

Audit of CAMPUS Data Centre

Federal Office of Information Technology, Systems and Telecommunication, IT Service Centre FDJP, Armed Forces Command Support Organisation

Key facts

The Federal ICT Strategy 2012–2015 made provision for a massive merger of existing data centres and server locations of the Federal Administration. Based on this strategy, the Federal Council approved the data centre network concept on 2 July 2014. With this network of only four data centres, the future capacity requirements of federal IT are to be met in a cost effective manner.¹ The construction of the CAMPUS Data Centre in Frauenfeld and the migration of the existing ICT infrastructure are core elements of the implementation of the data centre network concept and the Federal ICT Strategy 2016–2019.

The Federal Department of Finance (FDF), the Federal Department of Justice and Police (FDJP) and the Federal Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sport (DDPS) are involved in the implementation of this project. Approximately CHF 242 million was budgeted for the CAMPUS data centre (construction and ICT). The migration and relocation projects of the civilian ICT service providers, the Federal Office of Information Technology, Systems and Telecommunication (FOITT), the IT Service Centre of the FDJP (ISC-FDJP) and the DDPS/Confederation data centre 2020 belonging to the FITANIA programme² have been defined by the Federal Council as a key ICT project.

Overall status of projects at time of audit was "green"

At the time of the audit, the projects were on track in line with their phases. The Swiss Federal Audit Office (SFAO) did not find any critical points for the time being. However, some issues need to be closely monitored.

Coordination of the projects is ensured by the central coordination unit

According to the dispatch on migration (RZMig2020), the FOITT takes care of coordination between the two projects of the FOITT, as well as with the ISC-FDJP and the Armed Forces Command Support Organisation (AFCSO) ICT service provider and the project owner armasuisse Immobilien.

The central coordination unit has been in operation since December 2016 and coordinates between the two civilian migration and relocation projects, the AFCSO and armasuisse Immobilien.

The selected form of organisation is assessed as appropriate by the SFAO at the current planning time. However, the SFAO recommends that the FOITT periodically check whether the coordinating body is the right functional link for project success or whether it should be equipped with additional powers.

¹ See "Audit of the DC DDPS / Confederation 2020 project" (audit mandate 15511), available on the website of the SFAO.

² See "Audit of the key ICT project FITANIA" (audit mandate 16613), also available on the website of the SFAO.

The costs of the coordination unit for 2016 unit were borne by the federal reserve and for 2017 by the FOITT and the Federal IT Steering Unit (FITSU). At the time of the audit, the continuation of the coordination unit in 2018 and in subsequent years had not been contractually and financially conclusively clarified.

The SFAO assesses this to be critical, as it believes that the constancy of this coordination unit is essential and therefore must be ensured.

Procurements have to be coordinated with each other, security documents also have to be created for the project

The system and data inventory of the FOITT migration project is still incomplete, but around 90% had been determined at the time of the audit. The FOITT has included the topic in its risk management project.

Procurement planning is not easy due to the different project phases. In the SFAO's view, planning must nevertheless be coordinated from a technological and economic perspective.

The latent time tests have turned out to be positive overall; the topic will be pursued in all projects with high priority.

An aggregation of security risks at project level could not be reproduced. The SFAO thus recommends establishing an appropriate method for risk identification at project level. In addition, the security documents of existing applications must be kept up to date and the update initiated where necessary.

Renewal of the Güterstrasse rental agreement must not result in a substantial vacancy or double rent

All future users registered their requirements in 2013 (areas and electrical services) and adapted them to the current situation in 2016. The changed requirements are comprehensible and can essentially be explained by the very different temporal dimensions of a construction or ICT project. The construction project can react to this by making internal changes to the building and by using modular construction. After a detailed analysis, the project managers decided to dispense with a structural stage in the first module due to risk considerations. However, these clarifications mean that there are no longer any time reserves in the project.

The lease of the ISC-FDJP on the Güterstrasse was extended – with an annual termination right – until January 2025. This extension provides relief in the whole project. In the SFAO's view, however, the more comfortable situation must not lead to an excessive easing of the schedule and thus to longer vacancies and double rents.

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