



The Data Protection Company



SEP sesam - the Hero of your Data.

Successful companies and organizations trust
in SEP sesam backup solution

Kramski Group

Kramski relies on SEP sesam for comprehensive data security

The Kramski Group is a global manufacturer specializing in precision technology and offers innovative solutions in the fields of stamping technology, injection moulding and toolmaking. With locations in Germany, the USA, India and Sri Lanka, Kramski is a globally active, medium-sized company that places the highest demands on the security and availability of its data. Thanks to its extensive technology portfolio, which regularly pushes the boundaries of what is technically feasible, Kramski delivers customized manufacturing concepts and solutions that are specifically tailored to the needs of leading providers in the mobility, medical and industrial sectors. A total of around 700 employees work for the company, which has its headquarters in Pforzheim. To meet these requirements, Kramski opted for SEP sesam as its central backup and disaster recovery solution. Since 2016, the backup solution "Made in Germany" has been the global solution for Kramski's backup tasks and is used at all locations worldwide.



In 2016, the Kramski Group's IT department was faced with the challenge of modernizing the backup solution it had currently deployed from IBM. IBM TSM (Tivoli) was too complex to operate and manage. One decisive factor was that the development of SEP sesam is in Germany. According to Micha Holzmann, Head of IT at Kramski, this has the advantage of short distances, and the approach of a medium-sized company from Germany was also well received. Another crucial aspect was the ease of use "A backup has to work. Much more important is the question: does the restore also work?" says Micha Holzmann. "And then comes the question: "How does a restore work in the event of a disaster if the backup solution is also affected? How quickly can you get back to an operational system?" says Holzmann. The previous solution was cumbersome due to the complexity of the recovery process.

Kramski's IT infrastructure processes and stores large amounts of sensitive data on a daily basis, from development data to production plans and customer information. Backing up this data was essential not only due to legal requirements, but also to protect the company's intellectual property. Due to its complexity, the previous backup solution could no longer easily handle the growth in data volumes and the changes in the IT landscape. In addition, increasing virtualization required a more flexible and powerful backup strategy.

Worldwide changeover to SEP sesam

The design and deployment of SEP sesam took place after consultation with a system house and in close coordination with the SEP team, which supported the process with expertise and specific know-how. Due to the complexity of the environment, a technical consultant from SEP supported the migration at Kramski on site in order to configure the backup hardware optimally. The hardware replacement was due for replacement and upgrade after several years in use and could be easily integrated into the expansion of the data centers. The new backup solution deployed is optimally configured and designed for growth. After integration into the IT infrastructure, the old solution was retired and SEP sesam integrated within two days. "SEP sesam is much simpler here. Thanks to the individual scripting capability, recovery can also be optimally configured," says IT manager Holzmann.

Kramski's environments look as follows after the changeover: SAP and the SAP Max DB database, virtual environments in VMware and MySQL databases are backed up regularly. The employees' desktops are not backed up, as no data may be backed up on the local work PCs. Virtual systems used as working environments are backed up centrally. All full backups are performed on the weekends and several incremental backups are made during the week to record all changes to the files. The backup medium is a device server with a hard disk-based RAID system for backups of data that has been backed up for up to 14 days. This is controlled via the virtualized SEP sesam server. The backup data is also stored on tape on LTO tapes. There are daily, weekly, monthly and yearly tapes with the respective retention periods and beyond. The so-called staging system first backs up to hard disks and as soon as the data is backed up, it is migrated to the tapes. This is done automatically by the SEP sesam server. To ensure that the data is stored securely, Kramski distributes the backups across a total of three server rooms. The central backup environment is located in a separate fire compartment, away from the operational server infrastructure.

User

The Kramski Group is a global manufacturer specializing in precision technology and offers innovative solutions in the fields of stamping technology, injection moulding and toolmaking. As a family-owned company with over 700 employees and based in Germany, Kramski has made a name for itself in the industry since its foundation through high quality standards and tailor-made customer solutions. With production facilities in Germany, the USA, India and Sri Lanka, the Kramski Group serves an international market and stands for technical excellence and sustainable production processes. Kramski is internationally certified according to the most important standards. These include ISO 9001 (International Quality Management System), ISO 14001 (International Environmental Management System), IATF 16949 (Quality Management for the Automotive Industry). In the USA, Kramski is also certified to ISO 13485 (quality management in the healthcare sector) and in Germany to ISO 50001 (international energy management system) and the "Sicherheit System" seal of approval.

<https://kramski.com/>

Initial situation

The IT department of the Kramski Group modernized its backup system in 2016, as the previous solution was too complex to operate and adapt to new IT challenges. The growth of the IT environment demanded an easily manageable backup solution that could be depended on for daily backups and disaster recovery.

Solution

Micha Holzmann, Head of IT, opted for SEP sesam, primarily because of its "Made in Germany" development, which promised fast communication channels and ease of use, which is particularly important for the critical recovery process in emergencies. This decision supported the secure management of sensitive company data and improved the flexibility and efficiency of the backup strategy in Kramski's changing IT landscape.

"SEP sesam is reliable, robust and well automated. We can rely completely on the backup solution."

Micha Holzmann, Head of IT, Kramski Group



KRAMSKI

The backup jobs run automatically, the SEP sesam Server only sends notifications if something has not worked correctly. "SEP sesam supports us very well, because if everything works, we don't need any information," says Micha Holzmann happily. Custom scripts are used to write information about backups to an SQL database. This tells Micha Holzmann and his colleagues what the status of the tapes is, whether one is full or already "end-of-life". This can be configured individually and user-specifically with SEP sesam.

Results and advantages

With SEP sesam, Kramski was able to establish a centralized and automated backup solution world wide that protects the entire database securely and reliably. The most important advantages at a glance:

- **Reliable data backup:** Automated, scheduled backups ensure seamless data backup, minimize the risk of data loss and ensure compliance requirements are met.
- **Flexibility:** SEP sesam supports a wide range of system environments and applications, making the solution particularly future-proof.
- **Efficient disaster recovery:** In the event of data loss, SEP sesam enables fast and targeted recovery, which ensures Kramski's business continuity.

- **Scalability:** The backup solution grows with the company's requirements and can be easily adapted and expanded to suit new circumstances.
- **Simple administration:** The central control and monitoring of all backup processes has significantly reduced the administrative workload.
- **Individuality:** SEP sesam also fulfills Kramski's wishes and individual requirements. "It happens from time to time that colleagues ask for information that sometimes goes back several years. We can find and restore this information quickly and easily in the backup archives," says Micha Holzmann.



Micha Holzmann,
Head of IT,
Kramski Group

Customer environment

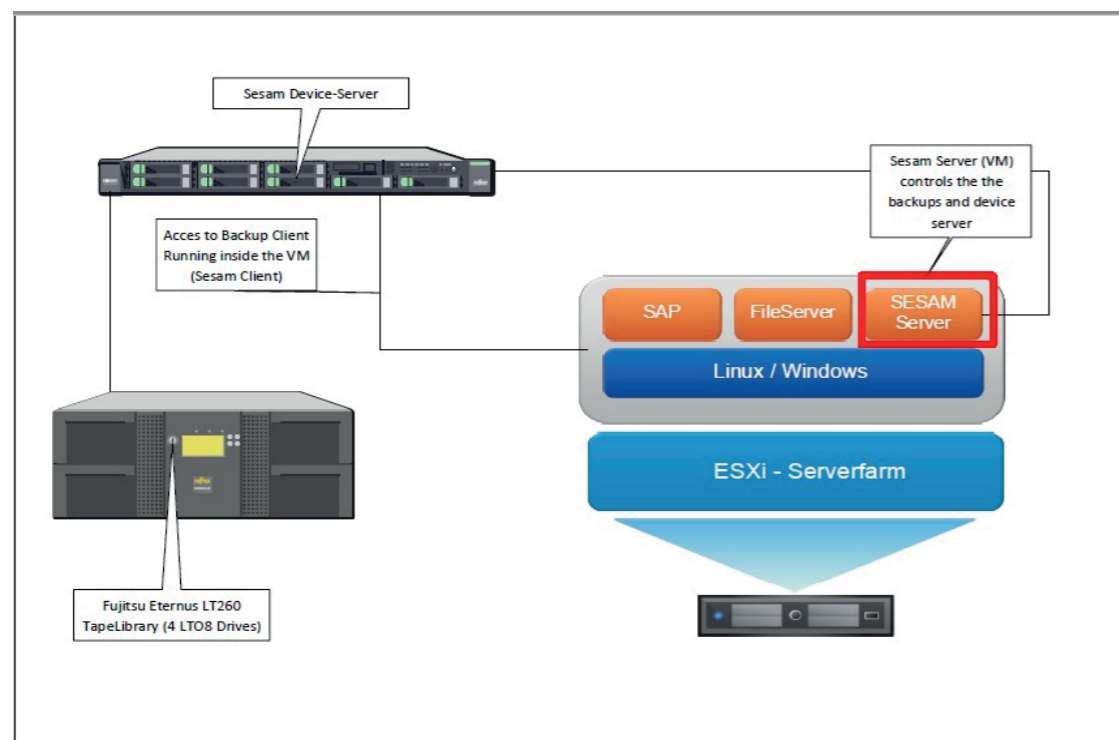
IT applications

- SAP and the SAP Max DB database
- virtual environments in VMware and MySQL databases

Backup with SEP sesam

- The SEP sesam server is deployed as a virtual machine.
- The backup library is a Fujitsu LT-260.
- The SEP sesam device server is based on the Fujitsu Server RX2540M4 hardware.
- Four environments with volume licenses are used in Germany (Pforzheim), USA, India and Sri Lanka.
- At the Pforzheim site, 35 TB of frontside data volume is backed up, 80 TB of datastore and more than 800 TB on tape with tape libraries with a total of 160 slots

"During the conversion of our backup system in the complex environment, we can emphasize the extensive support provided by the SEP team."
Micha Holzmann, Head of IT, Kramski Group



Backup environment with SEP sesam at the Kraminski Group

Conclusion and outlook

The introduction of SEP sesam at Kramski is a good example of how modern data backup solutions can not only minimize operational risks, but also make a contribution to strategic corporate security. Kramski benefits from a powerful, flexible and reliable backup and disaster recovery solution that meets the high demands of an international technology company. "The increasingly HTML-based interface of the user environment in particular makes administration very easy," says IT Manager Holzmann. Thanks to direct access to support, even unusual queries can be resolved quickly. "The fact that the support is in Germany is an important factor for us in the secure operation of our IT environment," says Micha Holzmann.

In order to store the data even more securely, Micha Holzmann and his team have put "AirGap and immutable backup" on the planning agenda. The switch to SEP Immutable Backup is planned for 2024. Solutions that provide immutable protection for the backup data itself against ransomware will contribute to enhanced security. A new, additional SEP sesam server, which is directly connected to the device server of the backup environment, will also be located in another fire compartment and not accessible via the network to ensure maximum data security. The data is then marked with an immutable flag so that it cannot be changed or deleted. The SEP sesam volume license used, which can be extended at any time, covers the growth in data volumes easily and without complications. This "buy-as-you-grow" approach is highly appreciated by Kramski and gives IT manager Holzmann an optimistic outlook for the future in the area of data backup.

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Micha Holzmann, Head of IT, Kramski Group

SEP AG

SEP has been developing and selling enterprise-wide data protection solutions since 1992 and is headquartered in Holzkirchen near Munich. A branch office with support and sales team is also located in the USA. SEP AG is a manufacturer of backup and disaster recovery software solutions for the protection of all data. The backup solution SEP sesam is developed "Made in Germany" and supports a variety of virtual environments, operating systems, applications and databases - from development to support without backdoors. The universal support of complex system environments clearly sets SEP sesam apart from its competitors. Users appreciate the ability to consolidate multiple backup systems in just one centrally managed solution. The immutable solutions, which provide unalterable protection for backup data even against ransomware, also contribute to additional security. SEP offers a GDPR-compliant cloud-to-cloud backup and data loss prevention solution for Microsoft 365, Salesforce, Google Workspace and Dynamics 365 with the SEP Cloud Application Protection Service (CAPS).

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