



## SUCCESS STORY

# Swiss Distance University of Applied Sciences

(Fernfachhochschule Schweiz (FFHS)) awards top marks

**Under the motto "Study when and where you want" combines the Swiss Distance University of Applied Sciences (Fernfachhochschule Schweiz (FFHS)), as a leading e-university in Switzerland, classical teaching with e-learning in order to achieve and to ensure efficient sustainable learning. The students can access their SAP Business One/PPS One environment in the cloud from anywhere without any installation, the educational institution has opted and decided to use Ericom AccessNow.**

As a federally recognised university of applied sciences, the FFHS, offers since 1998, while on the job, bachelor's and master's degree programmes as well as further training in the following areas: Economics, computer science, engineering, law and health. Due to the large time- and location-independent study model, it is a study alternative for all those, who wish to combine work, family and study.

The FFHS runs regional centres in Zurich, Basel, Bern and Brig and has 110 employees and almost 400 (part-time) lecturers who pass on their specialist knowledge in a practice-oriented manner to the almost 2,400 students (as of 2019). In its three research institutes the FFHS, in accordance with the performance mandate of the federal government to conduct application-oriented research in the areas of Web Science, Management & Innovation and E-Learning.

Since 2004, the FFHS has been affiliated with the Scuola Universitaria Professionale della Svizzera Italiana (SUPSI) and as a partial school integrated into the overall strategy of SUPSI.

### Optimization of SAP Business One access

In module "Computer Integrated Manufacturing (CIM)" of the Bachelor Industrial Engineering and Management, the use and benefits of the SAP Business One / PPS One overall solution is shown. In addition to the theoretical basics the FFHS is also able to handle the practical work with the software. For optimal learning success, each participant can access remotely a complete SAP system, which is hosted by Mepa-Data AG in Kloten under Microsoft Windows Server 2016. All activities of order entry and purchase order, via the goods receipt until final costing are calculated using SAP Business One / PPS One in accompaniment of a specialist.

Previously this software had to be downloaded from the internet and to be installed on the student's private notebooks and to be configured for the training. In practice, this put the lecturer involuntarily in the position to be the contact person for all technical difficulties caused by the reconfiguration and changes needed for personal computers. To solve these problems, FFHS has chosen to use Ericom AccessNow.

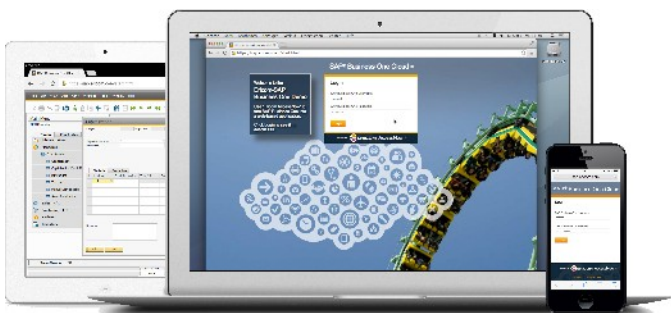
## Into the Cloud with the Browser

Since its introduction, students can remotely access and use practically any terminal device that can be connected via an HTML5-compatible browser. Through Input of the target URL they dial directly into their own SAP environment in the cloud and can then use the ERP solution as if it were installed as a native client. AccessNow does not require any plugins, downloads, configurations or special user rights. Within the browser, the SAP Business One interface includes all dashboards, personalizations and add-ons and can be used via keyboard, mouse and on mobile devices also via touch and gesture control.

## Reduced effort, maximum mobility

Swiss Distance University of Applied Sciences (Fernfachhochschule Schweiz (FFHS)) was able to work with Ericom AccessNow their "Application as a Service" concept for the training on SAP Business One/PPS One within the shortest realize time without having to change the existing IT infrastructure. The lecturers are relieved, because they can avoid communication problems and costly administrative VPN structures.

We made earlier positive experience with RDP acceleration software developed by Ericom Blaze. That the manufacturers technology also provides high-performance HTML5 access has made the decision easier for us - as well as the uncomplicated support by the manufacturer "Ericom", says Paul Meier of MEPA-DATA AG. "As an innovative educational institution it is important for us, all students have a fast, easy to use, and easy to understand and configuration-free access to their working environment.



Our instructors must be able to concentrate on course contents and not on solving technical problems not related to class.

## Future-proof technology

Both in the daily use, as well as with regard to FFHS awards top marks for quality: "Remote access via AccessNow in the browser works great. Our students can work anywhere and that at excellent stability, speed and user-friendliness," sums up Paul Meier. "Compared with other, less comfortable access solutions, the very good price-performance ratio convinced us. Everything works surprisingly well so that we can use AccessNow without restrictions and recommend it to others."

Depending on demand, the Swiss Distance University of Applied Sciences (Fernfachhochschule Schweiz (FFHS)) plans the use of AccessNow in other courses of study and regional centres

[www.ffhs.ch/bsc-wirtschaftsingenieur](http://www.ffhs.ch/bsc-wirtschaftsingenieur)  
[www.mepa.ch](http://www.mepa.ch)

» The installation was surprisingly simple. Too bad we didn't install AccessNow in the past.

Simon Ruff  
course director industrial engineering

**FFHS**

Fernfachhochschule Schweiz  
Zürich | Basel | Bern | Brig

Mitglied der SUPSI

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