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SachsenEnergie Successfully Adopts SEEBURGER MaKo Cloud Services

The challenge

On March 31, 2022, the German Federal Network Agency (BNetzA) decreed that, for technical and regulatory reasons, electronic market communications in the electricity sector must start using the Applicability Statement 4 (AS4) transmission path exclusively.

A transition period was set for the implementation of AS4 beginning October 1, 2023, and ending with a mandatory switch to AS4 on March 31, 2024. This meant that all market participants had to be AS4 ready by April 1, 2024.

As a supplier, SachsenEnergie was developing a modular, highly standardized platform for private customer sales. The selection process for a reliable and scalable AS4 solution was part of this process.

In order to find a suitable partner who could implement the project in the shortest possible time to meet legal deadlines, SachsenEnergie launched a selection project to choose between a range of integration service and software providers. Several solution scenarios were developed and evaluated.

SEEBURGER impressed SachsenEnergie with its consulting and expertise based on more than 30 years of project experience in the energy industry. More than 1,000 satisfied utility customers are testament to the company's excellent reputation in the marketplace. SachsenEnergie was also impressed by the modular components of the SEEBURGER MaKo Cloud Service as well as the breadth of SEEBURGER's customer base. Last, but certainly not least, SEEBURGER was able to comfortably meet the high requirements for IT security, certifications, data protection and service availability.

In February 2024, just four months after the start of the official transition phase, SachsenEnergie and SEEBURGER jointly started the system configuration and integration of SEEBURGER MaKo Services into the system landscape with a very ambitious delivery date of April 1, 2024. With a planned project duration of less than two months, the focus was on a fast yet thorough implementation.

About SachsenEnergie

As the largest municipal utility company in eastern Germany, SachsenEnergie AG stands for security of supply and reliable infrastructure solutions for municipalities, citizens and businesses in the state of Saxony. The company reliably supplies around 600,000 customers in its home market, the four districts of eastern Saxony and the state capital of Dresden, with electricity, gas, heating, water, high-speed Internet and energy-related services.

www.sachsenenergie.de

Curious about further case studies from the area of utilities industry?

The solution

The SEEBURGER MaKo Cloud Service has been developed specifically for the German energy market. It enables easy processing and adoption of the half-yearly format changes and handles the sending and receiving of all market communication messages.

In addition to implementing the mandatory AS4 communication, the SachsenEnergie project started by migrating the previous email communication to the SEEBURGER MaKo Cloud Service:

- Configuration of the MaKo Service for email and AS4 communication
- Provision of certificates such as AS4 & S/MIME
- Market partner management
- Integration in the SachsenEnergie system landscape

SEEBURGER delivers the AS4 MaKo processes as a comprehensive service, including certificate acquisition, configuration and processing. Services for CONTRL + APER-AK-AHB testing are also available.

SachsenEnergie benefits from the flexibility in processing MaKo data from different backend systems, including Powercloud or Robotron. SEEBURGER processes market communication data in formats such as EDIFACT and offers various ways of connecting to the public cloud service.
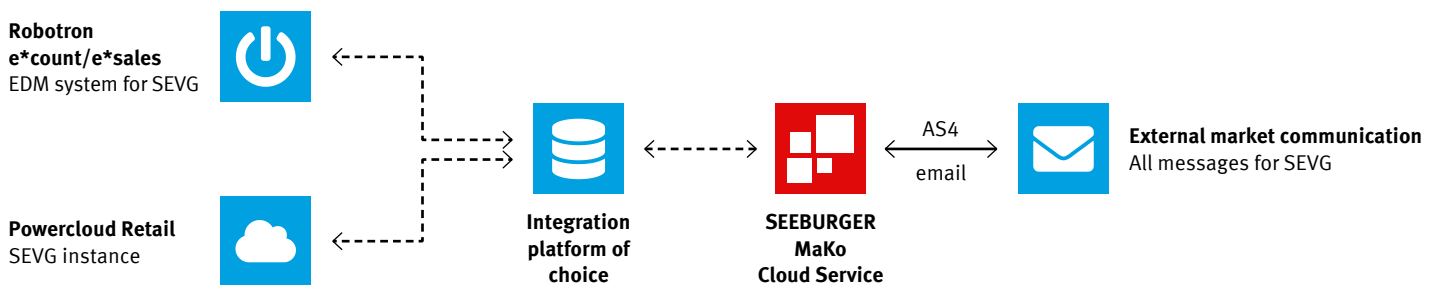
The project at a glance

Scope: Two months from planning to go live

Deployment: The first step was to implement AS4 and email market communication for SachsenEnergie as a market supplier using the SEEBURGER MaKo Cloud Service.

The advantages

+ All **email and AS4 certificate management** is handled by the SEEBURGER MaKo Cloud Service, freeing up users' time.

+ The MaKo Cloud Service gives users **maximum flexibility** in their integration options. The service can be connected to various backend and integration systems, whether from SEEBURGER or another software provider.

+ Thanks to the **quick but thorough migration to AS4 communication** SachsenEnergie can use SEEBURGER's centralized communication services to meet their legal requirements as a supplier in the energy industry.

Robotron e*count/e*sales
EDM system for SEVG

Powercloud Retail
SEVG instance

Integration platform of choice

SEEBURGER MaKo Cloud Service

AS4
email

External market communication
All messages for SEVG

SEEBURGER MaKo Cloud Service integrated in IT landscape of choice

> „With the rollout of the SEEBURGER MaKo Cloud Service, SachsenEnergie has laid the technical foundation for future-proof, stable and flexible market communication for our domestic customer segment. From the procurement of certificates to onboarding market partners, SEEBURGER was able to deliver a comprehensive package from a single source. Particularly noteworthy was the successful implementation of this highly critical project ahead of the legal deadline and within just two months."

Juan Ramon, Program Manager Salesforce + Powercloud Implementation at SachsenEnergie