

Global Investment Bank Consolidates Data Centers and Strengthens Perimeter Security for Big Savings

Summary

Company:

Global Investment Bank

Industry:

Financial Services

Business Challenges:

- Reduce cost by consolidating seven data centers into two
- Protect against rising volumes and sophistication of attacks

Technology Solution:

- SRX Series Services Gateways
- MX Series 3D Universal Edge Routers
- EX Series Ethernet Switches
- Junos Space Network Management Platform
- Professional Services
- Juniper Care Plus
- Resident Engineer
- Security Director

Business Results:

- Achieved performance at scale for perimeter and DMZ security services
- Reduced number of firewalls by 90%
- Significantly reduced OpEx
- Automated and simplified security operations

This leading global financial services firm provides a wide range of investment banking, securities, investment management, and wealth management services. It has offices in countries around the world and serves corporations, governments, and institutions as well as individual investors.

Business Challenge

The global financial crisis, coupled with stronger regulatory oversight, has profoundly changed the financial services industry. To drive consistent and sustainable profitability in this new world order, this highly regarded financial services firm has focused on balancing its investment banking and institutional sales and trading with its wealth management and investment management, as these businesses are complementary with the rising and falling markets. The firm has been able to drive greater profitability in a more volatile market environment by carefully balancing its strategies for revenue growth and expense management.

Cost control may be paramount, but revenue growth depends on an IT infrastructure that is intelligent, agile, and cloud-ready in order to adapt readily to changing market conditions. To lower costs, the firm embarked on a project to consolidate its North American data centers.

At the same time, the financial services industry has long been a favorite target of cybercriminals, and like all firms, this bank has to keep pace with the exploding volume and sophistication of cyberattacks. As the firm consolidated its data centers, it wanted to migrate its firewall perimeter and DMZ to a next-generation solution that would provide adaptive, intelligent protection to actively defend against the growing threat landscape, while also lowering the cost of security operations.

Through highly intelligent and scalable protection delivered through the SRX Series platform, the investment bank is eliminating hundreds of firewalls as it consolidates data centers, resulting in stronger perimeter security from advanced threats, at a significantly lower cost.

Technology Solution

The global investment bank chose Juniper Networks® SRX Series Services Gateways for its next-generation firewall perimeter and DMZ in its North American data centers. The SRX Series provides high-performance firewall, Network Address Translation (NAT), and VPN services—with high availability and resiliency built in. The bank deployed SRX5800 Services Gateway platforms in the data centers, SRX5400 platforms at the enterprise edge, and SRX550 platforms in its branch locations. In addition, the bank uses a broad portfolio of Juniper routing and switching solutions, including Juniper Networks MX Series 3D Universal Edge Routers for data center aggregation, data center interconnect and Internet connectivity, as well as EX Series Ethernet Switches for order routing applications.

Performance at scale for the data center perimeter and DMZ was critical, as the data centers support the bank's array of enterprise, administrative, and financial applications, including market data and order routing. One key differentiator was the SRX Series' ability to secure microburst traffic at line rate without dropping traffic, which is essential for low-latency trading applications.

With the SRX Series, the firm was able to deploy consolidated routing and security at the perimeter, which has driven greater efficiencies. The SRX Series supports a broad set of routing protocols and, in particular, the firm needed to support a large number of BGP sessions at wire speed to support key market applications.

The IT team worked with Juniper Professional Services to migrate its security policies from individual firewalls into the newly consolidated security architecture. Professional Services also played a key role in developing and running rigorous proof-of-concept and performance testing to ensure a smooth migration to the next-generation security infrastructure.

The bank uses Juniper Networks Junos® Space Network Management Platform to simplify and automate the management of its Juniper infrastructure. With Junos Space Security Director, the IT team can manage security policies through a centralized web-based interface and enforce those policies across the enterprise and across all phases of the security policy life cycle.

Automation is playing a growing role in making security operations more efficient and lowering costs as well. For example, the bank

worked with Juniper to create automated scripts that identify any packet drops across the infrastructure for use with critical market applications. This gives the network team greater visibility into network traffic and provides IT accountability and transparency for the business.

Migrating to a next-generation security platform puts the investment bank on a clear path to greater application intelligence and visibility.

Business Results

With advanced, adaptive threat intelligence afforded by the SRX Series platform, the investment bank is eliminating hundreds of firewalls as it consolidates data centers, resulting in stronger perimeter security to protect against the rising tide of threats and at a significantly lower cost. With far fewer firewalls to deploy and manage, the firm has significantly lowered both CapEx and OpEx.

Migrating to a next-generation security platform puts the investment bank on a clear path to greater application intelligence and visibility. With the SRX Series, the firm can easily turn on application security protections to identify and control application usage and enforce application-specific security policies as well as intrusion prevention to protect against exploit attacks aimed at vulnerabilities in the infrastructure.

Next Steps

Based on the success of the data center consolidation in North America, the bank is evaluating the consolidation of data centers and associated security services in Europe and Asia.

For More Information

To find out more about Juniper Networks products and solutions, please visit www.juniper.net.

About Juniper Networks

Juniper Networks is in the business of network innovation. From devices to data centers, from consumers to cloud providers, Juniper Networks delivers the software, silicon and systems that transform the experience and economics of networking. The company serves customers and partners worldwide. Additional information can be found at www.juniper.net.

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