



 Microsoft 365 certified app

How GESCO SE Unifies Collaboration Across Its Subsidiary Companies with EasyLife 365 Collaboration



The Success Story

How we defeated
the Chaos Monster

Company Overview

GESCO SE is an industrial group focused on Materials Refinement and Distribution, Health Care and Life Science, and Industrial Assets and Infrastructure. It brings together healthy, well positioned mid sized industrial companies and develops them for the long term.

As a strategic holding, GESCO specializes in succession solutions and typically acquires majority stakes, often full ownership, in its portfolio companies. The subsidiaries operate independently while being supported by the holding through coaching, consulting and controlling.

Location

Germany

Industry

Industrial Group

gesco.de



Solution Overview

Problem Solved

GESCO needed a secure and scalable way to enable collaboration across subsidiaries and with external partners, without compromising the independence of each company.

Solution

EasyLife 365 Collaboration

Enabling Partner

bitery GmbH & Co. KG | bitery.de

M365 Products

- Microsoft Teams
- SharePoint
- OneDrive

Impact Summary

- Number of teams involved: 164
- Number of guest accounts involved: 60
- Number of total users impacted: 470
- Key departments or roles involved: All subsidiaries across the group

GESCO SE unites multiple independently operating industrial companies under one strategic holding. As collaboration across these companies grew, managing Microsoft 365 workspaces consistently became challenging, creating structural complexity, security risks and unnecessary workload for IT.

Challenges

At GESCO SE, Microsoft Teams is the central platform for work across subsidiaries. With **164 Teams workspaces** and **470 users**, it became difficult to keep structures clear, ownership transparent and access secure, increasing the risk of redundant teams, inconsistent permissions and security or compliance issues.

- **Balancing autonomy and consistency:** Independent subsidiaries needed to keep their own ways of working while still collaborating in a common Microsoft 365 environment.
- **Enabling self-service safely:** Subsidiaries required self-service options to create and manage collaboration spaces without losing control or oversight.
- **Managing security and compliance:** Without standardized governance, data sharing and permissions were hard to control across companies, increasing exposure to risks

Solution

GESCO partnered with **bitery GmbH & Co. KG** to implement **EasyLife 365 Collaboration**. The solution brought transparency and governance into their entire Microsoft 365 environment. Subsidiaries gained autonomy through self-service, while the holding company kept full control through centrally defined governance rules.

EasyLife 365 Collaboration enabled:

- **Governance and self-service working hand in hand:** Clear rules applied to all collaboration assets, while subsidiaries could create and manage their own Teams using standardized templates.
- **Structured team creation:** Templates ensured consistent Teams provisioning and supported the growing landscape of 164 Teams across the group.
- **Secure data exchange:** Internal and external collaboration now follows regulated and auditable access principles, including for around 60 guest accounts.
- **Automated governance:** Teams are reviewed regularly, unused collaboration spaces are identified automatically, and cleanup runs without manual effort.
- **Deep Microsoft 365 integration:** Smooth collaboration across Microsoft Teams, SharePoint, and OneDrive.

Results

With EasyLife 365 Collaboration, GESCO established a secure and scalable collaboration model across the entire group.

- **Higher Microsoft Teams adoption:** Microsoft Teams has moved from a niche tool to the primary communication platform.
- **Structured team lifecycle:** A review of the previous environment showed that 70% of legacy Teams were no longer in use. Today, Teams are created via templates and governed from day one, keeping the environment purposeful and easier to manage.
- **Secure collaboration:** Data can be shared safely between subsidiaries and with external guest accounts under consistent governance rules.
- **Simpler communication for the holding:** Collaboration between the holding and its subsidiaries is now more structured, transparent and efficient.

As a result, GESCO SE now runs collaboration on a secure, well governed Microsoft 365 landscape across multiple companies. The company stated that adoption is working very well, users often use the software intuitively without initial difficulties, and stakeholders in the holding company find communication with their subsidiaries significantly easier.



“ With EasyLife 365 we have a strong partner that enables us to create clear structure even in complex environments. That is why EasyLife 365 solutions are part of our standard Microsoft 365 stack. ”

Filip Oldach, CEO
bitery GmbH & Co. KG



bitery GmbH and Co. KG is a full service IT consultancy from Wiesbaden, specializing in modern workplace, cloud and infrastructure solutions.



EasyLife 365 helps IT teams keep Microsoft 365 clean, secure, and under control by letting users manage their own assets like Teams, Guests, and mailboxes.



Looking for a place to create Chaos!

EasyLife 365 helps IT teams keep Microsoft 365 clean, secure, and under control by letting users manage their own assets like Teams, Guests, and mailboxes. Admins set the rules, and EasyLife 365 guides users to stay compliant and secure, without overloading IT.

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