KAESER BOOSTS SUPPLY CHAIN EFFICIENCY, MOVING CRITICAL SAP SYSTEMS TO THE CLOUD

SAP and Cloud experts deliver successful migration of core SAP systems

Industry
Manufacturing

Objective
Move core SAP® infrastructure into Google™ Cloud to improve global collaboration and streamline the supply chain

Approach
Engage cloud consultancy and professional services from HPE Pointnext Services to handle the migration of core SAP systems to Google Cloud

IT matters
• Assures a smooth migration of core SAP systems to Google Cloud
• Allows internal IT team to roll out latest projects in parallel with migration
• Provides ongoing guidance and support for organizational transformation

Business matters
• Accelerates Kaeser’s cloud-first business strategy
• Streamlines the global supply chain, improving partner collaboration
• Frees internal IT team to focus on business-enabling projects

Adopting a cloud-first strategy, Kaeser transformed its approach to core SAP systems, including mission-critical SAP applications and SAP S/4HANA® environments. Leveraging the SAP knowledge and cloud expertise of HPE Pointnext Services, Kaeser achieved a successful migration to Google Cloud, and has gained ongoing guidance and training for managing the cloud-based SAP environment.
“It’s very complex to move a large, mission-critical environment like SAP into this new cloud operating model. You need partners who know how to deal with the complexities. The experts from HPE Pointnext Services understand our business, they have extensive knowledge about our SAP systems and the know-how to bring them into Google Cloud.”

– Falko Lameter, Chief Information Officer, Kaeser Kompressoren

Most people don’t think about air—we breathe it, feel its breeze, but otherwise, we take it for granted. Kaeser Kompressoren, however, is constantly thinking about air and how it can be used as a valuable tool for business. Since 1919, Kaeser has developed and manufactured compressed air solutions, serving operations as diverse as automobile assembly, pharmaceuticals manufacturing, fish farming, and public water systems.

A global leader with a presence in more than 140 countries, Kaeser has structured its business to distribute compressed air solutions around the world by focusing on supply chain efficiency and availability. To streamline every step in the supply chain, from acquiring component materials, through production manufacturing, and to downstream delivery of finished solutions and services, Kaeser is standardized on SAP. The standardization includes SAP S/4HANA enterprise resource planning (ERP), business warehouse, analytics, customer relationship management (CRM), supply chain management, and financial management.

Historically, Kaeser managed its SAP systems in-house. However, over the past decade, the company has been developing a cloud strategy, culminating in a strategic decision to move its core infrastructure to Google Cloud, including the entire SAP stack.

Falko Lameter, Chief Information Officer with Kaeser Kompressoren, explains, “The objective of moving to the cloud was to enable a perfect supply chain. We have a lot of partners around the world, many of them small companies, and the most efficient way to get them on board with our supply chain is providing a cloud-based solution. The cloud is made for global collaboration.”

NAVIGATING THE COMPLEXITIES OF A MASSIVE CLOUD TRANSFORMATION

Transforming Kaeser’s SAP environment to run in Google Cloud is a massive undertaking. It spans 10 different SAP landscapes, 30-plus SAP systems, and more than 100 SAP instances. Assuring a successful migration of such a complex environment with no data loss requires deep knowledge of SAP technologies, as well as specialized cloud expertise.

Lameter and his team are focused on running the day-to-day operation of the business, continually rolling out new IT projects to meet changing business demands. Therefore, they needed assistance from a seasoned global partner—HPE Pointnext Services.

“Traditional IT structures disappear in the cloud,” Lameter notes. “It’s very complex to move a large, mission-critical environment like SAP into this new cloud operating model. You need partners who know how to deal with the complexities. The experts from HPE Pointnext Services understand our business, they have extensive knowledge about our SAP systems and the know-how to bring them into Google Cloud.”

EXPERT ASSISTANCE THROUGH EVERY STAGE OF THE MIGRATION

To assist Kaeser throughout the migration of its SAP infrastructure, HPE Pointnext Services formed a project team to coordinate the process with Kaeser’s internal IT staff, consisting of an HPE project manager and technical consultants, together with experts from Google Cloud Professional Services.
“By running SAP systems in the cloud, we are now able to better integrate our offices and partners into our global supply chain. We can connect them with additional cloud services that would not be possible in the past. Ensuring a successful migration to realize these capabilities is the business value we have gained by engaging HPE Pointnext Services.”

– Falko Lameter, Chief Information Officer, Kaeser Kompressoren

**Customer at a glance**

**Solution**
SAP and cloud consultancy to plan and manage the transformation of core infrastructure, including mission-critical SAP applications and S/4HANA, to Google Cloud.

**HPE Pointnext Services**
- Expertise from the SAP Practice
- SAP Migration Services
- Cloud Migration Services

The HPE team designed the SAP infrastructure for high availability in the cloud, applying all system uptime and disaster recovery criteria from the on-premises environment to ensure they are replicated correctly in Google Cloud. What’s more, the team provides Kaeser with optimal performance and reliability along with all the benefits of Google Cloud. The HPE team then performed the initial migration, which included SAP Business Warehouse and smaller SAP systems, starting up the virtual machines in which the SAP applications run, and taking great care to implement Kaeser’s custom specifications.

With the HPE Pointnext Services team directing the SAP migration, the Kaeser team has been able to stay focused on other important projects to support the business. Lameter says, “Moving to the cloud is not something that affects just one system, it affects the entire IT infrastructure. With a migration of this scale, many things must be done in parallel. With the help of HPE Pointnext Services, we were able to do this.”

As Lameter points out, “The collaborative nature of the cloud means our internal teams must also become more collaborative across the business and IT. We need learning management for cloud education, for understanding all the systems and services of the cloud. Meanwhile, there are constantly new projects for us to roll out. It is a consistent flow, and not something we can do on our own. We need partners like HPE Pointnext Services who can provide the additional resources and expertise to help make our cloud strategy an ongoing success.”

Ultimately, the transformation of the SAP infrastructure to Google Cloud is enabling Kaeser to achieve its number one goal—streamlining the supply chain. Lameter concludes, “By running SAP systems in the cloud, we are now able to better integrate our offices and partners into our global supply chain. We can connect them with additional cloud services that would not be possible in the past. Ensuring a successful migration to realize these capabilities is the business value we have gained by engaging HPE Pointnext Services.”

**ENSURING ONGOING SUCCESS OF KAESER’S CLOUD STRATEGY**

By engaging HPE Pointnext Services, Kaeser has realized one part of its cloud strategy—the migration of its mission-critical SAP landscape. Now, the HPE team is helping Kaeser with expert guidance, knowledge transfer, training, and ongoing support to transform its IT organization for operating SAP in the new cloud environment.

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