

Date: March 27, 2018

Source: Behördenspiegel

<http://www.behoerdenspiegel.info/icc/Internet/sub/17d/17d52825-e166-2610-d8e9-6e41fa2e0c97,,aaaaaaaa-aaaa-aaaa-bbbb-000000000011&uMen=f6810068-1671-1111-be59-264f59a5fb42&page=1&pagesize=10.htm>

Press Report

Security as natural as electricity from the outlet Interview with CIO Marc Schieder (DRACoon)



Marc Schieder, CIO at the German cloud provider DRACoon, in an interview with the Behörden Spiegel (photo: DRACoon)

Regensburg, March 27, 2018 – For a long time, German companies and public authorities have remained comparatively reluctant to outsource IT to the cloud. At the same time, centrally provided services can bring additional cost-effectiveness and security – assuming the right operating model. Behörden Spiegel talked about potentials for public administration with Marc Schieder, CIO at the German cloud provider DRACoon. (27.03.2018, photo: DRACoon)

Behörden Spiegel: The ITZBund has started the operation of the so-called “Bundescloud” (“federal cloud”) with first services, in particular for data exchange. Is this a model that can also be applied to the federal states or municipal associations?

Schieder: Yes, of course. DRACoon was designed for high-security file sharing, including end-to-end encryption, and consolidated operations for the federal, state, and local governments through the service centers would, of course, be desirable and worthwhile. A central software-as-a-service offer for the different areas brings a lot of operational advantages and ultimately also security advantages: speed, maintainability, central control etc. With the last "federal hack" one has also seen that appropriate security must be ensured, and this security can only be guaranteed by a clean encryption. That would certainly be a useful operational model for service centers.

DRACCOON

Behörden Spiegel: Would you say that the private cloud model is always the better solution for public authorities?

Schieder: I would rather speak of the hybrid cloud model. This means: centralized operation, but dedicated technologies or resources from the authorities and municipalities can optionally be operated on-site or in the company's own data center, for example in regard to storage, identity management, or key management in the field of encryption.

Behörden Spiegel: Would it not be safest to completely forego the comfort of the cloud and to exchange data internally via e-mail or on file servers as before?

Schieder: That is certainly not recommendable. Silo structures must be abolished. They are neither maintainable nor insurable. A central service that pulls end-to-end encryption on the client side brings massive benefits. A higher level of security results from the additional intrusion of a Security Operations Center, in which all attack vectors are filtered away centrally. Add to that a central malware scan that attaches to SIEM systems which can mitigate attack vectors. We believe that a centralized software service model with a hybrid approach in which one can ultimately retain sovereignty over certain components offers the best operating model in terms of both economics and security. With such a setup, IT security is ensured just as one would expect electricity to come from a power outlet. DRACCOON is now the first service in Germany to receive the EU GDPR certification through EuroPriSe. Everything was examined: source code, processes, operating models. We are the first German software company to offer a "GDPR-ready" service from the cloud.

Behörden Spiegel: What are the specific characteristics that smaller authorities in particular need to pay attention to when it comes to cloud solutions for data exchange in terms of IT security and data protection?

Schieder: The GDPR already provides many things: transparency, sustainability, protection of personal data. I do not know any cloud service except DRACCOON which was built entirely with these values in mind. There is no exact standard to be met, but processes have to be set up, such as sharing and securing processed personal data, and ultimately also referencing, phasing out or deleting it. DRACCOON has taken all preconditions into account here. We can also go through every single point in each case and show how we can sustainably help small communities and act according to the data protection regulation. However, it would be desirable if we could get away from having to go to the cities and communities individually. Services should be centrally operated from above so that, for example, they can easily be implemented by a mayor if they want to be certified and bring all of this added value to their business processes.