

Risk-aware cloud computing**A contradiction?**

The CIOs of many organizations have the subject of cloud computing very near the top of their agendas. This is hardly surprising, because the concept promises almost unlimited scalability for IT and usage-based charging.

However, despite the significant opportunities involved, in many cases a mood of skepticism still prevails. This is because the opportunities are balanced out by considerable risks relating to intellectual property protection (IPP), data protection, GMP compliance, industrial espionage and dependency on the cloud service provider.

Arcondis has extensive experience of selecting, evaluating and qualifying suppliers and of drawing up SLAs and contracts, including with cloud service providers.

Recently we evaluated the QMS of an IaaS provider on the basis of ITIL and GAMP 5 in the context of an RfP. We also carry out regular audits of IT suppliers for our life sciences customers.

In order to guarantee compliance with data protection legislation and internal IPP guidelines, we design and implement data classification models. We can also advise you on evaluating your cloud plans in accordance with information risk management principles.

This makes it easier for you to decide which cloud concepts are suitable for your various types of business data and applications. Risk-aware cloud computing is only possible on the basis of a sound knowledge of the legal conditions, the existing risks and the cloud service provider.

Do you need more information about this interesting and up-to-the-minute topic? Have you identified the need to take action in your organization? All you need to do is to contact us. We will look forward to hearing from you.

thierry.dietrich@arcondis.comChristoph Merian-Ring 31a, CH-4153 Reinach
Mergenthalerallee 79-81, D-65760 Eschborn**Selecting MES tools****Practical processes and experiences**

Selecting a manufacturing execution system (MES) often represents a major challenge for organizations. Because the system has an expected lifetime of 10 to 15 years, it is also of significant strategic importance. Arcondis has already advised on and carried out several evaluations of different systems. However, depending on the type of system, some individual details need to be taken into account during the selection process.

We are currently advising a medium-sized pharmaceutical company on the choice of an MES. The selection process is based on a current MES survey and on ISA-95, the standard for the integration of enterprise and control systems, published by ISA.

The user requirement specification (URS) also helped to determine the choice of system. The customer's existing URS was restructured in accordance with ISA-95. Among other things, this has the advantage that the potential suppliers can find their way around the document easily and submit their tenders quickly.

In addition, using the survey we were able to draw up a shortlist very efficiently on the basis of the functional requirements. Further criteria were identified for the final decision, in order to ensure that the systems could be compared objectively. One of these criteria is the multi-site capability of the systems. This means that it must be possible to roll out an MES across several production sites and to administer it centrally. We are currently helping the CIO to draw up a business case for the centralized introduction of an MES.

If you plan to introduce an MES system or to replace an existing one, or if you would like to integrate your existing landscape, we will be happy to present our procedure to you with no obligation.

sebastian.jung@arcondis.comTel: +41 61 717 82 00
Tel: +49 6196 76 99 98 0**Arcondis — a stable partner****Improved financial structures**

Thanks to our customers we have been able to pass the threshold of 50 employees at our Reinach / Basel site this year. Our team has increased in size by 25% over the previous year, despite our highly selective recruitment process.

We are on track to achieve our self-imposed objective of more than 80 employees by 2015, even in the light of current macroeconomic challenges, such as the exchange rate between the Euro and the Swiss Franc and the slow growth of the economy.

We have further improved our financial tools to allow us to come to grips with global economic conditions and to face up to the challenge of continued growth. One important factor for us was to extend our planning horizon and, using scenario planning, to give the management team of Arcondis AG a flexible basis for decision-making and for evaluating the impact of their decisions.

In particular, we have developed and, where necessary, refined our budgeting process. For us it is especially important to ensure that errors in formulas and in data entry are eliminated wherever possible. The Excel validation experience of our CSV team was particularly helpful in this respect, including the separation of input, formula and output fields.

These improvements to our financial tools allow us to control our finances with greater precision, so that we can react more quickly and systematically to changes in the economy.

In addition, we have created the necessary basis for our planning process, in order to ensure that our future growth is on a sound financial footing and that we can continue to be a reliable, long-term consultancy partner to the life sciences industry.

christian.unger@arcondis.comwww.arcondis.com
info@arcondis.com