Security Bank of Kansas City

QuickView

Organization
> Security Bank of Kansas City

Industry
> Banking

Application
> Bank Records, Financial Reports, Customer Transactions

Solution
> Pegasus Software and a Plasmon UDO™archive solution

ROI
> Quicker retrieval speed and high-capacity media result in extremely low TCO

> Easy removability of UDO media provides low-cost disaster recovery plan

> High-capacity media reduces cost of disaster-recovery site equipment

> Investment protection: roadmapped increases in media capacity will be supported by simple drive changes in existing library

Security Bank of Kansas City is part of a multi-bank holding company located in Wyandotte County, Kansas. To manage its high-volume of bank records, financial reports and customer transactions, Security Bank uses a document imaging system from Jack Henry and Associates called Silhouette — integrated into its core imaging software system.

SECURITY BANK OF KANSAS CITY

The Problem
Although Security Bank has for some time been committed to Silhouette — which uses write once, read many (WORM) optical technology — recently document imaging vendors have tried to persuade Security Bank to switch to hard disk technologies (RAID). Having worked for more than 25 years in the financial industry, Dean Foster, VP of Data Processing for Security Bank, had some questions to ask. He questioned these vendors about archival quality and backup of images placed in RAID systems, as well as about future growth capacity with disk technology. These were questions the RAID vendors were not well-equipped to answer, because the strongest selling point for RAID is usually retrieval speed. The unanswered questions prompted Foster to launch his own in-depth analysis of what he truly needed for his application.

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> **Dean Foster**
> VP of Data Processing
> Security Bank of Kansas City

Considerations
"We decided that the archival quality issue was as important as retrieval speed," states Foster. "We reviewed all of the documents that would be stored in the system and how often they would require retrieval. The Silhouette software allowed us to define, at the document level, how long documents are maintained in cache (disk storage). It also writes ALL documents to archival media on a daily basis, which convinced us to stay with the Silhouette product. We then configured a system that uses both RAID and write once, read many optical technology, with some documents retrieved from RAID and others from optical platters."

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The Solution

When Foster reviewed available WORM optical storage options, he was very excited about a technology available from Plasmon, called UDO™ (Ultra Density Optical) technology. Since the Silhouette software worked with Pegasus InveStore, UDO technology was a supported option within the system that the bank was already using.

Not only was the capacity great with this option, at 30GB per UDO cartridge, but also the growth potential of the technology was impressive: Plasmon UDO media with exponentially greater capacity (60GB, 120GB) would be supported by a simple drive change in the library when the next generation was available. The retrieval speed was noticeably quicker with UDO technology.

"As with other types of write once, read many storage, UDO gives me the confidence that the documents will be there even if there is something wrong with the data stored on RAID," said Foster. The removable aspect of UDO also gave him a clear solution for disaster recovery and contingency planning. "If we are going to put all of our documents in this system, it then becomes a mission-critical application in our recovery process. Our software creates a backup of each platter on a second cartridge daily, which is stored offsite. We put another library at our recovery site in the event of a primary failure."

Because of the high capacity of the UDO media, Security Bank was able to install a much smaller library at the redundant site — one that would make this application immediately available from the backup media during a recovery process — thereby saving the company additional DR costs.

Conclusion

As a result, Security Bank has been able to develop an effective archival solution for long-term storage of its mission-critical data, selecting a Plasmon UDO archive solution over proposed RAID technologies. Meeting the bank's key requirements, Plasmon's compliant storage solution provides Security Bank with an extremely low total cost of ownership (TCO), a high return on investment (ROI), quick access, secure long-term storage and redundant backup for disaster recovery.

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