



## Customer

E.ON

## Website

<http://www.eon.com>

## Locations

Headquarters: Düsseldorf, Germany;  
10 worldwide subsidiary offices

## Industry

Energy

## At a Glance

With just under EUR 87 billion in sales and approximately 93,500 employees, E.ON is one of the world's largest investor-owned energy companies.

## Situation

E.ON found that the total cost of ownership from its VitalQIP® solution from Alcatel-Lucent was too high as the solution required the need to pay per IP address. With nearly 200,000 - and growing - IP addresses, VitalQIP was no longer an option for E.ON. With the global deployment of Active Directory, the company saw the need for a solution that integrates well with existing Microsoft® DNS and DHCP servers.

## Solution

By using Microsoft Windows Server® as the DNS and DHCP platform, the Men & Mice Suite provides E.ON with an professional, scalable IP address management functionality through its:

- \* DNS Management Module
- \* IP Address Management Module
- \* DHCP Management Module

## Case Study:

### E.ON



Providing reliable power and gas solutions to 30 million people is a huge responsibility. E.ON takes that responsibility and the technology that helps meet it seriously.

# Helping to Power the World

## Task and Solution

E.ON was formed in June 2000 by the merger of VEBA and VIAG, two of Germany's largest industrial groups. Following the merger, E.ON executed a far-reaching focus strategy, and today it is one of the largest worldwide investor-owned energy companies. E.ON ended 2008 with just under EUR87 billion in sales and approximately 93,500 employees.

In addition to its activities in Europe and Russia, E.ON operates an electric and gas utility business as well as renewable-source generating assets in North America.

E.ON puts its customers first through excellent service and value. Such an accomplishment is no small task given the company provides reliable power and gas solutions for about 30 million people in more than 30 countries around the world. To say that all its information technology (IT) systems must work together cohesively is an extreme understatement.

In 2004, E.ON turned to Alcatel-Lucent's VitalQIP® solution to manage its DNS infrastructure. While the solution did indeed help to automate end-to-end management of IP addresses and increase efficiency with centralized management, gradually, however, the cons outweighed the pros.

The problem was that the cost-benefit ratio of VitalQIP was not justifiable," says Rainer Wichtrey, system engineer with

E.ON. "We were required to pay per IP address, and with nearly 200,000 IP addresses - and the fact that we're still growing - the solution was simply too expensive. Using Men & Mice to augment our existing Microsoft DNS and DHCP servers brought us the best of both worlds we save costs by using existing servers, and Men & Mice fulfills our global IPAM requirements."

## Compatibility with Microsoft Technologies

While the per-IP-address fee was one factor in E.ON's decision to search for a different solution, another reason was the fact that the company made the decision - after implementing VitalQIP - to base its entire IT platform on Microsoft technologies. When using Microsoft servers only (without the Men & Mice add-on), it was impossible to grant access in a granular, role-based fashion. E.ON's IT department either had to give users full administration rights, leading to risks of mis-configurations and security vulnerabilities, or no access at all. E.ON needed a tool that not only granted access in a simple and secure way, but also could integrate with Active Directory (AD) user and group structure. This was where Men & Mice provided the ideal solution. Ultimately, E.ON chose the Men & Mice Suite because of its suitable feature set and clear cost benefit ratio in an AD environment.

# MEN&MICE

We bring control and flexibility to network management



## Powerful and Undisputed Advantages

"We have a very large environment with many, many users," says Rainer Wichtrey. "Our central database within Men & Mice is growing every day, and the solution runs without hiccups."

**Migrate Scope(s) wizard**

Migrate Scope(s)

This wizard can be used to migrate one or more DHCP Scopes from one server to another.

Note that both servers must be of the same type.

Choose the server onto which you want to migrate the scopes:

Server: 192.168.2.128

**System Settings**

General | Logging | Error Checking | Sites and Subnets | Save Comments | External Commands | SecureM4

Enable SecureM4 integration

Server name: procedure.example.com

User: root@procedure

Password: \*

**Import zones**

Master server: example.org

Slave servers:  example.com  example.net

AD Integrated zone  Unintegrated Integrated zone

SecName: \*

SecLevel: \*

DistGroup: \*

Zone name #1: procedure.example.org

Zone name #2: root@procedure.example.org

**Device 11.1.64.1**

Subnet: Name

Subnet Mask: 255.255.255.0

Close Name: A2

URL: http://www.example.com

**Men & Mice Management Console - [Manager]**

Range	Type	Title	Description	IPv6 Status
0/0	Range	IPv6		
200a:abba:cafe:0/48	Range	Company IPv6 Address Space		ready
200a:abba:cafe:4000:0/52	Range	Europe		ready
200a:abba:cafe:4700:0/56	Range	Germany		ready
200a:abba:cafe:4740:0/58	Range	Frankfurt		ready
0.0.0.0/0	Range	IPv4		
11.1.0.0/16	Scope	Company IPv4 Address Space		not compliant
11.1.64.0/19	Range	Europe		not compliant
11.1.64.0/24	Range	Frankfurt		not compliant

"It was an easy transition. Migrating from VitalQIP was quick and straightforward." Rainer Wichtrey, System Engineer at E.ON

## Easy Migration and Excellent Support

Moving such massive amounts of DNS, DHCP and IP address information can be a daunting task. However, with Men & Mice, migration is seamless. Wichtrey says that the implementation itself went well and that assistance from Men & Mice was of high quality and professionalism. "Support from Men & Mice has been very good and very fast. Most calls or incidents are addressed in the same day."

## Complementary Solution

With its switch to a Microsoft platform, E.ON needed a DNS, DHCP and IP address management solution that would augment its existing DNS and DHCP infrastructure. In looking for a replacement for its VitalQIP solution, E.ON looked for an "add-on" solution that would augment existing servers instead of replacing them.

Men & Mice proved to be the solution of choice as it complemented E.ON's Microsoft platform very well. Additionally - and equally important - was the fact that the solution did not require extensive additional integration work.

## Clear, Integrated View

Wichtrey says that the Men & Mice solution offers easy managing of DNS, DHCP and IP information because the solution efficiently and effectively merges all the information into one unified view. Instead of working with multiple servers and different interfaces, administrators get a clear overview of the whole IP address infrastructure in a single GUI (graphical user interface).

With roots firmly planted in exceptional customer service and a vision that utilizes state-of-the-art technology, it's clear that E.ON will continue to help power the world.

## Knowledge and Experience

Men & Mice is globally recognized as an expert in the research, training, consulting and software development of IP address management.

Over 25% of the Fortune 1000 are clients of Men & Mice, as well as 10,000 other private and public sector organizations.

## Contact Men & Mice

Headquarters:

Men & Mice  
Noatun 17  
105 Reykjavik  
Iceland

<http://www.menandmice.com>  
[sales@menandmice.com](mailto:sales@menandmice.com)

Tel: +354 412 1500 or +1 408 516 9582  
Fax: +354 412 1505 or +1 408 273 6079