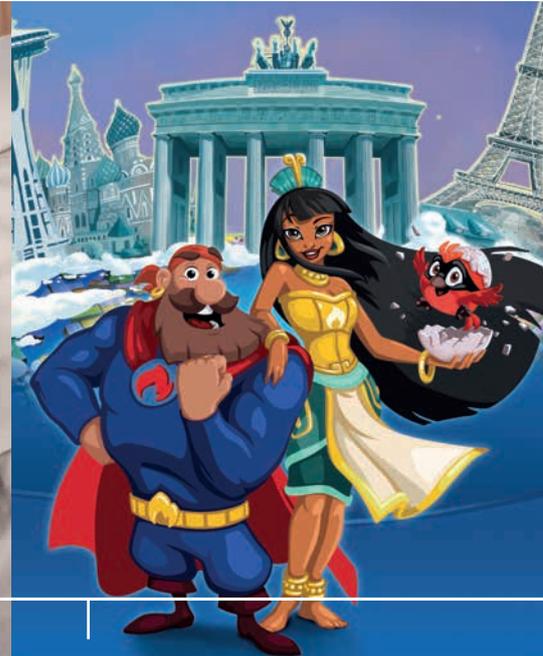


# Success Story



**GameDuell**



## The challenge

Entertaining online games with thousands of real players - this is GameDuell's highly successful concept. Since the company was founded in 2003, more than 125 million users have registered with the Berlin-based provider. However, the requirements on the performance of online games are high - any disorder or even interruption resulting from technical problems spoils the party and could cause the players to turn their backs on the platform. When the IT infrastructure needed to be expanded as a result of GameDuell's strong growth, the company was looking for a partner who could guarantee technical reliability.

## The solution

By choosing noris network, GameDuell found a data center operator and Internet service provider who had the necessary know-how and resources to ensure a highly performant and secure operation of the portal at any time despite a growing number of users. The virtualization platform set up by noris network AG is based on high-performance server farm containing 40 Citrix XenServers. With a total of 2 terabytes of RAM, this allows continuous operation of various online game rounds and simultaneous access by several tens of thousands of players from Europe and the United States.

## The successful project

The high-availability systems spread across two data centers in Nuremberg give the market-leading provider of casual games the flexibility of a cloud solution together with the security level of banking applications. The virtualized server farm provides high reliability and speed, which are two of the most important criteria for untroubled gaming fun. Satisfied with the support provided by noris network, GameDuell also commissioned the service provider with the operation of its corporate network in the Berlin headquarters.

## Online gaming without borders

**noris network**



"Convenience and speed are the main drivers of fun in online gaming. The virtualization concept and the service quality provided by noris network convinced us that we have found the optimal solution for our gamer community," says Kai Bolik, CEO of GameDuell GmbH.

Especially popular at GameDuell are casual games such as Hexenkessel, Jungle Jewels, MahJongg and Bubble Speed as well as online versions of popular board and card game classics such as skat, rummy or backgammon. However, the great success of the growing gaming and community platform required a new IT infrastructure.

### Flexibility through virtualization

The solution which was jointly developed with noris network aimed to make the software of the gaming portal independent from the availability of specific computer systems, in order to be able to respond more flexibly to the rush of users. The entire system was to be set up on a cluster of virtual servers. The decisive reasons why GameDuell chose noris network were the high virtualization expertise and the performance of the data center facilities, such as their connection to the Internet via an own backbone. Further arguments speaking for the service provider were the security certifications and banking-proof applications – after all, the secure handling of payments and personal customer data is crucial for a games provider like GameDuell. noris network set up a powerful server farm containing 40 XenServers and Citrix load balancing clusters that were distributed across two data centers. A total of 2 terabytes of RAM allow continuous operation of the

games and simultaneous access by several tens of thousands of players from Germany, Austria, France, the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden and the United States.

### Operation of the corporate network

Satisfied with the reliable hosting by the service provider, GameDuell also commissioned noris network with the operation of its corporate network in the Berlin headquarters. A 100Mbps link connects the offices with Berlin. In addition, noris network manages the company's WLAN and LAN environment supporting some 210 staff. The network operations services also include appropriate malware and spam protection.

### Data & facts

- Hosting of the GameDuell gaming and community platform in seven language and country versions
- Multi-redundant connection
- Server farm with 40 Citrix XenServers
- Continuous gaming operation with 2 terabytes of RAM
- Load balancing and high-availability connections
- Operation of the WLAN environment at the corporate headquarters in Berlin

### GameDuell GmbH – Bringing people together to have a good time with games

The passion for the development of high-quality online games and first-class customer focus have made GameDuell one of the largest gaming communities in the world. With more than 125 million registered users, the company founded in 2003 by Kai Bolik, Michael Kalkowski and Boris Wasmuth figures among the leading providers of casual and social games in the Western world. GameDuell offers players a diverse portfolio of over 70 casual games like Fluffy, Maya Pyramid, Bubble Speed, Jungle Jewels, as well as online adaptations of classic games such as skat, Solitaire and Pool Billard, which are developed internally by the team. Via its own popular community platform [www.gameduell.de](http://www.gameduell.de), GameDuell additionally offers many of its games for use in social networks and on mobile devices. Relying on a team of 210 experienced employees, GameDuell pursues the vision to bring people together and enable them to have a good time by enjoying an entertaining gaming experience – whether on a PC at home or away. Further information is available at <http://inside.gameduell.com>.

### noris network AG

Nuremberg-based noris network AG offers enterprise customers tailor-made ICT solutions in the areas of IT outsourcing, cloud services and network & security. Technological basis of these services is a powerful IT infrastructure that relies on noris network's own high-performance backbone and multiple high-security data centers. noris network AG is fully certified according to ISO/IEC 27001 and ISO/IEC 20000 and has a BSI certification for its own data centers. The data centers have been awarded the maximum rating of five stars in the eco Datacenter Star Audit conducted by eco (Association of the German Internet Industry).

**noris network**

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