Overview
Stichting Epilepsie Instellingen Nederland (SEIN) provides specialized care, education and residential support for people who suffer from epilepsy or seizures. SEIN runs clinics and residences that house up to 535 patients and offers outpatient services for approximately 11,000 people each year. It is also an internationally renowned research center that works with universities, hospitals and scientific institutions to advance medical knowledge in the fields of epilepsy, seizures and sleep.

Challenge
To support both research and patient care, SEIN needs to be able to share and exchange information securely to collaborate with other institutions both within the Netherlands and internationally.

“We are the focal point of everything that has to do with epilepsy in the Netherlands, so our employees are constantly in contact with each other, with various hospitals and clinics, and also with research institutions,” said Jean Willem Barzilay, CEO and Chairman of the Board of Directors at SEIN.

“To retrieve patient information or to exchange research data, our staff needs an IT landscape that facilitates data exchange.”

However, the foundation’s existing IT systems were mostly siloed or only connected to each other via simple point-to-point interfaces that were complex and expensive to maintain. This made it difficult to exchange information efficiently and securely with other institutions—and even within SEIN itself.

“It is obvious that this way of working is not efficient,” said Barzilay. “Since everyone has their own information storage, it is difficult to reuse data or work together on certain documents.”

Solution
SEIN’s IT steering committee defined a roadmap to improve the organisation’s ability to integrate systems and share data securely while maintaining compliance with regulations.

“We now exchange data in a clear way with a single methodology and standardized integration based on open source software. This naturally entails cost reduction because expensive, proprietary software is no longer necessary.”

JEAN WILLEM BARZILAY
CEO and Chairman of the Board
SEIN

SEIN at a Glance:
Stichting Epilepsie Instellingen Nederland is the foundation responsible for the Netherlands’ epilepsy institutes. It conducts research and provides specialized care and treatment as well as education and support for epilepsy sufferers.

Industry and Location
Healthcare, the Netherlands

Products and Services
SUSE Linux Enterprise Server

Results
+ Reduced time taken to exchange data between organisations and information systems by 60 percent
+ Enabled secure sharing of patient and medical data between SEIN and other healthcare institutions
+ Eliminated inaccessible data silos, enabling easier information sharing
+ Provided a reliable and flexible platform to support a service-oriented architecture
“The solution provides us with a centralized platform for exchanging data by integrating previously disparate information storage systems. From day one we have benefited from the user-friendly solutions of WSO2 and SUSE.”

JEAN WILLEM BARZILAY
CEO and Chairman of the Board
SEIN

Results
The new solution has significantly accelerated information access: SEIN can exchange data between organisations and information systems in less than 60 percent of the original time and budget.

“The combination of WSO2 and SUSE provides us with benefits in terms of technology, information and costs,” said Barzilay. “We now exchange data in a clear way, with a single methodology and standardized integration based on open source software. This naturally entails cost reduction because expensive, proprietary software is no longer necessary.”

As a platform for WSO2 Carbon, SUSE Linux Enterprise Server provides an enterprise-grade operating system that supports SEIN’s mission-critical integration architecture in a highly secure environment—which is especially important for the kind of sensitive personal information that SEIN manages.

Since WSO2 and SUSE have worked closely together to test and certify the joint solution on many hardware platforms, SEIN can be confident that the combination of software and hardware will be highly robust.

If the organisation encounters any challenges, it can count on 24/7 support from Yenlo backed by the expertise of WSO2 and SUSE—providing a single point of contact for rapid resolution of all issues.

SEIN is already considering extending the solution by deploying further modules, such as WSO2 Identity & Access Management (IAM) and IT Governance (GOV) modules.