



CUSTOMER REFERENCE  
Commercial vehicles



**SCHMITZ CARGOBULL AG | THE SOLUTION**

For the transition to Microsoft Office 365, Schmitz Cargobull requires a reliable backup solution. The company has put its trust in the cloud expertise of NetApp.

# Schmitz Cargobull safeguards sensitive Office 365 data with NetApp SaaS Backup

Europe's leading manufacturer of semitrailers, trailers and truck bodies is preparing itself for the digital future. The Germany-based company is pursuing a consistent Cloud First strategy and has introduced Microsoft Office 365 company-wide. As a backup solution, Schmitz Cargobull has opted for NetApp to protect critical business data in granular form and to store it in its own data center or in a cloud of their choice.

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MICROSOFT OFFICE 365  
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## HERE'S HOW NETAPP SAAS BACKUP FOR OFFICE 365 WORKS

Standard processes and consistent quality standards from development through to the end product are the basis for expansion and successful transformation into a global player at Schmitz Cargobull. With approx. 6,400 employees and annual production of more than 61,000 vehicles, the company generates an annual turnover of over EUR two billion. With nine production facilities worldwide, Schmitz Cargobull has a presence on all the important markets. The dynamism of the company is particularly evident in its IT. The team checks new technologies very specifically for their effectiveness and benefits, so that they can be introduced quickly if they are considered suitable.

"Our aim is to move as many applications as possible to the cloud so that we can be operationally and financially flexible and we can scale quickly and effectively," says Michael Schoeller, Head of IT Infrastructure & Services at Schmitz Cargobull. "We migrated our SAP landscape to the Azure Cloud in just four months." The transition to Microsoft Office 365 was a natural consequence, but raised the question of a suitable backup solution. High availability of applications, data and files was in place. What was missing, however, was the protection of regular backups that enable deleted data or data versions to be restored.

"With NetApp, the Office 365 backups come from the cloud and are able to stay in the cloud. That fits precisely with our Cloud First strategy."

Michael Schoeller  
Head of IT Infrastructure & Services, Schmitz Cargobull

The ideal solution was found in close collaboration with NetApp and their partner ahd. "We have a long and very good relationship with NetApp. Taking a look at NetApp SaaS Backup was therefore an obvious step," says Schoeller. A test installation impressed him and his IT team. "With NetApp, the Office 365 backups come from the cloud and are able to stay in the cloud. That fits precisely with our Cloud First strategy," explains Schoeller. With NetApp SaaS Backup, Schmitz Cargobull covers all of the important Office 365 data." In addition, we benefit from an attractive license model," says the Head of IT. Schmitz Cargobull has been using NetApp solutions since 2008 and has been advised by ahd for almost as long.

### BACKING UP DATA FROM THE CLOUD IN THE CLOUD

The license model always covers the overall NetApp SaaS Backup for Office 365 solution. The price is determined by the number of users, service term and type of storage. With NetApp, the customer can keep the backups in its own cloud storage, on-premises on NetApp StorageGRID or, even more easily, on either of the cloud storage services included in the license, Amazon Web Services (AWS) or Azure. Schmitz Cargobull chose the license model with integrated storage space on AWS, which offers corporate clients unlimited

### ADVANTAGES

- Critical business data from the cloud protected in the cloud
- Added security thanks to different cloud providers for primary and secondary data
- EU GDPR compliance supported
- Easy scaling and expansion as required via license purchase
- Locations at home and abroad can be integrated easily
- Easy to learn thanks to simple GUI
- Significantly less admin work thanks to auto-scaling, auto service updates, zero storage management
- Low operating costs and high planning reliability thanks to easy management, multi-year terms and storage and retention periods without limits



storage and retention periods." In the Office 365 cloud, a user has much more storage space than previously. With Exchange and OneDrive, one gigabyte quickly becomes 100 gigabytes, and the amount of backup data also grows," explains Gerrit Nacke, Head of IT Infrastructure & Services at the plant in Vreden. "We really liked the flat-rate model. And with AWS as the provider, we gain additional security as our backups are kept separate from the Microsoft Cloud." The solution is completely controlled via a web interface. The administrator simply defines which Office 365 services are backed up and how often, and how long the data should be retained. He can initiate backups ad hoc and restore user data flexibly on request, whether it's complete mailboxes or individual elements such as e-mails, calendar entries, contacts, tasks, lists or files. "The speed of implementation and ease of scaling also impressed us, as did the advantages for a global company like Schmitz Cargobull, of course," adds Schoeller. The service is set up in just a few hours and always remains updated with the latest version throughout the term. New features are added regularly and made available automatically —without the customer's involvement.

### **THE BACKUP LICENSE MAKES LIFE EASIER AND PROVIDES PROTECTION**

Currently Schmitz Cargobull backs up over 5,000 Office 365 accounts through NetApp SaaS Backup. As soon as the bandwidth is right to run Office 365 everywhere, the other sites will also migrate to the cloud. New additions can be set up quickly. If a new account becomes visible on the Office 365 portal, it is located using the e-mail address in SaaS Backup and is sent a backup license with appropriate backup routines. The backup license (one per account) is taken from the customer's license pool or the customer simply buys another one. For end-to-end protection of all Office 365 accounts, Schmitz Cargobull synchronizes Office 365 and SaaS Backup every day.

"In the cloud, there is less opportunity to adjust things than there is on-premises. The quality of the service is therefore so important," explains Nacke. "In fact, there's hardly anything else to do with NetApp SaaS Backup once the framework is in place. It's a real relief. The web interface is very simple and you can show someone how to use it quickly." NetApp SaaS Backup protects the Microsoft Office 365 Suite with Teams and Groups. For Schmitz Cargobull



**NETAPP SAAS BACKUP  
CONTINUES TO UPDATE  
WITH OFFICE 365 AT  
NO EXTRA COST**

and its many Office 365 power users, this is an important point: Exchange, SharePoint and Teams are critical for business. Teams will become a comprehensive collaboration platform that simplifies cooperation between internal and external participants and makes it more secure. It will also ensure compliance so the data is protected reliably and can be restored. Following a test phase with the accounts of the IT organization, the general roll-out of SaaS Backup began. The set-up took just a few hours for everything to be enabled. After about three weeks, 2,500 mailboxes had already been moved over and assigned. Initial error messages were analyzed and settings adjusted.

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**"I'm happy with NetApp SaaS Backup.  
Everything works perfectly."**

Gerrit Nacke  
Head of IT Infrastructure & Services at the Schmitz Cargobull plant in Vreden, Germany



## POSITIVE CONCLUSION

"Backups of Exchange and OneDrive worked immediately. For Groups and Teams, there were hitches with synchronization at first. That caused a few problems. But the NetApp technicians responded very quickly. And in retrospect, the solution was very simple," is Nacke's positive conclusion. One challenge was the integration of AWS. Another resulted from the different statuses of the roll-out of Office 365 and the functions of SaaS Backup, which were only added during the course of the project. "I'm happy with NetApp SaaS Backup. Everything works perfectly. We would be ready to invest in other NetApp products, and we are

also happy to be pioneers and try out something new," says Nacke. Michael Schoeller's conclusion is also positive: "We are very pleased with the technology. The financial cost is about the same as an on-premises solution. But it is more cost-effective for us if you take into consideration factors that used to depend on consumption and are now part of the package." Of course, Schmitz Cargobull will be sticking to its cloud strategy in future. Older NetApp systems are currently being replaced by NetApp Cloud Volumes ONTAP. "And there will be more to come after Office 365 with NetApp SaaS Backup, too," says Schoeller, as he plans the digital future of Schmitz Cargobull with his IT team.

## SOLUTION COMPONENTS

### NETAPP PRODUCTS

NetApp SaaS Backup

### ENVIRONMENT

Amazon Web Services (AWS)  
Microsoft Office 365

### PARTNER

ahd

Photo: Schmitz Cargobull AG

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