

# «Nothing is more powerful than an idea whose time has come.»

Victor Hugo, French author, 1802–1885

It all started with one simple idea: website storage that anyone can afford. Back then, in 2001, this idea was revolutionary. The internet had yet to become a mass medium and publishing a website meant leasing an expensive server and laboriously transferring your data. For most people, this complex process was often very time-consuming and expensive. Sandro Bertschinger, Markus Gebert and Claudius Röllin founded Hostpoint because they wanted to change this. They leased storage space for websites and developed user-friendly server software to manage the pages. From the very start, they were committed to using dependable technology and offering their customers expert advice. The idea was well received: after just one year, Hostpoint was managing over 1,000 websites and had hired its very first employees.

## **From 0 to one million domains**

We've stayed true to our original idea to the present day, with great success! As an incorporated company since 2005, Hostpoint today is the largest web hosting provider and leading domain registrar in Switzerland. Software development, advice, support and administration are also fully based in Switzerland. With over 100 employees, we look after more than one million domain names and well over 300,000 websites at our location in Rapperswil-Jona SG.

Our customers include large, well-known companies. But Hostpoint's core business has been small and medium-sized companies and private individuals since its foundation in 2001. Most of all, these customers appreciate a level of support that is unparalleled in the industry along with comprehensive advice in four languages (German, French, Italian and English) – all-inclusive and with all products. The support team is available 365 days a year to assist our customers.

## **What Hostpoint stands for**

Hostpoint offers simple solutions from a single source for e-mail, websites, online stores and domain names. Customers need only a single login to access the Control Panel where they can manage their domain names, web servers, e-mail accounts, databases and applications.

Our state-of-the-art and reliable infrastructure guarantees that our services run securely and stably. Year after year, we invest millions in maintaining and expanding the infrastructure and continuously developing our server software. We back up all data multiple times each day to two independent and identical systems in separate fire protection zones. The servers are located in the FINMA-certified Interxion data center in Glattbrugg. All data is stored exclusively in Switzerland, and support, development and administration also operate entirely in Switzerland.

In addition to our industry-leading support, stable infrastructure and unmistakable "Swissness", we place emphasis on powerful and user-friendly applications. For example, our "Sites" website toolbox makes it possible for people without technical know-how to design and go live with a professional website in just a few minutes – all without reading a manual.

## Milestones

- 2001** Sandro Bertschinger, Markus Gebert and Claudius Röllin found Hostpoint GmbH in Rapperswil-Jona.
- 2004** Hostpoint launches its “web-o-mat” CMS.
- 2005** Hostpoint becomes a global domain registrar.
- 2007** Introduction of our proprietary server software.
- 2007** Hostpoint acquires all private customers of Sunrise.
- 2011** Hostpoint launches the website builder “Sites” and the e-commerce solution “Webshop”.
- 2013** Hostpoint becomes an ICANN-accredited registrar.
- 2015** Registration of .swiss domain names begins.
- 2015** Hostpoint acquires a large proportion of former SWITCH customers.
- 2015** Hostpoint becomes the first Swiss provider to offer free SSL certificates.
- 2017** Markus Gebert and Claudius Röllin acquire the shares of co-founder Sandro Bertschinger. Hostpoint therefore remains 100% owner operated.
- 2019** Hostpoint launches “Managed Flex Server”.
- 2020** During the pandemic, Hostpoint launched the free videoconferencing solution “Hostpoint Meet”.
- 2021** Hostpoint celebrates its 20th anniversary.
- 2022** Hostpoint reaches milestone: more than 1 million managed domains.
- 2023** Hostpoint launches the “E-mail & Cloud Office” offering and generates more than CHF 30 million in sales for the first time.

## The evolution of Hostpoint through the years

Engineering, technology and customer requirements have changed dramatically since 2001. Our dream of web hosting for everyone is now much more powerful and convenient than it was when we started. Advice and support have become more important in the past two decades and now form one of the main pillars of our busi-

ness. More than half of all Hostpoint employees are now involved in supporting the individual needs of our customers. Advice and support are available in four languages, 365 days a year, and are an all-inclusive service offered with all our products. All customers receive the advice or support they need to be able to take full advantage of the potential of their projects.

A high-quality and stable infrastructure is needed to deliver services with guaranteed security and reliability. Hostpoint itself controls the development, operation and maintenance of these services and invests millions in infrastructure every year.

Features such as multiple daily backups, DDoS protection for the entire infrastructure and DNSSEC for domains meet the highest security standards. Maximum speed is ensured by our use of the latest generation of highspeed brand-name servers that are always up to date and equipped with high-performance CPUs and plenty of RAM. A fast all-flash storage solution for databases and a new storage cluster with SSD acceleration result in even more speed, thus reducing website load times.

For over two decades, we’ve relied on powerful and user-friendly software. One example is the web-based Hostpoint Control Panel that allows our customers to manage their services themselves. By continuing to develop its original simple idea, Hostpoint was able to report a turnover of CHF 32 million in 2022.

### Looking for further information?

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