

# DOCUSNAP CASE STUDY



## IFN Schönnow e. V.

*Germany*

## Project Description

### IFN Schönow e. V.

The Institut für Fortpflanzung landwirtschaftlicher Nutztiere Schönow e. V., or IFN Schönow for short, a multi-state institute in the state of Brandenburg, recently decided to use Docusnap software to manage and document its IT infrastructure. Before the implementation of Docusnap, the institute was faced with the challenge of using a manual Access database for documentation, which was very time-consuming and complex for the trained staff.

By introducing the Docusnap software, the IFN Schönow hoped to achieve a more efficient and more user-friendly solution.



**"Compared to the previously tested solutions on Based on a feature matrix, Docusnap seemed promising for our purposes."**

Ralf Bortfeldt  
Head of IT / Bioinformatics



Before the introduction and use of Docusnap, the IFN Schönow used an extensive manual documentation in the form of a relational access database.

This database was able to capture all the necessary information on software and hardware, network, billing and accounts, but lacked a user-friendly graphical interface. Live information was collected via the agent of the antivirus/security software. "The existing access solution could only be used securely by trained personnel with database knowledge and required additional programs and tools for data provision. The information had to be collected manually from many sources," explains Mr. Ralf Bortfeldt, Head of the IT Service / Bioinformatics. The objective was to make all relevant information available in an intuitive, automatable multi-user system and to map the company inventory as a subproject using the new tool. The search for a suitable solution began on the Internet,

at trade fairs and based on the experiences of other companies. According to the IT manager, the software solution Docusnap was mentioned by IT partners.

#### Introduction and implementation of Docusnap

After months of testing several programs from other providers, the decision was made in favor of Docusnap. "Compared to the solutions previously tested on the basis of a feature matrix, Docusnap seemed promising for our purposes," says Bortfeldt. In particular, the price-performance ratio played an important role in the decision-making process. The first productive entries were made at the beginning of February 2024 with version 12. Although the installation went well, some difficulties came up during the implementation. In particular, linking the manually maintained data with the live-data and mapping the existing data structure in Docusnap, turned out to be a rather time-consuming process. "Some of the difficulties were easily resolved with Docusnap support, or alternative solutions were found,"



## Institut für Fortpflanzung landwirtschaftlicher Nutztiere Schönow e. V. and Docusnap

### THE INSTITUTE

The Institut für Fortpflanzung landwirtschaftlicher Nutztiere Schönow e. V. (IFN Schönow) is a multi-state institute of the state of Brandenburg. It cooperates with two service laboratories on site as part of a competence center and conducts research in the field of assisted reproductive techniques (ART) for farm animals. The institute also offers digital services for breeding associations of the federal states and has a teaching assignment from the MLUK for education in rural areas. The IFN Schönow is a non-profit organization.

### THE SOLUTION

The search for a suitable solution led IFN Schönow to Docusnap. After an extensive test phase with various programs from other providers, which did not go satisfactorily, the decision was made in favor of Docusnap.

### THE TASK

Before the implementation of Docusnap, IFN Schönow used a manual Access database for their documentation of the IT infrastructure. Although this solution was able to record all the necessary information on software, hardware, network, billing and accounts, it lacked a user-friendly graphical interface. The aim was to make all relevant information available in an intuitive, automatable multi-user system and to map the company inventory as a sub-project using the new tool.

### THE BENEFIT

Although the IFN Schönow is still in the introductory phase and although only one employee is actively using the program so far, the potential of Docusnap is already apparent. The ability to perform a quick and easy scan, which provides the user with a lot of valuable information, is particularly useful.



reports Bortfeldt. Several adjustments were made to Docusnap for IFN Schönow, such as creating new tables, fields and links. Either the How-To-documents or Docusnap support were used for assistance. "My team is really very satisfied with Docusnap support so far," says the IT manager.

### First experiences with Docusnap

Although the IFN Schönow is still in the introductory phase and so far only one employee has prepared the program for the introduction, Docusnap's potential is already apparent. The ability to perform a quick

and easy scan that provides a lot of valuable information was found to be particularly useful.

**"Some problems could be solved with the Docusnap support or alternative ways were found."**

Ralf Bortfeldt  
Head of IT / Bioinformatic



Bortfeldt advises other companies facing similar challenges to create a detailed catalog to serve as a guide, to thoroughly test the software, and to plan for sufficient human and temporal resources before introducing new software. In summary, Docusnap is a promising solution for IFN Schönow to manage and document its IT infrastructure more efficiently.

**"The existing access solution was only safe to use for trained personnel with database knowledge and required additional programs and tools for the provision of data."**

Ralf Bortfeldt  
Head of IT / Bioinformatics



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