CASE STUDY

# Groupe ARSA anticipates cyber risks and secures its critical data with Scality ARTESCA

## Highlights

### Challenges

- Rising cyber insurance premiums and increasingly complex insurer requirements
- Long-term retention of sensitive project data required dependable recovery
- Risk of cyberattacks disrupting operations and delaying recovery

### Solution

- Immutable backup deployment using Scality ARTESCA
- One-time investment of CHF 30,000 (approx. €32,000), including 5-year licensing
- On-site deployment via dedicated server integrated into existing infrastructure

### Results

- Immutable backups verified daily and restorable within 24 hours
- Estimated two-year amortization, lower cost than cyber insurance
- One-day deployment with no disruption to teams or operations
- Stronger IT resilience and greater management peace-of-mind

**David Repond**
**CEO, Groupe ARSA**

Groupe ARSA is a Swiss construction and civil engineering firm managing building projects across multiple regions of Switzerland. With more than 140 employees and long project lifecycles, the need to retain and protect project documentation for many years has become a strategic priority for the organization.

## Challenges

### Anticipating rather than reacting: A strategic choice in the face of cyber risk

As a dedicated player in project and construction site management, with commitments that can span up to ten years, Groupe ARSA relies heavily on the reliability and traceability of its data. The question was not if a cyberattack might occur, but how the company would be able to return to normal operations quickly and reliably.

In 2025, the significant increase in cyber insurance premiums and the proliferation of documentation required by insurers served as a catalyst.

> **"Rather than relying exclusively on financial coverage, we needed to invest in a technical capability for recovery—one that is controlled in-house."**
> **David Repond,** CEO, Groupe ARSA

This approach was also informed by David's experience as a board member at another company that had been hit by a cyberattack a year earlier.

**“It pays for itself within two years; after that, the solution continues to protect the business with no significant ongoing costs.”**

**David Repond,**
CEO, Groupe ARSA

# Solution

### A concrete alternative to rising cyber insurance costs

In this context, Groupe ARSA’s IT provider, Tebicom SA, proposed an immutable backup solution based on Scality ARTESCA. For David, several factors quickly made the difference:

- The ability to have a truly immutable backup, shielded from attacks that target the backups themselves.
- A financial model based on a one-time investment, including a 5-year license.
- A price-to-performance ratio deemed particularly attractive given the current cybersecurity market.

The initial investment, in the range of 30,000 Swiss Francs (approx. 32,000 Euros), is viewed as a long-term protection asset. Compared to the cost of cyber insurance, high premiums, deductibles, business interruption losses, delays, and uncertainties, the math is simple.

> **“It pays for itself within two years; after that, the solution continues to protect the business with no significant ongoing costs.”**
> **David Repond,** CEO, Groupe ARSA

### One-day deployment without operational disruption

The operational implementation was designed not to disrupt employees’ daily routines. Specifically:

- An additional server was installed within the existing infrastructure.
- The operation took place during the day without system interruption, and the final activation was performed outside working hours.
- No change in workflow was required from the teams: “It is so transparent that internally, since I am the IT lead, no one other than management knew we did it until it was complete,” notes David Repond.

No significant obstacles were encountered following the investment decision. The promise of a simple, fast, and smooth installation was kept, reinforcing management’s confidence in the choice, from both a technical and financial perspective.

"This philosophy of anticipating rather than reacting is part of a broader strategy to modernize IT infrastructure: renewing storage hardware, a second backup site, and eventually, complementary event detection projects. The Scality ARTESCA immutable backup is currently one of its key pillars."

**David Repond,**
CEO, Groupe ARSA

ARTESCA

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# Results

### An immutable backup to "sleep better"

Since going into production, the system has been running in the background without requiring daily intervention.

Every morning, David receives a confirmation email certifying that the immutable backup was successfully completed. This minimal ritual is enough to reassure the company that, should a serious incident occur, a clean and usable copy of the data would be quickly available.

For now, no full crash test has been conducted, and Groupe ARSA hopes to never experience a real attack scenario. However, the operational guarantee of a 24-hour restoration, established with the service provider, constitutes a major asset: the company knows it can tolerate 24 to 48 hours of IT downtime, but not the permanent loss or massive corruption of its data.

"It allows us to sleep a little better," says David. Behind this simple phrase, the entire issue of business continuity, client trust, and risk management is addressed.

### Prevention rather than reaction: Clear advice for hesitant companies

When asked what message he would share with a company that is still hesitant, David leaves no room for doubt.

> **"Do it; it costs less in time and money than insurance!"**
> **explains David Repond,** CEO, Groupe ARSA

His argument is twofold:

- **Economic:** For a controlled entry cost amortized over a short period, Groupe ARSA benefits from a robust solution without recurring charges comparable to those of cyber insurance policies.
- **Operational:** Insurance covers costs, but it does not restore systems or data. Immutable backup, on the other hand, acts directly on recovery capability.