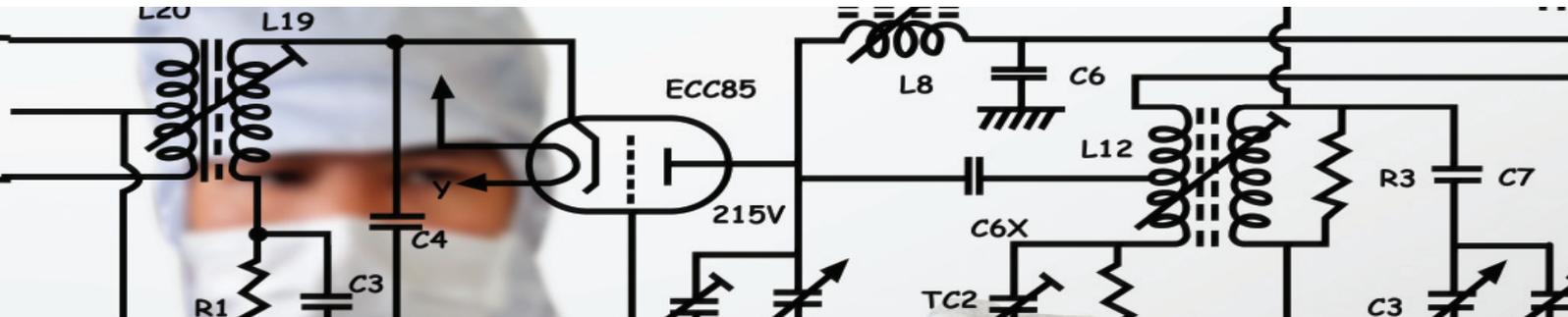


> SEMIKRON safeguards operations across 18 companies worldwide with Arcserve



CLIENT PROFILE

**Industry:** Semiconductor Production  
**Company:** SEMIKRON  
**Employees:** 2,900 worldwide



**BUSINESS**

SEMIKRON is a global manufacturer of power semiconductors, primarily in the medium power range (approx. 2kW to 10MW).

**CHALLENGE**

With a complex and critical IT landscape and sites in numerous countries, SEMIKRON needs to ensure that all sites have adequate backup and recovery solutions to prevent disruption to operations.

**SOLUTION**

SEMIKRON has already rolled out Arcserve Backup r16.x to 18 affiliates around the world. The solution standardises backup and recovery for all physical and virtual servers worldwide.

**BENEFIT**

Using Arcserve simplifies and unifies recovery processes and safeguards data integrity and high availability at every site to ensure SEMIKRON's business continuity.



## BUSINESS

### Power semiconductors – the key to efficient energy

Ever since its formation in 1951, SEMIKRON is a privately-owned group and is one of the leading manufacturers for power semiconductor components and systems, being the leader in diode and thyristor modules. Applications include speed-controlled industrial drive units, automation technology, welding equipment and elevators. Other applications include uninterrupted power supply (UPS), renewable energies (wind, solar) as well as electric and hybrid vehicles (commercial cars, conveyances). The family enterprise has its headquarters in Nuremberg, Germany.

It employs more than 2,900 people worldwide. An international network of 37 companies and production plants in Brazil, China, France, India, Italy, Korea, Slovakia, South Africa and the USA ensures rapid and comprehensive services for local customers. With the foundation of its subsidiary, SindoPower, in 2009, SEMIKRON also extended its distribution channels. SindoPower, an e-commerce company, sells power electronic products online, and offers competent technical consulting to small and medium businesses.

## CHALLENGE

### Production without interruption

Production processes and communication at SEMIKRON must rely on the company's IT systems. Ulrich Müller, IT Project Manager at SEMIKRON, comments, "Poor IT performance, failures or a loss of data would have a disastrous impact on our business processes. For example, an IT failure could stop production processes and cause delivery issues."

Monitoring the availability, security and integrity of its systems is therefore vital, but with a complex and diverse IT infrastructure across its numerous company sites, this can be very challenging.

Müller comments, "We host critical systems such as our intranet, data warehousing, customer relationship management and electronic data exchange solutions at our headquarters in Germany, but enterprise resourcing planning (ERP), production systems, email and file services are spread across our various sites."



We cannot afford poor IT performance, failures or a loss of data.





In total, the company has around 250 servers at its headquarters, and another 200 servers based at company sites worldwide which are connected via MPLS (multi-protocol label switching) to the headquarter's data center. Around 90 percent of the servers are virtualised.

SEMIKRON had some legacy backup solutions in place for data and server protection. However, to maintain business continuity and unify processes, it needed to ensure that every site had a strong disaster recovery solution in place that worked seamlessly across physical and virtual environments.

## SOLUTION

### A homogeneous backup solution on all continents

To meet the local backup needs of its affiliates/companies worldwide, SEMIKRON had been using Arcserve for years. "The Arcserve backup solution is very cost-effective and easy to use, which enables the local IT staff to handle the standard backup procedures without the help of any central IT management," says Müller.

SEMIKRON's backup infrastructure is based on a Windows environment with at least one backup server in every country, and tapes for archived backups.

Arcserve backs up all critical systems such as email on daily, weekly and monthly basis according to the GFS method. Every week, the SEMIKROM group generates around 16 terabytes from its 200 servers worldwide. "We rarely have problems with the solution," states Müller. "But in the event that we have questions, the Arcserve service and support team is very helpful in solving problems quickly and professionally."

To improve its recovery capabilities, SEMIKRON has recently upgraded to Arcserve Backup r16.5 at its remote sites. With the new version of the solution, processes are even quicker and easier to handle, which significantly simplifies the job of the IT administrators. Müller adds, "The new version not only offers faster backup, but also more features, such as enhanced backup options for virtual environments."



Arcserve is scalable for all sizes so we are able to standardize data continuity no matter where.





More than 50 percent of the group's sites now run on Arcserve Backup r16.5 for systems and data protection, with the roll-out to the rest of the sites to be continued.

"As we are very familiar with the Arcserve solution, we can roll it out without any external help," says Müller. "We were able to train the local administrators internally and make sure they can manage and administrate all backup processes on their own."

Once Arcserve Backup r16.5 has been implemented at all affiliates, Müller and his team plan to add Arcserve D2D to enable disk-based backup and recovery.

## **BENEFIT**

### **Ensuring stable processes worldwide**

SEMIKRON now has the DR capabilities it needs to minimise business risk. "We can ensure that all the data we store is highly available and of high quality, which is crucial for production and other business processes," explains Müller. "Backup failures are a thing of the past, as with Arcserve Backup we can identify and fix problems straight away."

Using the Arcserve solution has enabled SEMIKRON to:

- Streamline backup and recovery processes and administration
- Improve data availability
- Facilitate compliance with internal data protection policies and regulations.

"With Arcserve we have peace of mind that all our sites have seamless data protection processes in place so that our production of semiconductor components is not disrupted," concludes Müller.

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