



*“The automatic compression of MS Office files with FILEminimizer Office saves a lot of space in the Email accounts of our users and on the underlying Exchange Server.”*

**Jens Damann,**  
IT Manager,  
Koninklijke Ahrend NV

## Ahrend improves Exchange Server storage and bandwidth

Royal Ahrend NV is a designer and manufacturer of recognizable, timeless Dutch Design furniture and one of the leading single branded furniture manufacturers in Europe. The company successfully deployed FILEminimizer Office to all of its employees to improve Exchange Server storage, email bandwidth and employee productivity.

### CUSTOMER PROFILE

Together with customers, architects, and other partners Koninklijke Ahrend NV furnishes environments where people are encouraged to perform to the best of their ability. The company was founded in 1896 by Jacobus Ahrend and registered cumulated sales of more than 184 million Euros and employs over 1,100 people worldwide in 2009.

### CUSTOMER CHALLENGE: INCREASING STRAIN ON EXCHANGE ENVIRONMENT

Employees at Ahrend are mostly knowledge workers who use regularly PowerPoint, Word and Excel to create presentations, documents and spreadsheets for internal and external use. In departments like Marketing or Sales, the use of images, graphics and other media material led to the creation of MS Office files of enormous size with some files exceeding a file size of 100 MB. Apart from the growing need of storage to save these MS Office files, it was impossible to send such files via Email to customers or other colleagues. Also, big MS Office files lead to congested Email inboxes and a significant increase in storage on the Email Exchange Servers. Despite Email attachment size limitations, the usage of big MS Office files in the organization caused higher costs for bandwidth. While these costs were visible only to the IT department, the employees themselves wasted valuable time to use unconventional methods to be able to send large files via Email. “We were

*looking for a easy-to-implement solution to this problem”,* says Jens Damman from the IT department at Ahrend.

### THE SOLUTION

Ahrend evaluated several options and chose to implement a multi-user license of FILEminimizer Office to all of its MS Office users. In the case of Ahrend, the software is set to automatically compress every PowerPoint, Word or Excel file before it is sent out via Email. The IT department used a custom MSI installation file together with an automatic license registration of FILEminimizer Office for an easy and fast installation to all computers in the organization.

### BUSINESS BENEFITS

The employees at Ahrend are very satisfied with the solution. It is easy to use and puts an end to their frustration when they wanted to send a large MS Office file. With FILEminimizer Office, the employees could significantly increase their productivity when dealing with large MS Office files. After a short time the positive effects of deploying the software to every user were also visible to the IT department. “*The automatic compression of MS Office files with FILEminimizer Office saves a lot of space in the Email accounts of our users and on the underlying Exchange Server.*”, says Jens Damman, “*We expect considerable overall storage and bandwidth improvements after the complete implementation.*”

## Key Highlights

### ORGANISATION:

Koninklijke Ahrend NV,  
Netherlands, 1,100 employees

### INDUSTRY:

Manufacturing (high quality  
furniture)

### CHALLENGES:

- Impossibility to send large MS Office files via Email
- Increasing storage need on Exchange servers
- Increasing costs for bandwidth
- productivity decrease when dealing with large Office files

### SOLUTION:

FILEminimizer client licensing incl.  
MS Outlook integration

### ACHIEVED RESULTS:

- Automatic compression of MS Office attachments
- Significant MS Exchange Server savings
- Significant bandwidth and email storage improvements
- Higher employee productivity