

A tough draw for data erasers: End-of-life management between security and efficiency

- **Certified data erasure versus economic device utilization**
- **eraSURE combines data erasure with efficient investment protection**
- **Data erasure meets internationally established standards such as BSI and DoD**

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The data quantity in western Europe doubles every two-and-a-half years. A golden age for data collectors. The opposing sector is having a somewhat tougher time. It is not just the quantity and types of storage media that is rapidly growing. The requirements for reliable erasure are joined by the desire for efficient device disposal. What to do? eraSURE by CHG-MERIDIAN offers an answer.

"Anyone trying to erase storage media nowadays is shooting at a moving target," explains Frank Kottmann, member of the board of CHG-MERIDIAN. "On the one hand, legal guidelines and compliance requirements from CIOs and IT budget managers apply pressure. On the other, commercial questions cause real headaches: For a data erasure, do I have to physically destroy the 500 smartphones belonging to my colleagues at the end of the technology life cycle? Or can I do both: Relieve my budget with recycling and still be on the safe side?" continues Kottmann.

eraSURE combines data erasure with efficient investment protection

Under the name 'eraSURE' CHG-MERIDIAN creates individual and certified data erasure concepts, which link technical security requirements with commercial needs in the smartest ways. "And always on the basis of internationally established standards such as DoD (Department of Defense) or BSI (German Federal Office for Information Security)," underlines Frank Kottmann.

This is CHG-MERIDIAN's field of core expertise: As an independent financial advisor and technology manager, the company brings together expertise that had previously only occurred separately: Technical knowledge and commercial intelligence. The intelligent mixture of both creates individual inventory and benefit concepts for the management of technology environments. CHG-MERIDIAN is also an international player in the area of end-of-life management: its companies include those that are obligated to particularly high standards of data security.

With eraSURE the process of CHG-MERIDIAN results from the awareness that not all data is equal. Some is more equal than others. For example, data from board devices is generally more sensitive than that from the shipping department. Just like information

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from the company development department or patient data from a hospital. All this data belongs to a higher risk class and is handled accordingly. In principle, it is always the degree of protection required that is crucial in the selection of the erasure process and the processes used.

Two certified erasure processes

Fundamentally, a CIO or IT manager can choose between two certified erasure processes. Both options span from simple data erasure to the physical destruction of the data carrier.

- The data erasure takes place with TÜV certification and according to BSI Grundschutz. The process begins with the collection of the devices, including sealed transportation and ends with data erasure in a biometrically closed off security area.
- The erasure is DEKRA-certified and complies with the Department of Defense (DoD). This standard refrains from the certification of the transportation. It is particularly well-suited to data with a lower protective requirement.

The process is set out for mechanical and electrical storage. The spectrum of storage media ranges from workstation PCs, laptops and servers to data center storage environments, smartphones and tablets. Depending on the security requirements of the customer and the defined protective class, scenarios from one or the other erasure process are used. And so the optimum erasure method is created based on established standards: audit-proof, compliant and, at the same time, cost effective.

Part of a comprehensive service network

eraSURE is part of a comprehensive service network with which CHG-MERIDIAN continuously supports the life of an IT workplace with its Managed Desktop Solutions (MDS) solution area. From consultation to device retrieval and certified data erasure all technical and commercial information is 100% transparent. Security and traceability is a benefit of this, predictability and checking is another. For example, you can report, bill and budget account-based costs down to the last detail.

For more information and photos, please visit: www.chg-meridian.com

CHG-MERIDIAN: The company

CHG-MERIDIAN is one of the world's leading manufacturer- and bank-independent providers of technology management services to the IT, industry and healthcare sectors. With some 850 employees, CHG-MERIDIAN provides its customers with comprehensive support for their technology infrastructures – from consulting to financial and operational services to used-equipment re-marketing services through its two technology and service centers in Germany and Norway. CHG-MERIDIAN offers efficient technology management for large- and medium-sized companies and government agencies. It now serves over 10,000 customers worldwide and technology investments of more than EUR 4.2 billion. More than 2,700 of its customers also use TESMA® Online, its technology and service management system, for their internal technology controlling needs. The company has offices in 40 locations in 23 countries across the globe; its headquarters are in the South German city of Weingarten.

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