



Financial



85% of the top European banks and 60% of the top investment banks worldwide choose Cyclades

Cyclades Technology Creates Value for Financial Sector

OVERVIEW

For enterprises in the financial services sector, data center management is evolving to encompass a growing number of diverse IT assets and computing environments across multiple locations. Also, budget limitations are demanding consolidation and more efficient use of IT personnel while maintaining stringent security practices.

That's why major global financial services enterprises use Cyclades Out-of-Band Infrastructure (OOBI). OOBI creates a secure alternative path to remotely access and restore disconnected IT assets – such as routers, switches and servers – increasing network uptime and reducing operational costs.

SOLUTION

Global Investment Bank Heightens Security with Cyclades

When a global investment bank with a cost reduction mandate replaced private leased lines with Virtual Private Networks (VPNs) in branch offices throughout the world, they turned to Cyclades for secure remote access and administration of IT assets.

By implementing a VPN solution with security-focused design and products, including Cyclades AlterPath™ Advanced Console Servers and AlterPath™ Manager with enhanced security features, the bank developed a powerful communications platform using the Internet.

Cyclades products have multiple layers of security designed into them including server-based authentication, port specific authorisation and full audit trails. But the business-critical nature of the data required more. Cyclades developed additional security features based on automated connection using single-use passwords as part of the complete solution.

Global Information Company Simplifies and Saves through OOBI Standardization

Each business day thousands of financial markets professionals around the world depend on a global information company to deliver the data and tools needed to do their jobs. Cyclades Out-of-Band Infrastructure (OOBI) supports the uninterrupted flow of information over much of the company's highly-distributed network.

Several dozen of the company's data and technical centers were becoming more complex regarding the types and number of devices being deployed, especially across multiple locations. Consequently, the company wanted to standardize its IT infrastructure management.

RESULTS

- Reduce operational costs and business risks
- Increase IT availability
- Improve IT personnel and IT asset productivity



"An out-of-band IT management infrastructure significantly reduces the need for physical presence in the data center and remote site visits when an IT asset drops out of the production network. It is a key IT infrastructure management technology to increase operational efficiency, cut costs and boost IT asset and personnel productivity."

Glenn O'Donnell
Analyst
META Group

"This collection of skills is in short supply in the European IT labour market, resulting in ever-increasing people costs. To overcome this, IT organisations should invest in resource management tools that help double server sys admin ratios, as well as double storage administration, utilisation, etc. Investing in these tools increases admin efficiency and will enable a controlled expansion of measured IT infrastructure. Our research indicates that any investment needed in these tools/skill sets pays back within 12-18 months."

Philip Dawson
Analyst
META Group

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Global Information Company Simplifies and Saves through OOBI Standardization (continued)

By using Cyclades AlterPath™ Advanced Console Server (ACS) as the OOBI standard, the company reduced the training and spare inventory costs associated with deploying equipment from multiple vendors. In addition, standardization resulted in increased IT personnel productivity because of simplified IT infrastructure management. Most important, it allowed the integration of OOBI technology under the existing security model, eliminating the vulnerability associated with the failure of a weak component.

Large Financial Institution "Banks" on Cyclades to Manage More with Less

A large retail bank processes more than 3 billion electronic transactions a year thanks, in part, to a worldwide state-of-the-art network. When it needed to upgrade its Out-of-Band Infrastructure (OOBI) at its data centers it chose Cyclades console servers. The technology easily integrated into diverse IT infrastructure without disrupting operations and provides remote access and management capabilities without sacrificing information security – the bank's two primary requirements.

After testing a number of products, it deployed Cyclades console servers because of the hardware's price-performance ratio, secure remote administration features and Open Source (Linux) platform. Also the bank's IT personnel, many with UNIX experience, would not require much training to configure and administer the Linux-based console servers because the two Operating Systems share similarities.

Most important, the bank can continue to grow its business and evolve its IT infrastructure without significantly increasing its IT staff.

ABOUT CYCLADES

Cyclades solutions are used by data centers and branch offices to create a secure alternative (Out-of-Band) path to remotely detect and correct infrastructure problems, reducing business risks and costs while maximizing service availability and operational efficiency. Cyclades AlterPath™ family of solutions – including console servers, KVM, power control and system management products – complements traditional network management for total control and operational consolidation of the infrastructure. More than 8,000 companies depend on Cyclades' technology to automate maintenance, incident detection and recovery activities at large installations of centralized and/or distributed networks. Founded in 1991 and headquartered in Fremont, Calif., Cyclades has 16 offices worldwide and can be reached at www.cyclades.com