Increasing Speed and Reducing Costs by Installing an entirely Over the NET - Controlled Data Center with KVM Switches and Management Software

Client: An Binh Bank (ABBANK)  www.abbank.vn

ABBANK is one of the leading commercial joint-stock banks and among the top ten largest commercial banks in terms of charter capital in Vietnam. After more than 17 years of development, since its establishment in 1993, ABBANK has made major breakthroughs over the past years, particularly through its cooperation with giant domestic and foreign corporations including Electricity of Vietnam (EVN) and Maybank, the largest bank in Malaysia. ABBANK currently targets three categories of customers: businesses, individuals and investors.

The Challenge

- Increase access and operations speed
- Facilitate simpler management
- Provide complete remote control capability for all servers and network devices

Equipment Purchase

- KN4132  32-Port KVM Over the NET™
- SN0108  8-Port Serial over the NET™
- CC2000  Control Center over the NET™

Benefits

- An environment facilitating operational ease and speed for two Data Centers including more than 90 servers
- Reduced costs
- Reduced working time of IT staff
- Increased comfort of use
- Ensuring a high security level

The Challenge

Increase the speed of access and operations with both remote control and simpler management. Integrate 90+ servers and network devices in one control environment and reduce time and costs

Currently ABBANK has one old and one new Data Centers installed in different locations. Administrators have to constantly move around within Data Centers to physically be present at each respective server. They also have to travel between Data Centers for maintenance and troubleshooting tasks. To eliminate these problems, ABBANK was searching for a unified solution which is able to provide remote management functionality for all of their servers and network devices. The challenge was to find system components that could integrate several needs for their system management.

The persons concerned at ABBANK looked for a centralized managed solution including remote access and real time management. This solution had to provide a guarantee of both stability and security – absolutely crucial for a bank application. Finally, the architecture of the solution had to offer additional expandability, because ABBANK is a fast growing company with a likewise growing server environment.

Equipment Purchase

Realization of Complete Control of the IT infrastructure by establishing a combined remote solution with IP-based Cat5 KVM Switches, Serial over the NET™ Units and CC2000 Control Software

After analyzing the situation of the IT infrastructure at ABBANK, Mr. Du Xuan Vu, IT Director of ABBANK, decided to install a total remote control solution with KVM and IP solutions. His concerns were focused on increasing speed but also on security and stability – because of the general business sensitivity in the banking sector. Therefore, he intensely checked the available solutions in the market and finally decided to have the ATEN systems installed.

“When we tested the equipment, we quickly realized that the devices worked very stable and extremely smoothly together. ATEN was not only able to provide us with perfectly fitting, technologically-leading devices, but also with a philosophy of seamless integration of the devices. This was very impressive.”, said Du Xuan Vu.

The system provides full redundancy for ensuring permanent, uninterrupted access and management of all installed devices – just in case any of the servers go down. “This security commitment helped us a lot in making our decision in favour of the fully integrated remote solution” the IT director added.

Benefits

Reduced time and effort for IT staff and significantly increased speed of operations – therefore optimized efficiency of the IT and network system with lower costs

After implementing the components of the complete remote control solution, the system and network administrators at ABBANK realized a significant decrease in their work load for maintenance and control of the IT infrastructure. Particularly the need of travelling, just to get access to one server, was reduced to zero – and with that the costs fell down dramatically.
The use of the CC2000 management software in conjunction with the other Over the NET™ products allows IT staff to carry out all of their important controlling, monitoring and management work through a single portal. Wherever administrators are located: the servers are accessible from anywhere in the world. The new solution also increased the speed of their work since it enables far faster response to mission-critical data center emergencies. Lastly – not to forget – with the CC2000 software the administrators eliminated the traditional distance restrictions of their “old style” server room management as practised before.

“We feel now a much higher level of operation speed and comfort of work then before”, said Mr. Du Xuan Vu. “Additionally, we do not miss anything in terms of security – in contrast, we see new safeguard functions implemented with the master-slave architecture and through the built-in redundancy including automated data base backup etc.. So, the data of our bank clients is now safer than ever!”

The combination of the three components – CC2000, SN0108, KN4132 – bring technological synergy at work – with benefit on any level: including ease and comfort of use – and rather importantly uninterrupted sleep of the administrator. Stability is guaranteed with 24x7 reliability through: dual on-board NICs, dual power supplies and out-of-band-access for BIOS troubleshooting when a node in the network is down.

**Prospect**

ABBANKs IT staff and people in charge are highly satisfied with the results of the implementation of the different ATEN products. They praise the seamless functionality and the efficient win of product synergy. The installation went smoothly and rather fast and all of the components are working well together.

“When we decided to implement ATEN products we were also guided a bit by their good brand name and image. We heard about the reliability and efficiency of their technology before”, said Mr. Du Xuan Vu. “But the main reason for the decision was the intelligence of the whole solution with the great advantages for us. And all of these promises came true: we are faster and spend less money now.”

And the story has not ended yet. Because of the fast growth of ABBANK, the IT department is expecting also a fast growth of servers and network devices. Fortunately, the remote control KVM configuration is able to grow with them. Through the internal scalability, the KVM switches and SN control units can be easily expanded as well as the CC2000 software solution.

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---Mr. Du Xuan Vu, IT Director of ABBANK