

## **Press release N° 33/2021**

A fire that started around 00:00 on Wednesday, March 10, destroyed the whole of one of the four units of the server center that OVH maintains in Strasbourg, France. There are Portuguese companies affected by the incident.

Two days after OVH (a company that provides data storage services) started the capital dispersion on the Stock Exchange, a large fire destroyed the entire of one of its data centers.

The causes of the fire that broke out shortly after midnight on Wednesday at the unit located in Strasbourg, a city close to the French-German border, which is also known to host the European Parliament, are unknown. There is a second data center in the same complex that was partially destroyed by the flames.

The storage and processing services provided, remotely and in the logic of cloud computing, over the Internet, are suspended. This could have an effect on different OVH customers scattered across the old continent.

According to Reuters, the fire has already forced the French government, the Pompidou Center, which is famous for its art collections and exhibitions, and the cryptocurrency company Deribit to trigger contingency plans, using data storage and processing systems. alternatives.

From France, there is also confirmation that several sites and even data repositories were inoperative due to the fire, which was fought by about a hundred firefighters.

The inoperability of the French brand's data centers also had an effect in Portugal.

There is at least one company that provides data hosting services and websites that have already informed the respective customers of other companies about the fact that the fire implied a suspension of service and the use of alternative servers, confirmed the Express, with a company from Porto. It is not surprising that other national companies were affected by the incident.

Octave Klaba, founder and leader of OVH, reported on Twitter that the server center's SBG2 unit was completely destroyed. The unit known as the SBG1 denomination was also partially affected. However, the aftermath of the incident also affects two more units that make up the large cluster of OVH servers.

“We don't have access to the site. And that is why the [server enclosures] SBG1, SBG3, SBG4 cannot be reactivated today”, Octave Klaba said on Twitter.

On the Internet, the first rumors appear that the data housed in the unit totally destroyed by the fire run the risk of having been irretrievably lost. OVH has not yet commented on this eventuality.

OVH is a company specialized in data centers that sell storage and processing capacity to geographically dispersed customers, over the Internet. The company competes directly with Amazon and Google and currently has more than 30 data centers scattered across the globe.

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