

SUCCESS STORY

FROM THE COLLABORATION

sure[secure]
your security operations center

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Introduction

The Walbusch Group is an established fashion retailer with over 1,000 employees and an annual revenue of more than 396.7 million EUR (2024), known for its high-quality brands and a versatile fashion range for both women and men.

This success story highlights the journey of how the Walbusch Group successfully implemented a Security Operations Center (SOC) solution. To enhance IT security, the company initially opted for an on-premises solution. With the growing desire to increase log volume, a cloud solution was viewed more as an opportunity than a challenge. This had a positive impact on scaling and efficiency mechanisms.

By choosing Google SecOps, the Walbusch Group has taken an important step into the future. For IT decision-makers facing the choice of the right SOC solution, Walbusch's experiences offer valuable insights. The analysis is complemented by an interview with Ralf Seggering, Head of IT and member of the management board of the Walbusch Group.

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Walbusch Gruppe

Industry:	Fashion and Footwear
Employees:	ca. 1.000
Retail Stores:	43
Founded:	1949
Revenue:	396,7 Mio. EUR (2024)



The Beginning: On-Prem SOC Service

Like many other companies, the Walbusch Gruppe faced the challenge of securing critical business processes around the clock. Given the available resources and the clear goal of continuous monitoring, the engagement of a Security Service Provider was unavoidable. We are still very pleased that the decision was made in our favor.

To protect sensitive company data and detect internal risks early, the Walbusch Group initially opted for an On-Prem SOC. This solution provided a solid security foundation and enabled the monitoring of the entire IT infrastructure.

The limitations of rapid scalability, as well as operating costs and the need for continuous maintenance and care of the infrastructure, were among the biggest challenges. When evaluating the possibilities of a cloud-native solution, the predictability of costs was also a crucial factor.



The Transition to the Cloud: Why the Walbusch Group chose Google SecOps

The decision to switch to a cloud-native SOC solution was a strategic consequence of the challenges mentioned above. When selecting the new provider, speed, scalability, and flexibility were the main priorities. Our SOC service based on Google SecOps impressed the Walbusch Group not only with a mature, automated solution but also with the ability to optimize security processes in real-time and process threat intelligence more quickly.



The switch to Google SecOps was not only a technical decision but also a matter of increasing efficiency. With its cloud-based architecture, Google SecOps offers complete automation of security monitoring processes and enables seamless integration of security services into the existing infrastructure. The solution provides not only real-time monitoring and response but also precise log and event analysis to assess the company's security status in seconds.

Another significant advantage the Walbusch Group gained from using Google SecOps was the drastic reduction in operating costs. By eliminating the need for its own infrastructure and the associated effort, the Walbusch Group was able to significantly increase efficiency in IT operations. Furthermore, the solution was quickly implemented and was fully operational after just six weeks, whereas previous projects for implementing On-Prem solutions took considerably longer.

Strategic Responsibility and Leadership Role at the Walbusch Group

In close collaboration between management and the IT department of the Walbusch Group, this transition was successfully carried out. The management team and Ralf Seggering were aware of the project's importance and ensured that sufficient resources were made available to complete the project successfully. The proactive involvement of the management and clear communication of the goals were crucial to implementing the project on time.

As with any large IT project, it was essential that all parties involved— from the IT teams to management— had the same understanding of the scope and challenges of implementing a new security solution. This enabled targeted and efficient collaboration.

Stakeholder Management and Clear Responsibilities

Stakeholder management within the Walbusch Group was a key success factor. Responsibilities were clearly defined, and all team members were actively involved in the decision-making process. It was especially important not only to include the IT department but also project management and all other relevant departments, such as the compliance team, in the planning and implementation of the SOC solution.

This helped identify and address potential interface issues early on. A key role in this process was played by Ralf Seggering in his role as a communicator.

Effective stakeholder management ensures that responsibilities do not diffuse, and everyone knows who is responsible for what. Thanks to these clear structures, the Walbusch Group was able to implement the project smoothly.



PODCAST


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The advertisement features a dark brick wall background. On the right, a man with glasses and a beard, wearing a black t-shirt with 'pure|secure' on it, stands with his arms crossed. The text 'CYBER SECURITY' is in large, white, outlined letters, with 'Basement' in a smaller, green, cursive font below it. A green 'PODCAST' label is in the top left. A white button with 'Listen now' and a green play icon is in the bottom right.



Benefits of Google SecOps: Speed, Automation, and Scalability

Google SecOps has brought a variety of benefits to the Walbusch Group, significantly easing the company's daily operations:

■ **Speed and Automation:**

The cloud-native solution of Google SecOps enables the real-time monitoring of security events. The response time to incidents is drastically reduced through the lightning-fast analysis of logs and the immediate detection of potential threats. The speed of event analysis was a significant advantage over the previous on-prem solution.

■ **Automated Processes:**

With the help of Google SecOps, many security processes were fully automated. This reduced manual effort and error-proneness, ensuring constant and faster security monitoring.

■ **Scalability and Flexibility:**

With Google SecOps, a scalable solution was implemented that grows with the needs of the company. Advantages of the Google SecOps platform include the seamless integration of new security features and the ability to adapt the solution to changing requirements.

■ **Cost Efficiency:**

By switching to the cloud-based solution, not only were operating costs reduced, but resource usage was also optimized. The operation and maintenance of own hardware was no longer required, saving both time and costs.

Communication and Training as the Key to Success

The introduction of a new SOC solution is always associated with a change management process. The Walbusch Group successfully managed this process by involving all relevant stakeholders, from the IT team to the end users.

All changes were regularly and clearly communicated by the IT department of the Walbusch Group to ensure that all employees were familiar with the new solution.

Regular training sessions and a clear communication strategy ensured a smooth transition to the new solution and ensured that all parties involved had the necessary knowledge to work effectively with the new platform.

It is a great pleasure to accompany the Walbusch Group's transition from an on-premises infrastructure to a modern cloud solution.

The difference is palpable, and with Google SecOps, we have the ideal technology to lead our partner securely and sustainably into the digital future.

Filip Krauß

Enterprise Account Executive
suresecure GmbH





Ralf Seggering
Head of IT and Member of the Management Board
Walbusch Gruppe



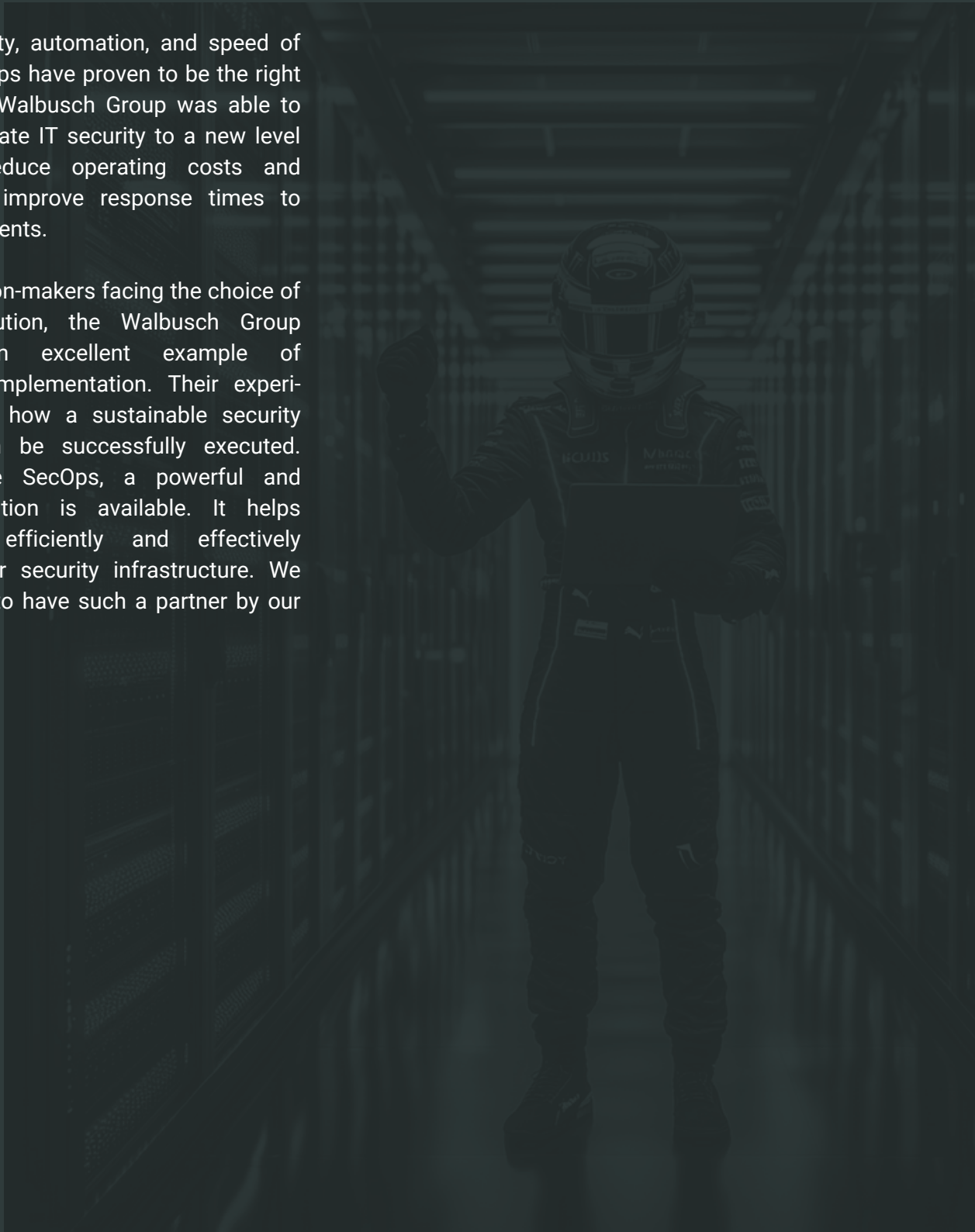
Particularly, the IT security infrastructure must always be questioned and challenged. That's why we are absolutely happy with the path we've taken together with suresecure. It's truly a partnership where we honestly assess the status quo and continuously adapt to new requirements.



Conclusion

The scalability, automation, and speed of Google SecOps have proven to be the right choice. The Walbusch Group was able to not only elevate IT security to a new level but also reduce operating costs and significantly improve response times to security incidents.

For IT decision-makers facing the choice of a SOC solution, the Walbusch Group provides an excellent example of successful implementation. Their experiences show how a sustainable security strategy can be successfully executed. With Google SecOps, a powerful and flexible solution is available. It helps companies efficiently and effectively manage their security infrastructure. We are pleased to have such a partner by our side.



Key Take-Aways:

If you're currently planning an SOC project or evaluating services: Feel free to reach out to us. Here are the key takeaways:

- The plausible desire for 24/7 monitoring often leads to a Security Service Provider.
- A well-prepared team is the key to the success of an SOC implementation project.
- Automation and cloud-native architectures offer significant advantages here.
- A structured transition process shortens the implementation time and minimizes risks.
- Crucial to the success of an SOC project is the strategic involvement of the management team.

You can find more on this topic here:

Cybersecurity Basement

Michael speaks with Elias Katthage about the implementation of an outsourced SOC, the transition to the cloud, and the improvements in transparency, efficiency, communication, and speed.

secure mag

The current issue of secure mag is all about our SOC! Download it for free now!



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