

Case study

Saikyo Bank reduces power consumption by 80 per cent



HP t410 All-in-One Zero Clients deliver space, cost and energy saving benefits to Japanese regional bank

Industry

Banking

Objective

Overhaul aging thin clients with smaller, more efficient and easier to manage terminals

Approach

Needed rapid roll-out of new solution, with little disruption to banking operations

IT matters

- Made layout changes more flexible since the single power cord of the display-integrated units reduces need for multiple cables
- Eased operational management by using HP Smart Zero Client Services to handle issues remotely, freeing time to focus on primary business

Business matters

- Reduced power consumption by 80 per cent with HP Smart Zero Clients
- Clearer viewing experience with 18.5" widescreen LCD monitors
- Greater workspace, as terminals require less space than previous
- Improved productivity as solution allows users to access their personal desktop from any free terminal, regardless of branch location – and with no impact on security



“Using HP Smart Zero Client Services makes it possible to automatically load settings from the server, avoiding having to individually set up terminals. This was incredibly beneficial during the initial deployment to the banks’ branches. The terminal sets itself up when it connects to the server. This really blew me away.”

– Yoshiki Murakami, deputy representative, Systems Division, Saikyo Bank



Branch network refresh complete in less than one month

Saikyo Bank implemented thin clients 10 years ago - before other banks joined the trend. Overhauling this aging system with HP t410 All-in-One Smart Zero Clients delivered savings in terms of space, energy and management costs. The plug-and-play set-up of 500 terminals helped refresh 63 bank branches in less than one month.



Challenge

A leading regional institutional

Reinvigorating local economies is a critical aspect of reviving the Japanese economy. Saikyo Bank has contributed to local development in the Yamaguchi Prefecture for over 80 years.

“Being in the banking business means coming into contact with a lot of different people and information,” says Shoichi Sugimura, manager of the Systems Division. “We act as a bridge connecting people with other people, and information, and in turn supporting the creation of new business.”

To secure its position as a leading financial institution in the region, Saikyo is aiming for one trillion yen of total deposits held. The information and accounting systems that support its business were due for a major overhaul, including the thin clients that had been in use for over 10 years.

Solution

Fast set up, space-saving design

The Saikyo Systems Division handles everything from design and development to operational management. Its workload continues to increase. The implementation of thin clients 10 years ago was done to improve security and make operational management more efficient.

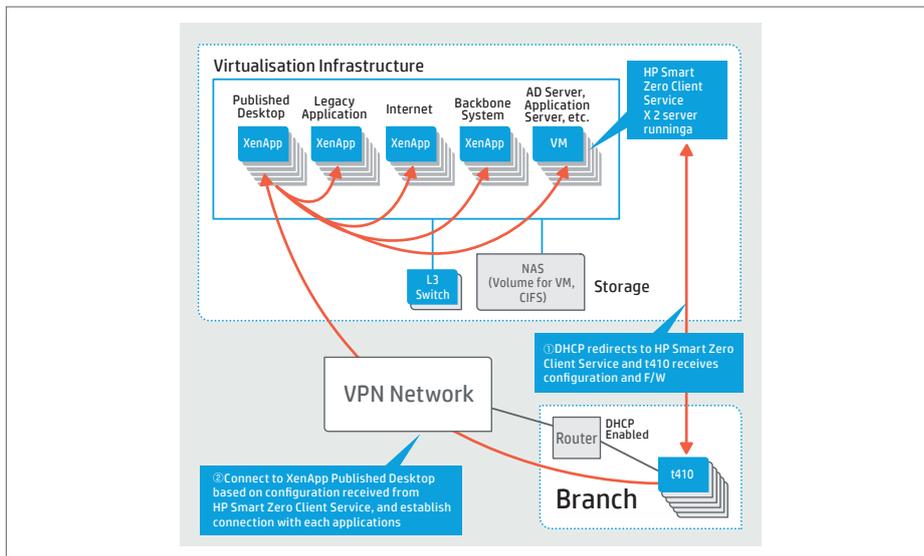
In 2012, in response to the aging thin client system, Saikyo decided to implement Citrix's latest SBC software, Citrix XenApp (previously Citrix MetaFrame, Citrix Presentation Server). This meant that the existing thin client terminals would also be renewed.

Yoshiki Murakami, deputy representative for the Systems Division, says there were four concerns when choosing the terminals: appearance, size, energy consumption, and ease of management.

“Since these were to be deployed in our branch locations, a space-saving design is crucial, but the appearance of the units was also important. We wanted a slick, technologically-advanced look, which is why we focused on display-integrated units,” notes Mr. Murakami. “We also had requests for displays to be larger than the existing 15” monitors.”

Saikyo, with its thin client know-how, chose the display-integrated HP t410 All-in-One Smart Zero Client (t410 AiO) to support its future banking business. Mr. Murakami says the supporting HP Smart Zero Client Services software also influenced the decision.

“Using HP Smart Zero Client Services makes it possible to automatically load settings from the server, avoiding having to individually set up terminals. This was incredibly beneficial during the initial deployment to branches. The terminal sets itself up when it connects to the server. This really blew me away,” says Mr. Murakami. “Set up was complete within 10 minutes.”



It took one person just one month to replace 500 terminals across all 63 branches in the Yamaguchi Prefecture, the Hiroshima area, and the Kyushu area.

“If you wanted to take it to extremes, we could have just shipped them to the branches and had staff complete the setup there, but all the handling of LAN cables requires someone from the Systems Division,” notes Mr. Murakami. “Before implementing the thin clients, it would have taken a six month rotation by a team of three to complete the work.”

The move to the new system required rebuilding the old environment in XenApp and testing the t410 AiO units within that environment, after which the move was officially made to XenApp in May 2013. The ability to continue using business applications that only operated in the old environment avoided further testing and updating.

Benefits

Your personal desktop at any terminal, regardless of location

“Should there happen to be some kind of problem, switching back to the old environment is easy. After restoring the settings, all we have to do is call the branches, have them pull the plug and then plug it back in,” notes Mr. Murakami.

Implementing the t410 AiO units has given Saikyo branches a new look. There are no desks in the back-office area, but rather a long table on which t410 AiO units are lined up. There is a terminal for each employee, where processing is done for the tellers, but terminals are not assigned to any particular person and any free terminal can be used. When a rotating staff member is unavailable to assist a teller, the teller can use his/her own ID to login to and use a terminal for increased efficiency.

“Being able to use your personal desktop on any free terminal - whether at your own branch or another branch or the Tokyo Headquarters - is a huge plus. There’s no need to carry around a laptop, and productivity goes up while security is maintained,” notes Mr. Murakami.

The previous terminals required a power cord for both the client and the monitor, but the single power cord of the t410 AiO avoids any cabling mess. The terminal can be moved easily to any location with a power outlet and a LAN connection, so layout changes are painless.

As for energy-saving, the new terminals require only 20 per cent of the power consumption as compared to previous terminals. Terminal power consumption is no longer a concern when opening new branches or refurbishing existing branches.

Customer solution at a glance

Hardware

- HP t410 All-in-One Smart Zero Clients

The t410 AiO is regarded highly among staff at the branches as well. "Rendering performance is really smooth. Users tell us certain programmes, such as Microsoft® Excel, are easier to use due to the increase from 15" displays to the 18.5" widescreen LCD monitors. Thanks to the space-saving design, there's more workspace even with the larger screen size," says Mr. Murakami.

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"Managing operations is practically hands-off," he continues. "Zero Clients don't have a drive unit, which means that failures are rare, but even if there were a failure it would just mean shipping out a new terminal. We're finally able to focus on our real work at the Systems Division – planning and development."

Going forward, the plan is to replace a further 300 terminals, including those at headquarters, says Shoichi Sugimura. "We're also thinking of using the new system infrastructure to allow access to the internal system via tablet or smartphone.

"The next step will be building a system that allows one-stop access to necessary information using zero clients, whether that information is on the accounting systems, information systems, or the internet. We aim to provide high-value-added services to our customers through the effective utilisation of information."

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