KiKxxl is a German communications company with over one–thousand service center workstations for out–bound and in–bound calling, and back office services. A failure of their IT infrastructure can cost them about € 20,000 per hour, plus it can have negative affect on their reputation.

Challenges
KiKxxl had been using MySQL with the InnoDB storage engine for their databases, with a master / slave configuration. Delays in the asynchronous master / slave replication, hardware failures that had to be serviced, as well as the switch from the master to a slave proved problematic and could prevent safe operations. Consequently, they sought to implement a highly available and scalable database configuration. Through the use of load balancers, the load was to be distributed evenly to all servers.

Solution
KiKxxl evaluated Galera Cluster since it allows for continued use of InnoDB tables and offers a master / master cluster in which all participating servers are equal and active. In case of a hardware failure or some other problem, the load is automatically redistributed among the remaining servers.

Galera Cluster for MySQL provides high failure protection, availability of more than 99.99% for excellent scalability supported by multiple computers. It’s the best utilization of server resources. Additionally, it’s available under the open–source GPL license v2. So it’s free. Codership partner FromDual provided the relevant professional services and helped with the implementation of a highly available application.

Compared to other, similar solutions, the implementation of Galera Cluster proved to be simple and easy. The first tests were carried out in a virtual environment with Virtual Box. After a successful setup and testing period, the new environment could simply be deployed on the physical hardware.

Although the KiKxxl staff has plenty of MySQL database expertise, they still looked for professional guidance from MySQL Galera specialists. They decided to hire FromDual GmbH, a Codership – Galera Cluster partner, to assist them in their migration to MySQL Galera Cluster.

FromDual’s staff has outstanding knowledge of the MySQL
database and Galera Cluster. They have assisted over one-
hundred companies in Central Europe with similar needs. FromDual provides customers with a service contract that
guarantees support should any problems arise. In addition,
the support for Galera Cluster is backed by a contractual
guarantee provided by Codership.

### Results

The advantages of Galera Cluster to KiKxxl are clear and best described by Mr. Alexander Rempening, the database administrator for the project at KiKxxl: “We are very pleased with the deployment and the functionality. The entire cluster is absolutely stable. This is a significant advantage for our customers, because we can now provide our services to them without any interruption.”

Codership Oy provides high availability, no-data-loss and scalable data replication and clustering solutions for open source databases. Codership’s flagship product is Galera Cluster™ for MySQL, a True Multimaster Cluster based on synchronous replication. Galera Cluster is an easy-to-use, high-availability solution which provides high system uptime, no data loss and scalability for future growth. For more information about Galera Cluster, please contact info@galeracluster.com