GT Software®

IT banking services provider SDC achieved $16 million in data center cost savings by migrating its core banking system with GT Software's Migration Solution and Fujitsu NetCOBOL

CLIENT
SDC

INDUSTRY
IT Banking Services

HQ
Denmark

CHALLENGE
Current mainframe environment resulted in less agility and performance, with high operations cost

SOLUTION
GT Software's Migration
Fujitsu NetCOBOL (Distributed by GT Software)
GT Software's Neo Suite

Small and medium-sized banks are at a disadvantage to larger banks in terms of available resources - especially regarding their IT departments. As a result, these firms often seek help from outside sources. Founded in 1963, Skandinavisk Data Center, headquartered in Ballerup, Denmark, provides affordable IT services to SMB banks to close this gap by allowing its clients to remain competitive. To maintain its own long-term viability as a vendor, SDC decided it had to migrate its core banking system from an IBM mainframe to the Microsoft® Application Platform.

CHALLENGE
Current mainframe environment resulted in less agility with high operations cost

SDC made the decision that its IT infrastructure required a modern upgrade to support its mission-critical systems moving forward. The IT services provider relied on a delivery and management solution that used Java and software from BEA Systems for 5.8 million accounts at 146 Scandinavian banks. With such a widespread operation in place, SDC was vulnerable to a single outage that could jeopardize its own ability to conduct business, as well as the capabilities of its clients to do the same.

"When we compared all of the possible solutions, we found that the Microsoft® .NET Framework is more open in terms of the programming languages it supports," explains Robert Elgaard, chief technology officer at SDC. *"And by using Fujitsu NetCOBOL for .NET, we could instantly compile 80 percent of our existing mainframe software."*

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> Robert Elgaard,
> Chief Technology Officer

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SOLUTION
The search for key functionality

SDC began designing and testing its solution, which would run parallel with the mainframe until the implementation of the Microsoft .NET Framework would be completed. SDC turned to Microsoft Services to help with the process, working with the provider's consultants to configure the new infrastructure to deliver system availability, reliability and security. Microsoft Services opted for 30 Fujitsu PRIMERGY RX300 S6 server computers to support the transition. This equipment offered a breadth of key functionality, including:

- Microsoft SQL Server data management software to store mission-critical data.
- The Windows Server R2 operating system to provide the software foundation for the core banking system.
- The Microsoft .NET Framework 3.5 to support common development and runtime environment for the entire system.
- Microsoft Host Integration Server to work with the existing enterprise service bus developed with the .NET Framework to direct transaction flows between the new and previous systems.
- Microsoft System Center Operations Manager R2 to provide IT administrators a central console and toolset to manage and monitor server computers.
- Microsoft System Center Configuration Manager R2 to deliver a centralized console to assess, deploy and update software.
- The Microsoft® Visual Studio Team System Team Suite development system to provide an integrated environment with built-in database development tools.
- Fujitsu NetCOBOL for .NET (distributed by GT Software) Enterprise to compile existing mainframe software to run on the .NET Framework.

RESULTS
Business and technical pain points addressed

Microsoft Services and third-party vendors including GT Software and Fujitsu helped SDC achieve a seamless mainframe transition. SDC has seen key improvements in several core areas:

- Annual operating costs have been reduced by $16 million annually
- Maintenance of 99.8 percent availability for a workload of more than 20 million daily transactions
- More than 11.2 million lines of COBOL code now run in .NET, protecting legacy investment
- New and innovative development environment has allowed for growth

The decision to select the Microsoft Application Platform and enlist the help of Microsoft Services was the right choice for SDC in both the short- and long-term. SDC now meets its service level agreements more effectively and delivers more innovative offerings. The company has been in business for more than 50 years and is now positioned to achieve a competitive advantage to gain more customers moving forward.

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Maintenance of **99.8 %** Availability for More Than **20 Million** Daily Transactions

.NET

More Than **11.2 Million** Lines of COBOL Code Now Run in .NET

New Development Environment has Allowed for **Growth**

For over 30 years, GT Software has helped enterprise organizations unify business information across platforms, data formats and programming languages — including the "hard to access" mainframe. More than 2,500 organizations across the globe trust GT Software to help them improve business intelligence, workforce productivity and customer experience.