Overview
Starting off in 1852 as a bolt forge in the heart of the Sauerland region of Germany, Gust. Alberts has a range of more than 6,500 products. With numerous design and utility patents of its own, GAH has been providing innovations since 1852.

Today, GAH is a company with more than 400 employees, spread across five locations on two continents. In Germany, Europe, and the world, GAH—now in its fourth generation—has developed into a successful and continuously expanding system provider for retail, DIY and industry. More than 6,000 trading partners throughout Europe trust in Gust. Alberts.

Challenge
The Gust. Alberts GmbH & Co. KG was struggling with a continuously growing mail system for a long time. Since the amount of data had to be stored somewhere, the company was forced to expand its storage capacities on a regular basis. Additionally, it was more and more time-consuming for the IT department to run backups and to find and restore lost emails. Another issue was increasing licensing costs. Gust. Alberts was obliged to maintain post offices of employees who already had left the company to prevent data losses. These “unused” licenses negatively affected the IT budget.

Solution
After discussing all problems with the organization, Jens Müller, CEO of GNE IT Business Solutions and network consultant of Gust. Alberts, recommended the implementation of Retain Email. The software allows customers to control the size and the licensing costs of their messaging infrastructure. Retain Email automatically archives all emails that have reached a certain age so that they can then be deleted out of the post offices. This drastically relieves the mail server of the company and thereby enables quick backups and easy message restores. Post offices of employees who have left the company are archived as well and can be deleted without having to be afraid of data leakage. Due to the secure storage within Retain, the licenses for those post offices are now no longer required. A positive side effect for the management board was the compliance with current data management regulations. Retain Email protects the organization from future litigation and prepares it for all kind of audits.

Results
Before the installation of Retain Email, the IT department of Gust. Alberts presented the complete archiving project to the management board. Due to current IT laws and regulations it was of special interest to the executives. With the help of certified Premium Partner GNE, the implementation of the software went very smoothly and saved time and money.

At a Glance
| Industry   | Manufacturing |
| Location   | Germany       |
| Challenge  | The company needed an email archiving solution to mitigate growing storage and license costs and time-consuming processes. |
| Solution   | Use Retain Email to control the size and the licensing costs of the messaging infrastructure |
| Results    |
+ Automatically archives all emails that have reached a certain age
+ Protects the organization from future litigation and prepares it for all kind of audits
+ Drastically relieves the mail server, which enables quick backups and easy message restores
“By handling huge amounts of data Retain helps us to stay in control of our mail system. Our employees can easily access their data at any time and from any place. That is also why they love our new archiving software.”

ANDREAS REINHOLD
Head of IT
Gust. Alberts GmbH & Co. KG.

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