PRESS RELEASE

Full data sovereignty in the cloud for SMEs

IONOS CLOUD and ELO Digital Office: Partnership for sovereign digital solutions powered by the European cloud

Karlsruhe/Stuttgart, November 17, 2026 – IONOS CLOUD, a leading European provider of cloud infrastructure for businesses of all sizes, and ELO Digital Office, a software provider specializing in digitalization and document management solutions, have entered into a strategic partnership. The goal of both partners is to provide SMEs with reliable, scalable, and secure solutions for digitizing business processes.

Many small and medium-sized businesses want to manage documents, contracts, personnel files, and invoices conveniently in the cloud without relinquishing control over their own data. This is exactly where IONOS CLOUD and ELO play a key role. For SMEs in particular, solutions that do not depend on non-European providers are essential to strengthening resilience and ensuring greater independence.

Data sovereignty under European law
In the IONOS CLOUD, ELO systems and solutions – together with the customer data and documents they contain – can be operated in European data centers subject to German jurisdiction. IONOS CLOUD offers an independent, scalable, and GDPR-compliant cloud infrastructure that is certified to ISO 27001 and BSI IT-Grundschutz, among other standards, and holds a BSI C5 attestation.

The ELO digitalization platform ensures document management that complies with legal and data protection requirements in accordance with GoBD and GDPR, as well as end-to-end digital business processes for key departments, from accounting to human resources. Together, these elements form a robust compliance framework in the cloud – spanning everything from the data center to the application. Flexibility is maintained: hybrid scenarios combining cloud services with on-premises infrastructure are also possible.

“SMEs shouldn’t have to sacrifice control over their data to benefit from the convenience of the cloud. That’s why we’re building sovereign European infrastructure that can support businesses as their needs evolve. Through our partnership with ELO, we can reach companies right where they already manage their documents and business processes,” says Claudio Serrano, Global SVP of Sales at IONOS CLOUD.

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Strong partner networks as multipliers

The partnership also leverages the reach of both companies' partner networks: ELO Digital Office collaborates with approximately 1,000 IT partners and systems integrators worldwide, including many who are already IONOS partners. IONOS CLOUD will serve as a sovereign infrastructure layer for these in the future. Conversely, the IONOS ecosystem – with several thousand partners, distributors, and independent software vendors – offers further opportunities for collaboration that benefit both sides.

Sovereign AI for ELO users

The partnership also supports the further development of the ELO platform with AI and low-code functions: IONOS CLOUD provides access to models running on GPUs in German data centers, for example through the IONOS CLOUD AI Model Hub. It also offer retrieval-augmented generation (RAG) capabilities, providing ELO users with a sovereign AI infrastructure in the future. This opens up opportunities to integrate powerful language models that are often unavailable in on-premises environments. As a result, users can leverage their existing document repositories and workflows in ELO for AI applications in a simple, secure manner while meeting regulatory requirements.

ELO CEO Nils Mosbach sees the partnership as a key building block for customers who want to combine the convenience of the cloud with data sovereignty: "European solutions are essential to helping SMEs become more resilient, particularly in highly regulated industries. Through our partnership with IONOS CLOUD, we can offer our customers a reliable foundation for sovereign cloud solutions, including hybrid scenarios. This builds trust and lays the groundwork for using AI applications safely and confidently in the future. By combining the strong partner networks of both companies, we aim to make a real difference together and further strengthen Europe's cloud offering."

The partnership is already delivering its first results: In addition to a joint session at the AI Summit in Barcelona in September, ELO Digital Office also participated as an exhibitor at the IONOS Summit in Berlin for the first time this year.

About IONOS CLOUD

IONOS CLOUD is a leading European provider of cloud infrastructure for businesses of all sizes and the public sector. Specializing in efficient and scalable cloud services, IONOS CLOUD offers Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS), compute and storage services, backup solutions, Platform as a Service (PaaS), a groupware platform, and a multimodal AI hub providing access to a wide range of powerful AI models. The company's proprietary cloud platform operates across 11 data centers in Europe. IONOS CLOUD places a strong emphasis on data protection, GDPR compliance, and security, and undergoes regular government audits and certification processes. Headquartered in Germany, IONOS CLOUD operates its services under German jurisdiction, thereby supporting digital sovereignty and providing a high degree of legal certainty.

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About ELO Digital Office GmbH
ELO Digital Office GmbH is a leading provider of innovative digitalization and document management solutions. Based on state-of-the-art low-code technology and enhanced by artificial intelligence, ELO offers a flexible and scalable platform that supports companies on their journey into the digital future. For more than 25 years, ELO has represented quality and performance in digital document management, enterprise content management, and workflow management. A global partner network and close collaboration with renowned technology providers such as Microsoft, SAP, and IBM form the foundation of its international success and long-term customer relationships.

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