



Scalar Series

Poland's Kredyt Bank Consolidates on Scalar Tape Libraries to Keep Data Safe

Fast growth and rigorous regulations put pressure on Kredyt Bank to find new and better ways to safeguard data. By sticking with trusted technology and upgrading to Quantum's Scalar i6000 functionality, the bank's technology team met the challenge by implementing a strategy that consolidates Kredyt Bank's backup and archiving systems.

FRAGMENTED BACKUP SYSTEM A CAUSE FOR CONCERN

As one of Poland's largest banks, Kredyt Bank is responsible for data from customers all over the country. At one point, each local bank office backed up data on individual tape drives. Eventually, those were upgraded to several small tape libraries connected directly to local servers.

However, the rapid growth in new accounts, an increase in financial services offered by the bank, and the growing popularity of electronic banking led to a tremendous increase in data for Kredyt Bank to manage. At the same time, government regulations were expanding the need for greater data security and longer data retention.

The technology team decided to consolidate Kredyt Bank's tape backup infrastructure by placing an enterprise-class tape library in the main data center and another in the backup data center.

"We realized we could not have many separate systems, with many single tape drives," says Piotr Rochala, manager of Kredyt Bank's Storage and Backup Department. "We decided we needed a professional solution that would allow us to automate our backup process across the company and eliminate the risk of human error."

The bank was also concerned about having a pathway for future growth without having to invest in new technology every time it outgrew its system. In addition, the Storage and Backup Department wanted administrators to be able to retrieve lost data easily.

SCALABILITY AND COMPATIBILITY SET SCALAR LIBRARIES APART

Rochala says initially selecting Scalar® libraries made sense because they worked well with the backup software the bank was already using.

"In this way, we kept compatibility – and the overall value the libraries provided was also very attractive!" he says.

In 2005, Kredyt Bank began with two Scalar tape libraries equipped with four LTO-3 drives and 350 tape slots. The solid performance of the Scalar solution and its easy scalability resulted in a decision to stay with the technology as the bank's needs changed and data amounts grew.

By 2009, the technology team expanded and enhanced the system by adding a module, increasing the slots to 700, and switching to six LTO-4 drives. More recently, the bank upgraded to Scalar i6000 functionality through a firmware update and is considering moving to LTO-5 drives for its added performance and capacity benefits.

"During the years we have had Quantum libraries, we have not had any problems with data recovery." Piotr Rochala says.



"It is a reliable technology – very robust. Quantum is the main pillar of our bank data safety."

Piotr Rochala

Manager of Kredyt Bank's Storage and Backup Department

SOLUTION OVERVIEW

- Two Quantum Scalar i6000 tape libraries with six LTO -4 tape drives and 700 slots each
- EMC NetWorker backup software

KEY BENEFITS

- Consolidates and automates backup throughout the bank
- Enables bank to comply with government regulations and internal requirements
- Eliminates human error in data storage and retrieval
- Provides flexibility for system administrators
- Offers scalability to cope with bank's growth

CASE STUDY

BENEFITS THAT WILL LAST FOR YEARS

With support for partitioning, the Scalar i6000 enables Kredyt Bank to consolidate its libraries and stand alone tape drive. This consolidation allows the bank to simplify its backup and greatly reduce administrative time.

Despite its continued growth, the bank is also comfortable relying on its Scalar tape libraries to protect data and meet government regulations, according to Rochala. The Polish government requires banks to be able to retrieve data for five or 10 years, depending on the type of account – and some data must be archived for 25 years or longer.

“Thanks to Quantum’s tape libraries, we are able to fulfill the requirements of the law as well as our internal bank standards,” he says. “During the years we have had Quantum libraries, we have not had any problems with data recovery.”

Rochala also appreciates the backward compatibility of the technology, which gives him assurance about coping with future growth. With the purchase of LTO-5 drives and tapes under consideration, the bank expects to use the higher capacity to forestall adding more tape slots while using its archived LTO-4 tapes for data recovery on the same drives.

Kredyt Bank is covered by a full maintenance contract, and has found it easy to work with Quantum.

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ABOUT KREDYT BANK

Kredyt Bank is a financial services company that connects innovation with a tradition of solid banking. As one of the top 10 banks in Poland, it serves individual customers and businesses with a full range of highquality products and financial services tailored to each group’s needs.

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