Into the leading group through industrial expertise

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**PAC: German Edge Cloud is a top edge provider and a hidden champion**

**PAC, the market analysis and consulting company, has classed German Edge Cloud (GEC) as a hidden champion in Germany and Europe. PAC evaluated 67 relevant platform providers for the PAC INNOVATION RADAR in the “Open Digital Platforms for the Industrial World in Europe 2021” segment. German Edge Cloud – along with IBM/Red Hat and SUSE Rancher – made up the “Top 3” on the expertise scale in the “Open Digital Platforms for Edge Cloud-centric Industrial IoT” segment. GEC consequently achieved an overall ranking of “Leading Edge Vendor” on the PAC Innovation Radar Graph.**

Eschborn/Frankfurt, 4 November 2021 – Open platforms are the key to achieving rapid progress in digitising manufacturing. Market researcher PAC conducted a comprehensive analysis of the provider scene with the “Open Digital Platforms for the Industrial World in Europe 2021” PAC Innovation Radar. To this end, 67 relevant platform providers in seven European segments were evaluated. PAC also presented the results graphically in the familiar “radar” format; the main criteria here being expertise and market strength. IBM/Red Hat, SUSE Rancher and German Edge Cloud are the “top three” in the category of expertise on the radar for edge cloud-centric IoT.

**“Leading edge” through industrial expertise**

PAC names German Edge Cloud as hidden champion for “edge cloud-centric industrial IoT” in Germany and Europe. The market researchers cite GEC’s special expertise in production processes as the reason. In addition, the company has the potential – as IBM/Red Hat’s first strategic partner – to achieve the vision of a hybrid application platform with multi-cloud capabilities for the digital factory. The PAC Radar lists IBM/Red Hat as its “Best in Class.”

Further arguments in favour of GEC were its infrastructure independence and the commitment to open-source solutions, claims PAC. The market researchers also greatly appreciate the fact that German Edge Cloud is a co-founder of the GAIA-X project. The physical robustness of the edge infrastructure also played a role. PAC emphasised that GEC, as a member of the Friedhelm Loh Group, can draw on its sister company Rittal’s industry expertise and proven industrial technology. As a result, its solutions were also able to withstand the high demands of harsh industrial environments.

German Edge Cloud was ranked overall as a “leading edge” vendor on the PAC Innovation Radar Graph, with the highest expertise rating in this category. “We are very pleased to be at the top of the PAC radar,” says Dieter Meuser, CEO Cloud and Industrial Solutions at GEC: “The influence of a high industrial expertise rating on the overall result confirms our experience. People who consider solutions from the specific applications on the shop floor and who approach the cloud from the edge will make the fastest progress. For this, the platforms used need to have suitable openness, along with flexibility, data-sovereignty and multi-cloud capability.”

**I4.0 applications with an open edge appliance**

One result of the cooperation between GEC and IBM is the “ONCITE powered by IBM” industrial edge appliance, based on Red Hat’s “OpenShift,” which offers components from the IBM Cloud Paks. Manufacturing companies, OEM manufacturers and suppliers can quickly and easily benefit from improved digitisation in their production thanks to the package, which comprises hardware, software and application management services.

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**Caption(s)**

Image 1: PAC Radar: German Edge Cloud has established itself as a top edge vendor thanks to its high level of industrial expertise.

Image 2: Dieter Meuser, CEO Cloud and Industrial Solutions at GEC: Industrial expertise is what counts. Progress is achieved most quickly by analysing solutions from the perspective of specific applications on the shop floor.

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**About German Edge Cloud**

German Edge Cloud (GEC), a member of the Friedhelm Loh Group, specialises in innovative edge and cloud computing. GEC solutions enable the rapid, simple and secure availability of data in connected environments. They support process optimisation, for instance in manufacturing, by empowering data analytics, and guarantee customers complete control over their data when using public or private clouds.

GEC is a developer and service integrator for turnkey solutions, offering both its own and sector-specific systems. The company already deploys its solutions at the Industry 4.0 factory of sister company Rittal in Haiger.

German Edge Cloud integrates and operates hybrid private edge-cloud infrastructures. Its offerings include infrastructure as a service (IaaS), platform as a service (PaaS), and industry-specific applications as software as a service (SaaS). As a founding member of the Gaia-X Foundation, German Edge Cloud seeks to establish interoperable platforms with minimal customer lock-in.  
  
German Edge Cloud is a member of the owner-operated Friedhelm Loh Group. The group successfully operates 12 production facilities and 94 subsidiaries worldwide. It has approximately 11,600 employees and posted revenues of €2.6 billion in fiscal 2019.  
  
**More information:**[www.gec.io](http://www.gec.io) and [www.friedhelm-loh-group.com](http://www.friedhelm-loh-group.com)