

INTERCOPE

DFS - Deutsche Flugsicherung GmbH Integrated Fax Solution on Linux



*"FaxPlus/Open for
Air Traffic Safety"*

Information about the Enterprise

DFS Deutsche Flugsicherung GmbH has been responsible for air traffic control in Germany since 1993. The main functions of this federal establishment are air traffic control and preparation of flight plans, including installation and operation of the related necessary technology. Around 5400 air-traffic controllers, engineers and technicians ensure smooth and safe running of up to 8000 flights daily, in airspace which has one of the world's heaviest air traffic. Only with the highest demands on people and technology can this critical task be fulfilled.

Aeronautical Information Services per Fax

DFS GmbH provides the information systems AIS (Aeronautical Information Services) and AAIS (Advanced Aeronautical Information Service), with which extensive flight advisories can be guaranteed. Flight Advisory and Self-briefing Centers are available in all international airports. A large part of this extensive information is made available by fax: subscribers of the system automatically receive updated reports about certain flight areas, airports, route guidance, warning advisories etc. numerous times daily. Beyond that, specific information can be requested online at any time and retrieved via fax.

"Fax represents an important and proven medium in our information infrastructure and is widely used by customers" says Norbert Konle, manager Flight Data Processing at DFS GmbH.

Highest Availability on Linux

As with all other technical systems at DFS GmbH, the highest demands are also placed on fax services with respect to reliability, availability and dependability in terms of guaranteed low breakdown. The actual status of each document dispatched must be clearly shown immediately. In addition, detailed and complete archiving must be guaranteed so that DFS GmbH can track the dispatch of every fax even months later. For fax retrieval, the constantly updated documents must be automatically supplied and any possible error needs to be immediately recognized and alerted.

In order to maintain and continue offering this high level of service, DFS engaged the company Pragmatic Solutions GmbH in 2001 to evaluate available technology, keeping in mind their high standards criteria, and to implement a highly available system. One condition was an absolute must: the integration in the complete UNIX infrastructure of DFS GmbH.



DFS Deutsche Flugsicherung

Complete Solution by Pragmatic Solutions

"The only system which could meet DFS GmbH's requirements was FaxPlus/Open from INTERCOPE", describes David Braun, Managing Director at Pragmatic Solutions, the result of extensive evaluations. In particular, the support of UNIX operating systems such as Solaris, AIX and Linux facilitated DFS's choice of implementing an optimally highly available solution, whereby it was decided to use two Linux servers on Hot Standby.

"A crucial deciding factor was also the flexible integration options of FaxPlus/Open which enabled us to implement the complete solution for DFS within a short time and to develop customer specific tools" says David Braun. Following brief training, Pragmatic was able to independently carry out the installation and support the customer throughout the test phase right into production just a few weeks later.

Flawless Continuous Operation

Since the beginning of production in June 2002, the system has operated flawlessly around the clock without any interruptions. Closely linked and completely integrated with DFS's surveillance and information systems, the reporting flow is continuously, automatically controlled and secured by the System Management (SH/IFS).

"AIS and AAIS provide pilots, airports and airlines with all the necessary information in a safe and timely manner. Not once has the system been down or faulty. In this technology (hardware + software) simply everything has been considered – it is a perfect solution. FaxPlus/Open makes a useful contribution to air traffic safety in Germany" concludes Norbert Konle.

Software

- 4 FaxPlus/Open Version 2.5.4 on Suse Linux
- 4 Fax on Demand
- 4 File Integration

Hardware

- 4 Intel PIII 1266 Mhz
- 4 Raid System
- 4 NT Clients
- 4 Eicon Diva Server PRI, 30 channels
- 4 Telephon system

Contact

www.dfs.de
www.intercope.com

DFS

AIS and AAIS with FaxPlus/Open

