

# Realizing the benefits of an internal ISP model with centralized storage management

## CUSTOMER PROFILE

*As a leading global provider of integrated financial solutions, this company serves over 12 million customers in 75 countries. It offers a comprehensive range of corporate banking and securities, transaction banking, asset management and private wealth management services.*

## Problem

### **Serving hundreds of data centers with an internal ISP model**

Hundreds of data centers around the globe have been established to help this company retain its position as one of the largest financial institutions in the world. In an effort to optimize asset and cost management of an enormous infrastructure with over 3,000 terabytes of storage, the firm is establishing a central ISP organization that will efficiently provide the data centers with the products and services they need to succeed.

To achieve its objectives, the company needed to find a tool that would enable the IT organization to manage all data centers from a central location, to readily understand what is installed throughout the enterprise and to accurately assess how it is being utilized. In addition, the company determined that the solution must be "passive and non-toxic," must support a full range of devices from all major vendors, and must comply with a rapid global implementation schedule.

## Solution

### **End-to-end visibility of the worldwide storage infrastructure**

Storability Global Storage Manager (GSM) software was the only solution available that could provide this financial institution with a single, end-to-end correlated view into its entire environment, from applications to direct-attached storage, NAS, SAN-attached storage, secondary storage and archive backup systems. With a robust, scalable, highly secure design, Global Storage Manager software can easily support all of the company's data centers and the multitude of devices installed worldwide.

Asset management and utilization are simple with the software's topology mapping functionality. Managers can quickly see logical volumes across all host platforms, utilization inside databases, utilization of raw devices and much more. Administrators can analyze data paths, fan-in and fan-out ratios, connectivity details, and even navigate to a device to launch the appropriate management tool.

Global Storage Manager software also met the requirements for a passive solution that was not host/agent dependent. Unlike other agent technology, Storability's Smart Agents are specifically engineered to generate very low overhead. They do not take action until and unless they are commanded to do so. This pull approach keeps overhead low, and makes it easy to use the deployed agents for multiple applications. Because they're component-based, Smart Agents easily adapt to new standards and new devices without disruption.

## The GSM software advantage

### **Improved asset management, better cost management, and rapid worldwide deployment**

Global Storage Manager software has given this global financial institution much greater control over the tremendously complex storage infrastructure that is so critical to ongoing success. It has also facilitated the move to an internal ISP model, enabling the company to realize significant benefits from greatly improved asset management and cost management. Best of all, the company was able to record these benefits far more quickly than it had originally anticipated. While it is not unusual for major technology roll-outs to take a year or more in an organization this size, the deployment of Global Storage Manager software was completed in less than eight weeks.

### About Storability®

A leading provider of storage management software, Storability is a division of StorageTek® and a vendor-neutral resource for companies seeking to measure and manage their storage like a business. Storability's Global Storage Manager (GSM) software complements StorageTek's robust information lifecycle management (ILM) offerings and allows enterprise organizations to optimize asset utilization, increase management efficiency, enhance quality of service and achieve higher availability.

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