Rocket software

Scalable Archiving for Data-dependent Banking Operations

Since 1909, Postbank has embodied the security and trust needed from a financial services organization, making it one of the most well-known banking brands throughout Germany. With 18,000 employees, Postbank provides diversified services— including payment transactions, financing, and investments— to approximately 13 million private customers and 300,000 businesses. Based in Bonn, Postbank runs the most extensive branch network of any bank in Germany.

Challenge

Postbank operations involve massive amounts of customer and transaction data –200 terabytes– which must be accessible to 6,000 employees within seconds. In 1998, the bank adopted SAP as its core banking application. For several years after that, Postbank archived the data from SAP and other systems on a legacy platform. However, that platform delivered inadequate throughput and was reaching the end of its life. This was especially problematic because, in addition to running its own operations, Postbank aimed to launch an ancillary business providing archiving services to other financial institutions. To support business growth on all fronts, Postbank needed a scalable archiving solution that delivered security segregation and the ability to integrate with third-party repositories. Because business and regulatory climates are constantly changing, the solution also had to be flexible.

"We identified our crucial requirements," said Gerold Blasig, Project Manager at Postbank's Competence Center Channels, Services & Sales. "First, we needed a solution that could handle the very high volumes of data that must be administered, archived, and researched. So, scalability was paramount. Second, our insourcing business needed to take data in from multiple sources and segregate them in different client systems for secure access rights. Finally, we needed a system that could adapt."

The Challenge
Postbank's current archiving software lacked the speed, flexibility, and scalability necessary to keep pace with evolving client needs and regulatory requirements.

Solution

From a list of several dozen solution vendors, Postbank narrowed the field down to three contenders: the provider of its current system, Rocket Software, and another well-known company. The bank evaluated these vendors' offerings against 150 weighted criteria and reviewed competing presentations. Rocket® Mobius® came out on top. A robust repository with a fully integrated Enterprise Content Management System, Mobius provides granular policy management, flexible content services, and near-infinite horizontal scaling. Postbank's solution includes Mobius Total Content Integrator™, which enables search and access across disparate repositories.

"The selection team's choice of Mobius over competing solutions was unanimous," Blasig said. "Mobius is scalable, reliable, and offers a structured way to accommodate change requests quickly, with high quality. That makes it adaptable to evolving business and IT needs."

Postbank implemented Mobius in 2006, Blasig said, and time has proven that it was the right decision. From the start, Mobius delivered the scalability to integrate data from Deutsche Bank's and other banks' legacy content management systems without costly migrations.

In 2016, the European Union Parliament approved a stringent new GDPR for granular and event-based retention and deletion. With enforcement scheduled to start in May 2018, many enterprises struggled to comply. Postbank moved forward by implementing SAP NetWeaver Information Lifecycle Management (ILM) for rules-based live and archived data-management. Rocket Software built a Mobius adapter to communicate directly with ILM- and gained SAP certification by satisfying WebDAV interface standards. As part of this enhanced solution, Mobius Records Manager™ enabled federated electronic records management across systems—in place and, in their original formats—through an intuitive, web-based interface.

"For years, we have stayed in close contact with Rocket, and received an uncommonly high level of productive cooperation," Blasig said. "Rocket is always willing to upgrade its solution in response to our emerging needs. It's a win/win situation: We get our requirements implemented quickly, while Rocket continuously modernizes Mobius to meet new market demands. We're especially impressed with the advances in streamlined Application Programming Interfaces; Rocket invests in making its products better and better."

The Solution
Rocket Mobius software provides the reliability and agility Postbank needs to integrate data securely and quickly adapt to shifting regulatory requirements.

Results

Today, Postbank archives 200 terabytes of critical business and customer data, including monetary transactions, account statements, account files, and reports from multiple banking activities, independent of the originating application. This includes billions of documents and SAP datasets—up to 30 million documents per day, of 150 document and data types. Bank staff can access the data securely within seconds, not minutes—supporting business efficiency and good customer service. If the bank ever needs to restore data for any reason, it can do so from the stored software packages in the archive. Meanwhile, Postbank's ancillary business thrives with the ability to serve other financial institutions, and the bank stands ready to address emerging demands for digitalization and enhanced customer access to information.

"Postbank came to Rocket Software at a time when we needed to replace an end-of-life archiving system for our SAP core banking system," Blasig said. "Since then, our industry and our IT needs have changed; Postbank has grown, expanded its services, merged with Deutsche Bank's retail business, and faced new regulatory requirements. Through it all, Mobius has performed seamlessly. What's more, Rocket has continuously extended the solution's capabilities to keep them robust and adaptive. Mobius is not only a proven technology, but it also keeps pace with an evolving future."

> As a leading financial services provider in Germany, Postbank provides high – quality services to more than 13 million retail and business customers. Everything we do is driven by technology and data. For more than a decade, Postbank has relied on Rocket Mobius as the partner for its strategical data archiving and retrieval solution."

DR. THOMAS MANGEL
CEO, Postbank Systems AG

Rocket Software's impact on Postbank

01
Integration
Rocket Mobius' connectivity enabled Postbank to integrate with third-party repositories, allowing the bank to move valuable data securely from legacy systems.

02
Compliance
Rocket Software constantly works on upgrading and adapting the Mobius software to ensure compliance with continuously evolving data requirements.

03
Scalability
Thanks to Mobius, Postbank archived 200 terabytes of critical business and customer data—up to 30 million documents per day.

The future won't wait—modernize today.
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