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aws

A man and a woman in business attire are sitting at a desk, looking at a laptop. The laptop screen displays a dashboard with the word "Analytic" at the top, a bar chart, and a pie chart. The woman is smiling and has her hand on her chin. The background is a bright, colorful abstract design with green, blue, and pink rays.

***SWISS LIFE PIONEERS TRANSFORMATION
FOR FINANCIAL SERVICES BY GOING ALL-
IN ON AWS WITH DELOITTE***

Learn how Deloitte helped German FSI Swiss Life accelerate digital transformation in a highly regulated industry.

To accelerate innovation and deliver modern financial services to its customers, 160-year-old insurance company [Swiss Life Deutschland](#) (Swiss Life) needed to transform its legacy IT environment. The insurance provider's on-premises systems were costly, difficult to scale, and in some cases prone to periods of downtime. Operating in a highly regulated industry, Swiss Life migrated to Amazon Web Services (AWS) for help in scaling and securing its workloads. In collaboration with [AWS Partner Deloitte](#), Swiss Life architected a resilient cloud environment built on infrastructure-as-code and open-source technologies. As a result, Swiss Life has improved developer productivity and can focus on delivering value to customers.

BENEFITS

25% reduction in IT costs

324 workloads and 1 PB data migrated with virtually no downtime

25% faster security patch deployments

98% less time spent on managing SQL servers



OPPORTUNITY | Driving Digital Transformation in the Financial Services Industry

Swiss Life is committed to helping its customers lead financially self-determined lives by providing expert financial advice and tailored insurance and pension solutions. The company operates in the German financial market, with primary locations in Garching (Bavaria) and Hanover, and has a workforce of 2,000 in addition to nearly 6,000 advisors.

Before migrating to AWS, Swiss Life ran its workloads on on-premises legacy systems. However, its on-premises data centers required regular maintenance and generated significant debt, hindering the company's ability to rapidly develop new services and scale to customer demand.

So, Swiss Life rolled out Project #CloudLife—an initiative that would drive digital transformation and, in turn, strengthen the company's competitive advantage. **“On AWS, we are not only responding to the enormous growth of our company in recent years and increasing our operational efficiency,” says Dr. Tobias Herwig, CTO at Swiss Life. “By using cloud technology, we can react flexibly to market changes, offer new technologies to sales, and maximize the benefits for our customers.”**



SOLUTION | Collaborating with Deloitte to Accelerate a Migration to AWS

Swiss Life's digital transformation involved migrating its actuarial system, core billing system, profits application, and other critical business applications to the cloud. Above all, avoiding downtime and securing its environment was key. As a financial services institution (FSI), Swiss Life must comply with regional regulations, such as the GDPR, while maintaining data sovereignty. "We wanted to work with the best service provider for this demanding project," says Herwig. "AWS was able to meet our high requirements."

Swiss Life engaged Deloitte for its deep industry insights and purpose-built solutions for FSIs. "Deloitte's dual role as trusted advisor and auditor proved invaluable," says Oliver Hackert, managing director and head of IT services and operations at Swiss Life. "Its deep understanding of regulatory requirements and financial services challenges were key to the success of our cloud transformation." Swiss Life designed an architecture on infrastructure-as-code, open-source technology, and [Amazon Elastic Compute Cloud](#) (Amazon EC2), which provides secure and resizable compute capacity for virtually any workload. The teams then worked together to complete the migration. Recognizing the need to modernize the end-user computing environment, the teams also planned the migration of Swiss Life's legacy VMware VDI infrastructure to [Amazon WorkSpaces](#), fully managed virtual desktops. This strategic decision consolidated Swiss Life's server and desktop infrastructure under a single, manageable cloud platform.

Exiting its data centers quickly was another priority. So, Swiss Life employed a lift-and-shift methodology to overcome resource and time constraints. The company also used the [AWS Database Migration Service](#) (AWS DMS), which has been trusted by customers globally to securely migrate more than 1 million databases with minimal downtime. Swiss Life securely stores its data in [Amazon Relational Database Service](#) (Amazon RDS), simple to manage relational databases for total cost of ownership. The company also adopted [Amazon FSx](#), a service for launching, running, and scaling feature-rich and highly performant file systems.

"By using cloud technology, we can react flexibly to market changes, offer new technologies to sales, and maximize the benefits for our customers."

—Tobias Herwig, CTO, Swiss Life

About Swiss Life Deutschland

Offering 160 years worth of experience in the German financial and insurance markets, Swiss Life Deutschland is committed to helping its customers lead financially self-determined lives by providing expert financial advice and tailored insurance and pension solutions.

About Deloitte

As one of the largest professional services firms in the world, Deloitte assists clients with turning complex business issues into opportunities for growth. Owing to its deep cloud expertise, Deloitte has become an AWS Partner with AWS Premier Tier Services designation.



OUTCOME | Fueling Developer Productivity and Optimizing IT Costs by 25 Percent

Swiss Life migrated 324 workloads and more than 1 PB of data with virtually no impact on its 8,000 business users. The company now benefits from near real-time security monitoring, and it can scale its compute resources as needed—helping it reduce its IT costs by 25 percent. "As a medium-sized company, we can better implement compliance and security requirements by working on a cloud basis," says Herwig. "With our own data centers, we would not be able to meet this economically in the long term, and it would not meet our requirements for independent work and state-of-the-art IT."

Greater levels of automation have enhanced developer productivity. Swiss Life's teams spend less time on managing the company's infrastructure, which has empowered them to focus on projects that deliver value to their customers. On average, its developers deploy security patches 25 percent faster than before, and the time spent managing SQL database servers has been cut by 98 percent. By standardizing on AWS, its teams also reduced license management effort by 75 percent.

With a modernized tech stack, Swiss Life can respond to changes in the industry and customer preferences more quickly. "With the completion of our complex and ambitious Project #CloudLife, we have become one of the first companies in our industry to successfully complete a full cloud transformation," says Hackert. **"The results speak for themselves: We've increased efficiency, accelerated innovation, and improved our resilience. Simultaneously, we're setting new standards in an industry traditionally considered conservative in cloud adoption."** Furthermore, Hackert says, **"The cloud migration and data center exit paved the way for Swiss Life's data and AI strategy. With the scalability and speed of innovation the cloud provides, Swiss Life is now well positioned to leverage modern data, AI and GenAI capabilities."**

Learn more about the transformation experience directly from Swiss Life in this [short video](#).

AWS Services Used

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