



## Hitachi Storage Solutions at Work

### BRE Bank SA

#### Industry

Banking and Finance

#### Solution

**Hardware:** Hitachi TagmaStore® Adaptable Modular Storage model AMS500

**Software:** Hitachi Resource Manager™ utility package and Hitachi TrueCopy™ Remote Replication, ShadowImage™ In-System Replication, Copy-on-Write Snapshot, and HiCommand® Dynamic Link Manager software

#### About choosing Hitachi Data Systems:

“Besides price and the costs of future expansion as well as the cost of warranty service, we also took into consideration the conditions of service and quality, highly effective collaboration in the area of technical support.”

—Tomasz Kowalczyk  
Vice President of Information Technology  
BRE Bank SA



**BRE BANK SA**



## BRE Bank Chooses an Application Optimized Storage™ Solution for Storage Consolidation

BRE Bank SA is one of the most important financial institutions in Poland with respect to its capitalization, range of activity, pace of growth, variety of products offered, and high level of banking technology.

In conjunction with MultiBank and mBank—a leader in retail banking—BRE Bank is at present offering new banking services for individual clients.

BRE Bank has many times been called “the entrepreneur-friendly bank.” Moreover, four times in its history it has been named “best bank in Poland” (by *Gazeta Bankowa*). In 2001, it became the first bank in Poland to be honored with the most prestigious trade award—the Business Award of the President of Poland. For its excellent use of the possibilities provided by modern technology, BRE Bank was the winner of the 2002 “Leader in Computerization” competition.

### What was the goal of this initiative and what were the requirements that the solution had to satisfy?

The objectives were replacement of dispersed disk storage resources by a single, networked, efficient solution and expansion of disk space for present and future projects of BRE Bank in the context of data storage in open systems. Therefore, the basic requirements were scalability of the solution and simplicity of expansion.

Moreover, the solution had to support the possibility of accomplishing synchronized replication of data between mass storage systems located in two separate centers and copying within network segments dedicated to testing and backup.

While providing the described functionality, the solution also had to be stable and capable of supporting the appropriate level of productivity.

### How did implementation of the project proceed?

In the case of a financial institution offering its services 24/7, a particularly important element is scheduled completion of specific tasks. During implementation, if resources were to be inaccessible to users for any reason, then appropriate advance notice was given, and the interruption of access to resources was kept as short as possible. Thus, a critical element of the implementation was precise planning of the complete process and exact maintenance of the schedule.

The entire process of implementing the solution proceeded according to plan, in accordance with an established and mutually approved schedule. Specific elements of the implementation were divided into stages, which occurred as follows:

- :: Setup and initialization of the network—one week
- :: Training on the system for administrators—one week

- :: Functional tests of the system—one week
- :: Implementation and configuration for production requirements—one week
- :: Migration of data, accomplished exclusively by bank employees with concurrent technical support from Hitachi Data Systems

## What factors supported the choice of the solution from Hitachi Data Systems?

When evaluating a solution, the following elements were taken into consideration:

- :: Price of the proposed solution
- :: Fixed costs of future expansion and guaranteed service
- :: Terms and quality of service, and BRE Bank's prior experience in this area
- :: High qualifications of technical support and very effective cooperation in previous contacts with Hitachi Data Systems
- :: Technical possibilities and the functionality of the solution
- :: Reliability of the solution and the ability to implement expansion in an online environment (without interruption of access to resources)

## What are the main advantages of the implemented solution?

Thanks to this implementation, which employs Hitachi TagmaStore® Adaptable Modular Storage model AMS500, it was possible to consolidate disk space within a single solution for open systems used in BRE Bank. It also simplified the process of planning and purchasing more disk space (see sidebar).

In addition, the process of data replication between primary and backup centers was integrated via Hitachi TrueCopy™ Remote Replication software, and BRE Bank solved the problem of making compact copies of data for testing and backup purposes with Hitachi ShadowImage™ In-System Replication and Hitachi Copy-on-Write Snapshot software. At the same time, system throughput was consistent with assumptions and greater than that offered by the previously used solution.

The new solution was completely integrated with the existing storage infrastructure of BRE Bank, without the necessity of bearing any hidden costs.

### Hitachi Modular Storage for Efficient Data Consolidation

Hitachi TagmaStore® Adaptable Modular Storage model AMS500 is intended for those organizations that seek a highly efficient modular enterprise storage system, characterized by simplicity of service, ability to use centralized equipment, and high capacity in a small-sized unit. Using software for administration and replication, these systems produce excellent solutions for data consolidation requirements. They support optimal use of existing resources as well as limit the total cost ownership.

**"Thanks to this implementation, it was possible to consolidate disk space within a single solution for open systems used in BRE Bank."**

—Tomasz Kowalczyk  
Vice President of Information Technology  
BRE Bank SA



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