



B & M contributes to data centre consolidation following a major international acquisition in the banking sector

B & M was asked by a major outsource provider to provide key skills for a project to consolidate data centres into a single site following the acquisition of one major bank by another banking group.

The project included identifying all the client data in the acquired bank's data centre and accurately forecasting what hardware would be needed. The project had to be completed without affecting day-to-day running of IT systems.

Project Objectives

- To consolidate data into a UK-based centre following the acquisition of a major bank by an international banking group
- To ensure that the right hardware was provided to enable the consolidation
- To improve management through common vendor hardware platforms
- To ensure that there was no interruption to either bank's day to day business

Project Tasks

- Accurately identifying and sizing data at the acquired bank's site to ensure accurate hardware provisioning and installation at the parent company's data centre
- To assess which data was business-critical so that this could be prioritised
- To consolidate the data onto the minimum number of volumes to ensure smooth transfer to the parent company data centre
- To manage data transfer over a 1Gb transatlantic link using Transparent Data Migration Facility (TDMF)
- To ensure all data was backed up and accessible during the transfer
- To provide support for storage administration during the project.

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B & M Europe

B & M has specialised in delivering skilled ICT specialists to meet the needs of leading organisations throughout Europe since 1992. We focus exclusively on providing consultancy, technical services and support for z/OS, UNIX and Linux enterprise systems, including third-party systems software, open systems and networking connectivity. We add real value for HR and IT professionals by taking the time to understand their needs and applying best practice methods to deliver results.

Duration

The project lasted 6 months.

Results

- Data was successfully consolidated into a single UK-based data centre
- Hardware is now all on a single vendor platform
- Cartridge environments have been migrated from Sun to IBM hardware
- Daily processes have been adapted to improve data storage management
- The project was completed on time and on budget.

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