructure costs while increasing security, flexibility and accessibility—even for business-critical applications.

COMPANY OVERVIEW

KOT Insurance Company AG

Company name

KOT Insurance Company AG

Website

www.koticag.ch

Location

Schaffhauserstrasse 418
8050 Zurich
Switzerland

Company size

11-50 employees

Industry

Insurance

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January 2020

ITPC AG
8048 Zurich
Switzerland
Phone +41 (0)44 521 73 40

ITPC India Pvt.Ltd.
Kharadi, Pune - 411014
India
Phone +91 (0)20 46900 800

ITPC Consultancy Services Ltd.
London , W6 8DA
United Kingdom
Phone +44 (0)203 609 8780

Contact us at sales@itpccorp.com, www.itpccorp.com, <http://saponazure.cloud> and www.solhana.com

