

# Scaling data resilience: How DATEV achieves 100% protection for 20 PB of data with Veeam



## Organization

DATEV eG is a leading software and cloud service provider for tax consultants, auditors, lawyers, and their mostly medium-sized clients in Germany. As a data processing cooperative, DATEV is owned by its 40,000 members. It employs around 9,000 people and generates an annual revenue of EUR 1.64 billion.

## Solution

[Veeam Data Platform Advanced](#)

## Industry

Financial Services, Technology

## Region

Europe

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## Michel Hiltmann

Product Owner WS Backup Open Systems, DATEV eG

## Challenge

As a leading software and cloud business that works with more than 2.8 million organizations in Germany, DATEV wanted to enable radical resiliency at scale. The company's goal was to ensure business continuity for its customers and power fast business growth.

## Results

- Achieves a 100% backup success rate at an enterprise scale for heterogeneous server clusters with 25,000 virtual machines (VMs) and over 12 PB of data.
- Streamlines key IT support tasks by reliably recovering data up to 25 times every day.
- Delivers highly efficient, automated, and scalable resiliency with 1,000 VMs managed by each backup server.

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## Business Challenges

Powering Germany’s digital backbone, DATEV provides critical infrastructure that supports over 2.8 million businesses, organizations, and municipalities. As a trusted engine behind the nation’s economy, DATEV generates more than 14 million pay slips every month and has a reputation built on rock-solid reliability and uncompromising data security.

Driven by innovation, DATEV continues to expand its portfolio, now offering more than 300 advanced software and cloud solutions that span accounting, HR, business consulting, taxes, and more. Behind the scenes, the company navigates a vast landscape of complex systems and ever-growing data volumes.

“Our mission is to make our customers more efficient and productive,” said Michel Hiltmann, Product Owner of WS Backup Open Systems at DATEV eG. “To deliver reliable cloud hosting services and SaaS solutions, we rely on uninterrupted data availability. Managing 20,000 VMs and annual data growth of 20%, we need a data resilience solution that’s as fast, scalable, and automated as the services we deliver to our clients.”

## The Veeam Solution

To ensure uninterrupted service for millions of customers, DATEV turned to Veeam Software for powerful, enterprise-grade business continuity. What set Veeam apart was its ability to deliver seamless multi-hypervisor protection from a single, unified platform.

“Veeam gives us a reliable, standardized solution that streamlines backup and recovery across all our clusters, systems, and environments,” said Hiltmann. “With one tool, we quickly secured 20,000 VMs by running client applications on Microsoft Hyper-V and another 5,000 internal services on VMware vSphere, boosting productivity across our data centers.”

As DATEV’s private cloud expanded, so has its use of Veeam’s robust features and integrations. With Veeam ONE, DATEV gains deep visibility

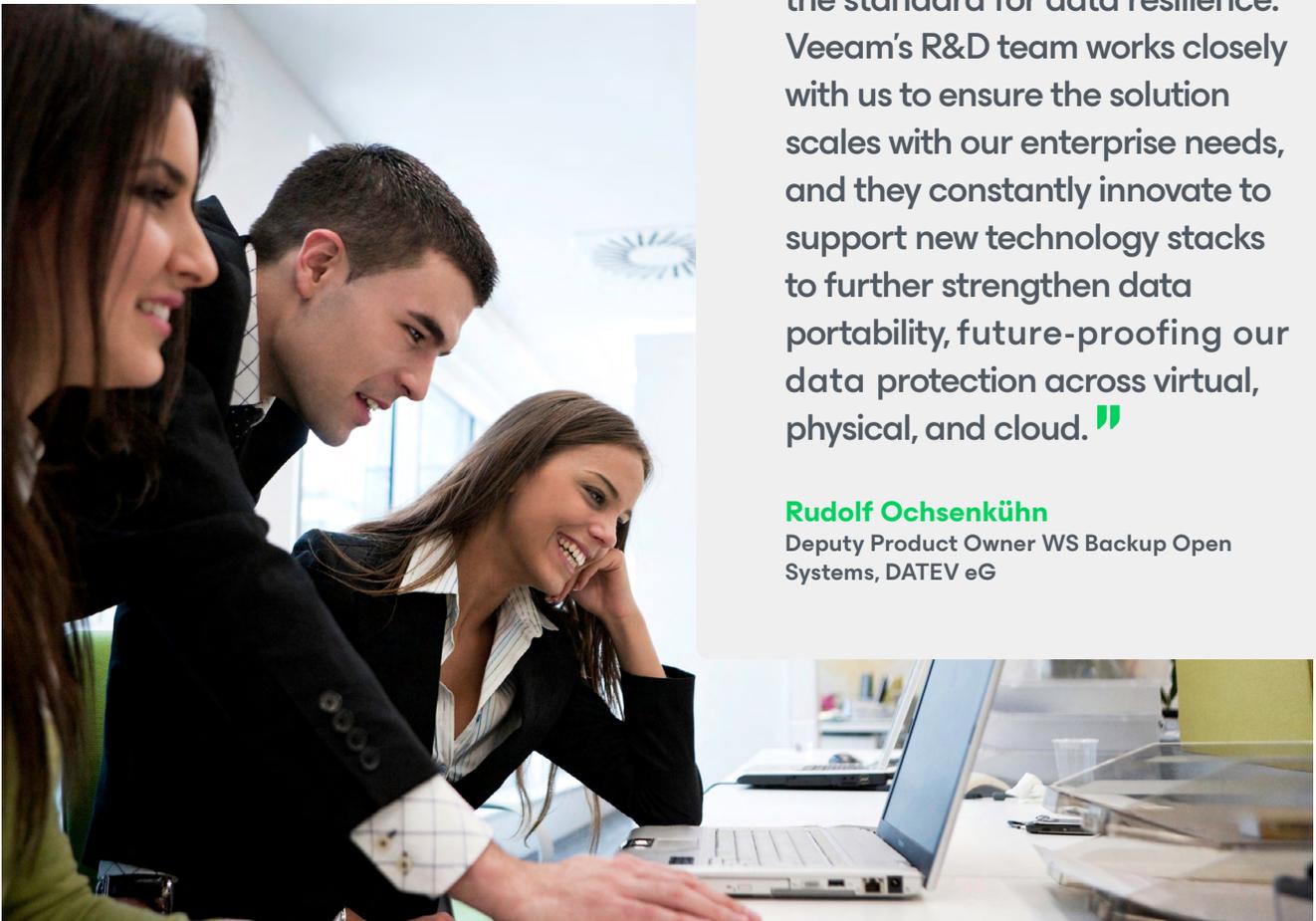
into backup performance, while automated reporting identifies optimization opportunities and keeps the company audit-ready for regulatory compliance.

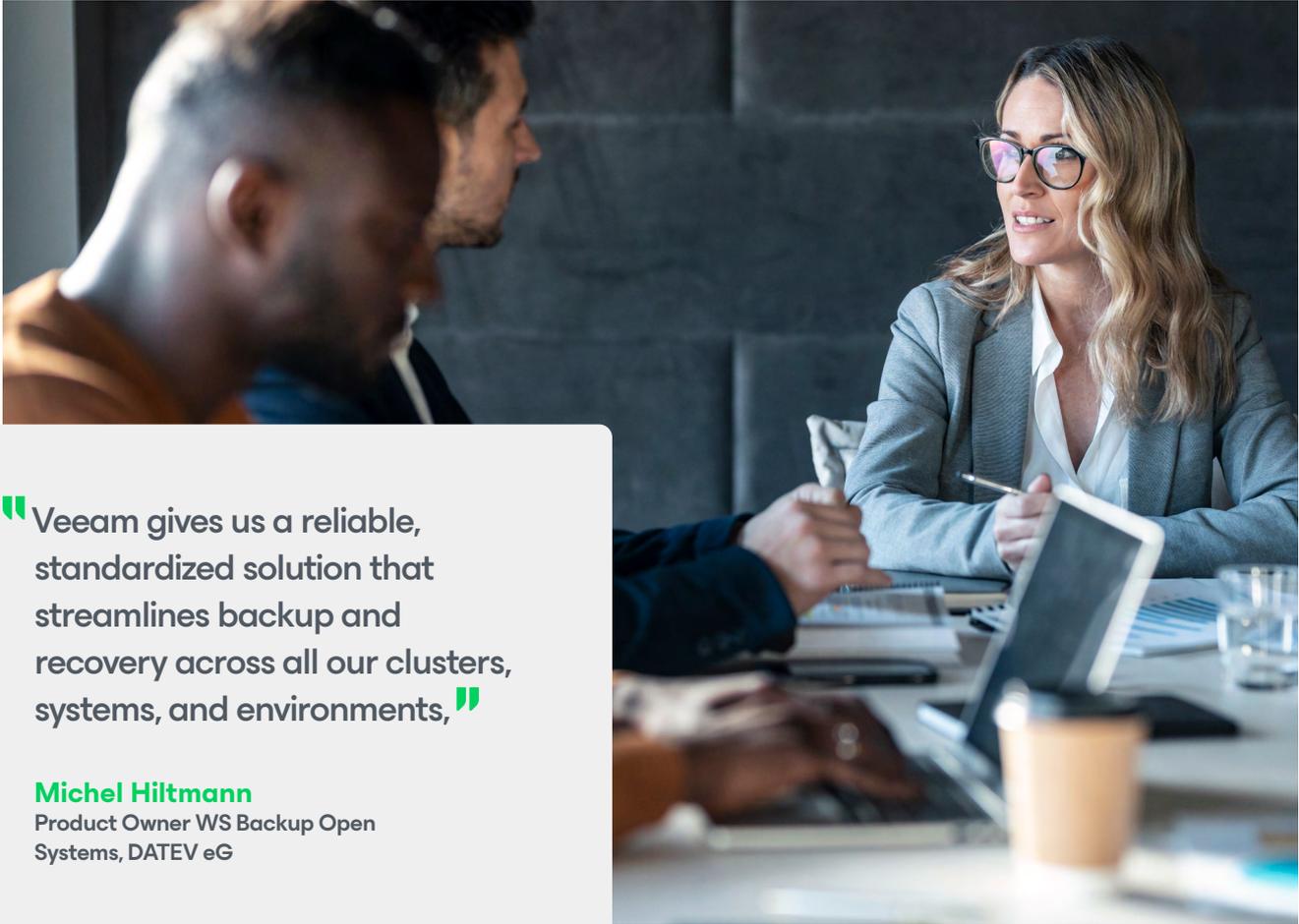
“Veeam has always set the standard for data resilience,” said Rudolf Ochsenkühn, Deputy Product Owner of WS Backup Open Systems at DATEV eG. “Veeam’s R&D team works closely with us to ensure the solution scales with our enterprise needs, and they constantly innovate to support new technology stacks to further strengthen data portability, future-proofing our data protection across virtual, physical, and cloud workloads.”

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Veeam now protects a diverse mix of systems for DATEV, including Windows and Linux VMs that run DATEV business applications, Microsoft SQL Server and SAP HANA databases, and virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI) for in-house software developers and customers. Tight integrations with VMware vCenter and SAP HANA cockpit give system admins real-time visibility into backup status, right from their familiar management tools.

With demand for specialized IT skills at an all-time high, DATEV is taking advantage of Veeam’s powerful automation to boost staff productivity. By using the Veeam PowerShell extension, the company is enriching and accelerating workflows with customized scripts to tailor backup scheduling to its specific needs. Features such as HotAdd proxies are helping DATEV to achieve 4x backup

performance improvements for some systems, leading to improved utilization levels and cost-efficiencies at scale.

To further strengthen cyber resilience and defend against ransomware, the company maintains immutable backups of more than 12 PB of business data. Synthetic full backups enable efficient tape archiving, while Veeam Threat Hunter automates malware detection during data recovery.

Looking ahead, DATEV is deepening its partnership with Veeam through a dedicated Technical Account Manager (TAM), gaining access to expert guidance and best practices to maximize the value of its investment. The company is also evaluating Veeam Data Cloud and Veeam Backup for Microsoft 365 to bring next-level resilience to productivity apps in the public cloud.

## The Results

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### **Achieves a 100% backup success rate at an enterprise scale for heterogeneous server clusters with 25,000 VMs and over 12 PB of data**

“We definitely strengthened our cyber resilience with Veeam,” said Hiltmann. “It offers true enterprise-ready scalability that supports our rapid growth. And because Veeam and Microsoft are working closely together to further optimize integration and performance, we are confident that Veeam will continue to advance and remain at the leading edge of technology.”

### **Streamlines key IT support tasks by recovering data up to 25 times every day**

“The high quality of backups and smooth recovery processes enable highly efficient support services,” said Ochsenkühn. “At our scale, we receive support requests to recover data all the time. With Veeam, it’s very quick and easy for our first-level support to help our customers.”

### **Delivers highly efficient, automated and scalable resiliency with 1,000 VMs managed by each backup server**

By fine-tuning backup schedules and finding the ideal ratio of management servers to VMs across its 30 Veeam servers, DATEV achieved high resource efficiency. Veeam’s inline deduplication and compression features also reduce infrastructure and storage costs.

### **About Veeam Software**

Veeam®, the #1 global market leader in data resilience, believes every business should be able to bounce forward after a disruption with the confidence and control of all their data whenever and wherever they need it. Veeam calls this radical resilience, and we’re obsessed with creating innovative ways to help our customers achieve it. Veeam solutions are purpose-built for powering data resilience by providing data backup, data recovery, data freedom, data security, and data intelligence. With Veeam, IT and security leaders rest easy knowing that their apps and data are protected and always available across their cloud, virtual, physical, SaaS, and Kubernetes environments. Headquartered in Seattle with offices in more than 30 countries, Veeam protects over 550,000 customers worldwide, including 74% of the Global 2000, that trust Veeam to keep their businesses running. Radical resilience starts with Veeam. Learn more at [www.veeam.com](http://www.veeam.com), or follow Veeam on LinkedIn [@veeam-software](https://www.linkedin.com/company/veeam) and X [@veeam](https://twitter.com/veeam).

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