Thorsten Butz

Training, consultancy, automation

Thorsten Butz is a longtime consultant, speaker and author. He began his career in the late 1990s as a network specialist and Unix enthusiast at Deutscher Provider Network. Since Windows 2000, he has been closely involved with Microsoft's server technologies, with a particular focus on Active Directory, migration and operational security. His keen passion for scripting led him early on to the current focus of his work: **PowerShell**.

Thorsten Butz has been working as a freelance trainer and consultant since 2004 and combines technical knowledge with methodological skills in a unique way. Thanks to his many years' experience as a speaker and consultant (including for Microsoft's Consulting Services), his more than 25 years as a Microsoft Certified Trainer (MCT), his role as Regional Lead and his involvement as a speaker at conferences, he is one of Germany's leading experts on automation and interoperability.

Thorsten Butz completed a university degree in mathematics and German. He moved into the IT sector full-time in 1999. Through several years' work at a nationwide IT services company, his focus gradually shifted towards Windows Server technologies. Between 2002 and 2004, he headed the professional development division for two years. Thorsten Butz is the author of O'Reilly's book series "PowerShell – kurz & gut".
He writes regularly for the specialist magazine "IT Administrator", published in Munich.

Focus areas

- Training, workshops and lectures on Microsoft server technologies; design of bespoke training programmes
- PowerShell-Scripting
- Active Directory: design, implementation and migration
- System administration: Windows, Linux
- Netzwerktechnik: IPv4/IPv6
- Interoperability

Certifications

Thorsten Butz has continuously held the title of "Microsoft Certified Trainer (MCT)" since 2000. He has also obtained numerous IT Pro certifications, including "Microsoft Certified Solutions Expert (MCSE): Cloud Platform and Infrastructure" and "Microsoft Certified IT Professional (MCITP): Enterprise Administrator". He is also certified as an "LPIC-2 Administrator" by the "Linux Professional Institute".

Conferences, talks, podcasts

- Co-host of PSConf.EU, the world's largest conference dedicated to PowerShell — a speaker since its inception
- Keynote speaker at Geekmania (Switzerland), a regular speaker at CIM Lingen
- MCT Summits: Sarajevo 2026, The Hague 2024, Thessaloniki 2017, Cologne 2016, Lisbon 2015, Bukarest 2014
- User Groups: VCNRW Köln, PSUG Hannover, Dutch PowerShell User Group and more
- Host of the podcast "Sliding Windows" featuring Jeffrey Snover, Bruce Payette, Steve Lee, Sami Laiho, Tobias Weltner and many other guests

The content of the presentations can be viewed at butz.io; in many cases, videos, slides and code examples are available:

- https://butz.io/video

Projects (Examples)

Tätigkeit	Branche	Technologien
02/2026 Consultancy, Training	Energy supplier	Automation in the KRITIS environment: consultancy and training for IT staff
10/2025 Concept development, training	IT, Publishing	Automation using the Microsoft Graph API: Design and training
07-08/2025 Concept development, pilot training	Industry	Development of a seminar on Azure/M365 as part of the IT Specialist training programme
07/2024 Consultancy, Workshop	Security services	Hardening and automation of critical infrastructure
04/2025 Conference	Publishing	Automation of Microsoft's cloud services, with a focus on Microsoft 365
02/2023 to present Consultancy, migration	Public sector, regional government	Active Directory Hardening: Design, penetration testing and development of a migration plan to harden the nationwide intranet; staff training
07/2022 to present Concept development, training	Bank	A Europe-wide training programme on advanced scripting and automation techniques in networks subject to stringent regulatory security requirements
06-12/2022 Concept development	Public sector, local authority	Further training for in-house IT specialists on topics relating to advanced automation
05/2022 bis heute Organisation	Community	Co-organiser of the PowerShell Conference EU
02-07/2022 Consultancy, Development	Public service, regional government	Advice on the migration and hardening of core services for security authorities
12/2020-06/2021 Consultancy	Chemical industry	Supporting the migration of a global Windows 7-based client infrastructure to a "Modern Workplace" environment based on Windows 10, SCCM, Intune and Azure
08-10/2020 Concept development, teaching	Industrie	Design and delivery of a series of training courses for IT specialists on automated system administration
05/2020 Recruitment consultancy	Charities	Advice and support on recruitment, hiring an IT manager