



Major Bank in the Middle East/Mediterranean Region Chooses Ixia to Help it Meet Challenges of Growth and Fast-Changing Regulations

Leading Global Financial Institutions Are Revamping Data Centers for Regulatory Compliance

As one of the largest financial centers in the entire Middle-East/Mediterranean region, this bank maintains 300 branches and 10,000 employees. Keeping current with government-driven standards and rising technology demands has spurred the building of a new, state-of-the-art data center facility featuring 40GbE technology, plus an expanded visibility architecture leveraging Ixia Net Optics and NTO solutions.

The bank's needs included advanced technology, security, and a future path. Construction of the new \$100M data center began this year with the design of the facility itself and included air conditioning, power, and associated resources. The bank is also investing nearly \$10M in the networking portion of the project, to include the latest Cisco Nexus switches..

Meeting the Bank's Need to Monitor Multiple Environments

The target deployment features three separate elements: a data center network, a DMZ infrastructure for external bank application resources, and an Internet network for local users with Ixia monitoring all three environments.. On the security side, this bank is deploying new fraud-detection technology to record financial transactions

Overall, the initiative includes increased focus on redundancy and availability with new monitoring tools used to mitigate

issues and prevent network failures. Visibility investments include monitoring and analysis solutions from a well-known family of products and advanced cyber forensic tools.

The bank's knowledgeable IT team also elected to deploy Network Packet Broker (NPB) technology to glue the system together. Although they initially chose an Ixia competitor, the bank team remained highly interested in Ixia's advantages and resources. They maintained their engagement with Ixia's representatives as Ixia expanded its offices and operations in the Middle East/Mediterranean region.

Ixia's Solution Surpassed Competitors in Key Areas

While local presence was crucial, the Ixia solution offered several critical capabilities that convinced the bank team to finally choose Ixia. These include:

- **Packet slicing capabilities**, which enable only relevant information to be forwarded to select monitoring tools while protecting sensitive transaction data in order to align with security compliance mandates.
- **Support for 40GbE**—the only single-source solution able to provide crucial support. No other company could offer a 40GbE multi-mode tap solution along with a chassis-based approach.
- **High port density** of the versatile Ixia NTO 7300. As the heart of this robust solution, the 7300 provides end-to-end network visibility across both physical and virtual networks.
- **Dynamic Filtering**: Ixia is the only company that provides automation, SDDC, and multi user-friendly filtering, which automatically computes filter overlaps in real time without manual filter creation

Company

A leading regional bank with 300 branches faced changing regulations, plus the need for comprehensive visibility to monitor multiple environments, in its new \$100 million data center with enhanced security technology.

Market

Worldwide, financial institutions, service providers and enterprises are upgrading to 40GbE, implementing new security strategies, and dealing with new regulations. They need reliability, scalability and intelligence for their enhanced monitoring needs?

Key Issues

The bank needed a high-performance visibility architecture and NPB capabilities to seamlessly knit together, aggregate, filter, load balance and monitor a 40GbE network, a DMZ infrastructure for external applications, and an internet for local users.

Results

Ixia's solution allows the bank to monitor and safeguard critical transaction data in compliance with new security regulations. The 40GbE multi-mode tap solution plus the high port density of the NTO 7300 meet the bank's needs now, with room to grow.

The Bank's 7300 NTO Solution Offers Flexibility, Cost-Efficiency, Scalability, and Performance

The NTO 7300 is engineered to provide monitoring and network security for large enterprises, financial institutions and service providers. The architecture of the bank's solution encompasses:

- Two NTO 7300 and four 5288 network packet brokers providing aggregation, filtering, load balancing and other features (DMZ network is similar to above Internet)
- Sixteen xStream 40 devices adding highly cost-efficient aggregation
- 250+ network taps for 1G, 10G, and 40G links
- Additional visibility infrastructure as needed next year as the project unfolds

The Ixia team worked intensively with the bank's IT department to make sure that the solution mapped closely to the bank's specific needs, goals, and challenges, as well as ensuring a future path for its rapidly growing business. This concerted effort reinforced the bank's confidence that Ixia offers the insight, expertise and product spectrum now and moving forward to deliver a scalable solution that can meet the expanding needs of this dynamic financial institution.

Once the bank's CEO made the decision to rely on Ixia networking and visibility solutions for this \$100 million project, the Ixia team went into action. Ixia is teaming up with multiple providers to configure a test-bed simulating the intended production data center. The project is now moving forward with a mandate for completion by the end of 2015.

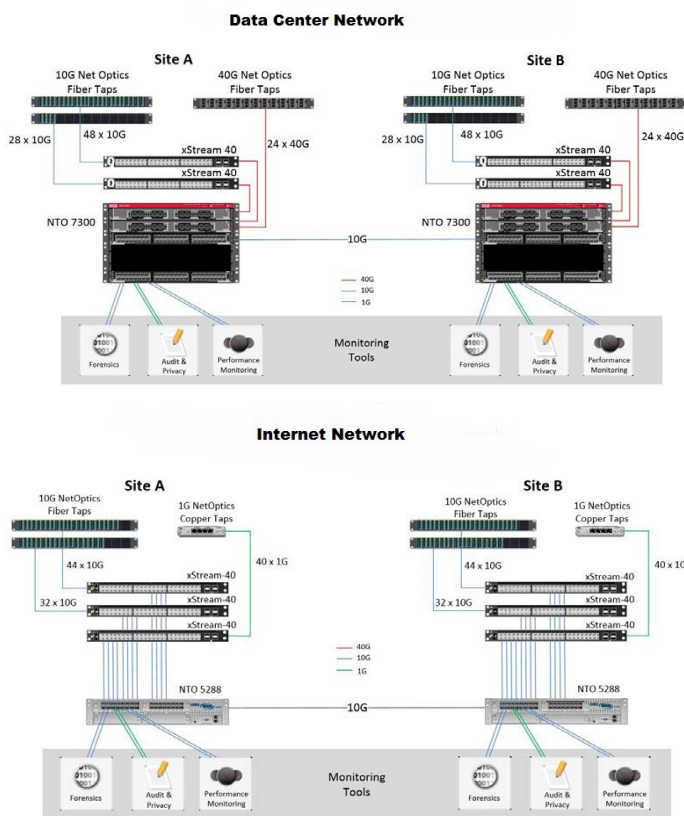
Ixia's Progressive Strategies Position the Bank to Address its Future Needs

In the Middle East/Mediterranean area and worldwide, financial data centers are being overhauled and upgraded. This response to fast-emerging trends gives IT teams an ideal opportunity to get rid of SPAN ports, deploy taps, and add efficient new layers of intelligence to their visibility architectures.

These projects include upgrading to 40G technology that proves more sensitive than existing networks. Upgrades also create a growing need for Network Packet Brokers, which Ixia is able to provide. Many enterprises are implementing new or enhanced security defenses that require enhanced monitoring. Ixia is also ideally positioned to help companies meet this critical need.

Ixia's commitment to follow through and remain closely engaged in implementing this solution means that the bank's IT team can always rely on Ixia to anticipate and meet its needs. The bank's executives including the CEO and CIO, expressed their confidence that Ixia and its partners can deliver.

This solution underscores the reach and depth of Ixia's comprehensive visibility portfolio, with Ixia Net Optics and NTO solutions combining for robust, single-source, end-to-end coverage.



Ixia provides full visibility in a scalable, robust, high-density solution, allowing customers to optimize their monitoring tools for maximum ROI.

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