



Using VMware Workspace ONE, VEKA could enroll its first device within 30 minutes



Today, 500 devices are managed through VMware Workspace ONE, which will rise to 1,000 within the year



Device security is strengthened due to centralized visibility

VEKA Drives Productivity Gains by Enabling Global Users to Fully Embrace Mobility

As its workforce becomes more global and more mobile, VEKA wanted to take a firmer control of its device management. By adopting VMware Workspace ONE™, it allows staff to access the productivity applications they need to work effectively yet take a more consistent posture on device security. The solution protects VEKA’s valuable Intellectual Property (IP). Operational costs are down, and users are happier.

There are many challenges facing the global engineering and construction industry – trade tariffs, material price volatility, talent retention, but the ingenuity and practicality found in the sector gives cause for optimism.

Digital promises to transform the industry, not least in terms of operational efficiency.

To maintain its position as the leading manufacturer of UPVC window profiles, VEKA is committed to continuous improvement and product development. Digital will be at the forefront of this innovation.

“We want to optimize our core processes,” says Tobias Doehring, IT infrastructure manager, VEKA AG. “We need to standardize and harmonize our environments.”

Creating a more mobile workforce

The business operates four main data centers and is a long-time user of VMware virtualization. “We see VMware as a strategic partner,” says Doehring. “We run all core processes on VMware.”



VEKA AG has led the global development of UPVC window systems for over 50 years, through design, innovation and customer focus. With 6,000 employees and factories in over 40 countries across Europe, Asia and North America, VEKA is the world’s largest manufacturer of extruded UPVC window profiles. The group is family owned and headquartered in Germany.

INDUSTRY

Manufacturing

LOCATION

Sendenhorst, Germany

ABOUT THE PARTNER

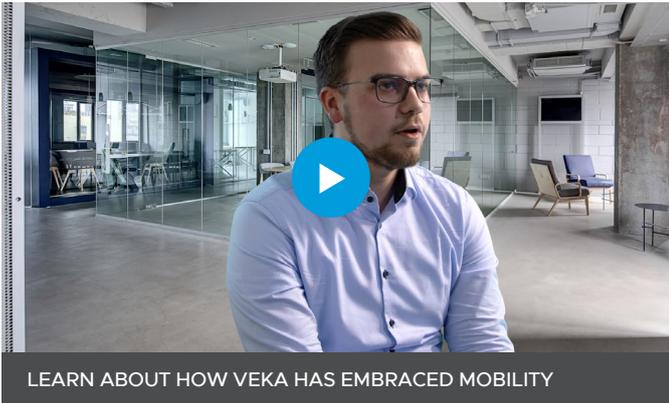
comdivision consulting GmbH is a VMware Master Services Partner, specializing in virtualization and cloud computing. It provides VMware customers worldwide with first class integration assistance, training and emergency support. Find out more at comdivision.com.

VMWARE FOOTPRINT

VMware Workspace ONE

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“VEKA is always keen to do much of the work itself,” says Yves Sandfort, CEO, comdivision. “For us, this project was as much about skills training and helping VEKA optimize the use of VMware Workspace ONE as it was the implementation.”

Schmidthals says comdivision’s familiarity with VEKA, and its experience with VMware products – Workspace ONE in particular – meant the project was well planned.

“comdivision understands our business. Because of the work we did together in the preparation stages the first install was very easy – I think I’d enrolled my first device within 30 minutes,” says Schmidthals. “Moving everything across to VMware Workspace ONE was simple. The implementation was clean.”

As its workforce becomes more dispersed and more collaborative, VEKA wants to take firmer control of its device management, from iPads to warehouse scanning. It wants staff to be able to access the productivity apps they need to work effectively but take a more consistent posture on device security. The VEKA business relies heavily on protecting its valuable Intellectual Property.

The workforce is increasingly mobile, says Kai Schmidthals, mobile device manager, VEKA AG: “We have around 1,000 devices worldwide that we need to control. In 2019 alone we added more than 70 new iPads. We needed a single platform on which we could manage all devices, and the applications running on those devices.”

Secure and flexible device management

VMware Workspace ONE enables VEKA to simply and securely deliver and manage any app on any device. The solution integrates access control, application management and multi-platform endpoint management. It is available as a cloud service or for on-premises deployment.

“We looked at different vendors but VMware Workspace ONE got us the most excited,” says Schmidthals. “The range of the features, the roadmap, the speed at which updates would be delivered, the support... the combination made it an easy decision.”

The solution enables VEKA to create a global device management policy, managed from its headquarters in Germany, but with flexibility to allow local preferences. It delivers a number of features that take the user experience to the next level.

A secure, password-free single sign-on (SSO) to Windows, native, cloud and web apps on any phone, tablet or laptop, means users are online faster, boosting productivity. In addition, integrated insights, app analytics and automation help optimize resources, and strengthen security across the entire environment.

comdivision consulting GmbH, a VMware Master Services Partner and long-term service provider to VEKA, conducted a Proof of Concept and product training. It then designed and implemented Workspace ONE alongside VEKA.

“VMware Workspace ONE means we’re faster and more effective in the way we deal with device management issues.”

KAI SCHMIDTHALS
MOBILE DEVICE MANAGER, VEKA AG

Reduced costs and greater transparency

Today, 500 corporate devices are managed through Workspace ONE, from iPads to scanners. Schmidthals expects this number to rise to 1,000 within the year:

“We’re already managing a range of operating systems from VMware Workspace ONE, including iOS, MacOS, tvOS and some Android devices. The plan is to extend VMware Workspace ONE to our subsidiaries.”

Schmidthals says Workspace ONE has reduced operational costs and made it faster and simpler to onboard users. User satisfaction is up and there is more consistent security. Ultimately there is greater control, and the business is better able to use its mobility devices and applications.

“Let me give you an example,” says Schmidthals. “I had a call telling me a device wasn’t connecting to the Wi-Fi. Instead of asking the user to go into the settings and give me the device information, I looked it up on VMware Workspace ONE, gave our network guys the information and the problem was solved in three minutes. We’re faster and more effective in the way we deal with issues.”

He says this management is transparent. Users can see what data is being collected, and VEKA can be clear on what is permitted on company-owned devices. “User satisfaction is very important. If users don’t like what you’re doing with their mobile device then you won’t make progress.

“Rather than managing devices, we’re now looking at optimizing devices – helping users get the most out of their device.”

Looking ahead

In addition to extending Workspace ONE to all VEKA subsidiaries, Schmidthals plans to expand device management from mobile devices to Windows 10 machines. He says the cloud aspect of Workspace ONE may open the door to other conversations around moving workloads and applications from legacy environments. “We want to explore all the features of VMware Workspace ONE.”

The engagement with VMware, says Doehring, is likely to deepen.

“Without VMware I don’t want to imagine how we would run our workloads, or our data centers, our desktop virtualizations,” says Doehring. “VMware knows how we work.”



Flexible working is on almost every company’s agenda, but it isn’t always simple. Here’s how [@VEKA_plc](#) used [@VMware](#) Workspace ONE to increase productivity and inspire a less rigid office approach