Press Release

Bechtle, IBM and SEP to develop advanced data center solution for ALDI Nord

- Bechtle IT-Systemhaus Solingen to expand virtualization solution
- IBM to provide server and storage solutions for virtual environments
- Backup expert SEP to provide decentralized backup and disaster recovery solution for heterogeneous environments

Solingen/Weyarn, July 21, 2015 – ALDI Nord Group will by relying on a highly flexible and easy to manage data center solution as it continues to develop its virtualized IT infrastructure. Europe's leading trading company has decided in favor of [Bechtle IT-Systemhaus Solingen](#), server solutions from [IBM](#) and software from the backup expert [SEP AG](#), as its IT partners.

After it had already achieved comprehensive virtualization of its enterprise IT in 2009 and 2010, ALDI Nord decided to extend its virtualization strategy even further and add infrastructure components following five years of successful use. In this case, a highly available and standardized server and storage solution and replacing its backup, restore and disaster recovery concept were important to the IT managers. They also wanted to continue with decentralized operation. The project that has since been successfully realized by Bechtle IT-Systemhaus in Solingen together with IBM and SEP is now in productive operation with all regional companies of ALDI Nord. "As a longtime partner of ALDI Nord, we welcome the renewed confidence they placed in us," said Bernhard Margos, Managing Director of Bechtle IT-Systemhaus Solingen. "A high-availability data center solution was successfully implemented thanks to the clear requirements that the IT managers expressed, detailed project management and good collaboration with IBM and SEP," he added.

The Compute Storage Networking Cluster is highly available and allows for agile IT operations. All maintenance work and updates can be carried out by the central IT department during operation with zero downtime. On the one hand, the platform-independent hybrid backup and disaster recovery solution from SEP allows for granular backing up and restoring of the Linux file services, Oracle databases and individual and standard software used. Secondly, it allows for recovery of the entire environment or individual virtual machines within only a few minutes in the event of a disaster recovery scenario. "With SEP sesam, we were able to fully comply with the sophisticated backup and disaster recovery concept at ALDI Nord. We are pleased that the cooperation with Bechtle

and IBM led to successful productive operation so quickly," said Georg Moosreiner, CEO of SEP AG.

SEP sesam secures heterogeneous IT environments with Linux or Windows backup servers in a platform-independent manner and reduces the amount of data through intelligent Si3 deduplication technology, regardless of what storage system has been chosen. It is one of only few solutions on the market that allows for all of the data to be backed up and restored across network and system boundaries, in either a centralized or decentralized manner. Furthermore, it supports a wide variety of virtualization platforms and operating systems from Microsoft, Linux, MAC, Unix, FreeBSD and Sun Solaris. Among the customers who use it are companies and organizations in over 50 countries, including now ALDI Nord, SPIEGEL-Verlag, Stadtwerke Potsdam, the Port of San Diego, Georgetown University in Washington D.C. and the Technical University of Vienna.

About ALDI Nord:

ALDI Nord Group is one of the leading trading companies in all of Europe. Furthermore, ALDI is the number one discounter in Germany and looks back on a more than 100-year merchant tradition. Its 53,000 employees in Germany, Belgium, Denmark, France, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal and Spain make a significant contribution to ALDI Nord Group's long-term success.

About SEP AG

SEP AG is a manufacturer of backup and disaster recovery solutions for the protection of cross-platform, heterogeneous IT environments. The data backup solution "SEP sesam" is "Made in Germany" and protects a broad range of virtual environments, operating systems, applications and databases. Its universal support for complex system environments strongly distinguishes SEP's solution from those of its competitors. Consolidation of multiple backup systems to form a centrally administrable hybrid backup solution is therefore possible. Thanks to its intelligent and flexibly usable Si3-deduplication technology, this solution significantly reduces the need for backup storage. Si3 replication allows for cross-site backup of systems and bandwidth-saving outsourcing of backup data. Here, SEP places particular importance on an extended support matrix that also includes older systems. Companies and organizations can thus perform high-speed data backups and recoveries independently of the sites. This gives users the flexibility to grow and modify their IT infrastructure in a customized manner. With the solutions that SEP offers, business-critical data is always kept available to save time and, as a result, reduce the need for capital as well as operating costs.

SEP has been developing and marketing enterprise data protection solutions since 1992 and its headquarters are located near Munich, Germany. A subsidiary that consists of a support and sales team is also based in the USA. Furthermore, SEP has a strong partner network and relies entirely on resellers for its sales. Its customers in more than 50 countries include Aldi Nord, SPIEGEL publishing house, public services Potsdam, Port of San Diego, Georgetown University in Washington D.C. and the Technical University of Vienna.
Further information can be found at www.sep.de

About Bechtle:

Bechtle AG is one of Europe's leading IT providers, with 65 system houses in Germany, Austria and Switzerland as well as e-commerce subsidiaries in 14 European countries. Founded in 1983, the company is based in Neckarsulm and currently employs over 7,000 people. Bechtle provides more than 75,000 customers from the industrial, trade, financial and public sectors with a comprehensive, vendor-neutral portfolio that covers all aspects of IT infrastructure and operation. Bechtle is listed on the German stock index TecDAX. In 2014, the company generated revenues of around 2.6 billion euros. Read more at www.bechtle.com

Photos and graphics

Logo ALDI Nord
https://www.dropbox.com/s/bwm8849sy4823gx/Logo%20ALDI%20Nord.pdf
(Format pdf, ca. 100 KB)

Georg Moosreiner, CEO of SEP AG
http://www.sep.de/fileadmin/user_upload/Logos/SEP/Bild-G-Moosreiner.zip

Bernhard Margos, General Manager, Bechtle IT-Systemhaus Solingen
https://www.dropbox.com/s/yjec0mlb1umw1al/Margos_Bernhard.jpg

Logo SEP AG
http://www.sep.de/fileadmin/user_upload/Logos/SEP/SEP_HybridBackup-sub_cmyk.zip

Logo Bechtle AG
http://www.bechtle.com/presse/downloadservice

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