

Leveraging OFSAA on Exadata to Increase Effectiveness & Efficiency of IT Systems

TOP 20 U.S. BANK

OPPORTUNITY

The Bank wanted to transform their Corporate Finance systems as the current processes were time consuming, not highly available and did not provide predictable results.

- Overall system availability only at 60%
- Corporate Finance Application systems like Hyperion Planning, Essbase, HPCM, HFM, DRM & OFSAA were not configured for high availability
- Compliance and security vulnerability
- Experienced high memory consumption, unexpected reboots and poor performance of overall system
- Corporate Finance software not installed, patched and configured optimally
- Too many manual processes and workarounds needed to maintain the system
- Business forecasts never completed on time and did not meet the runtime SLA of 48 hours
- No insights into proposed impact on revenue, expense, efficiency ratio and fully loaded profitability that were needed to publish the quarterly business results

OUR APPROACH

BIAS helped re-engineer the Bank's IT systems and Business Processes for Corporate Finance which helped resolve their system inefficiencies in their forecasting of financial results.

- Re-architected the IT systems platform for Hyperion applications from commodity servers to Oracle Engineered Systems
- Designed and implemented a high bandwidth private cloud environment that utilized InfiniBand switches to interconnect all Oracle Engineered systems such as Exadata, Exalytics and ZFS, to improve high availability and system performance
- Migrated, upgraded and successfully tested all Hyperion applications like HPCM, HFM, OFSAA, OFR & SmartView from commodity servers to Oracle Exalytics Platform and OFSAA & HPCM data onto Oracle Exadata; reconfigured Essbase settings for application optimization
- Optimized configuration settings by phasing out sub-optimal configurations and rebuilding LUNs for better performance and storage optimization
- Improved dashboards and SOPs for reporting services on Cognos, SmartView, and Oracle Financial Reporting for month-end and quarter-end close
- Streamlined work order and system maintenance by implementing Windows and Linux patching schedule
- Automated system maintenance and monitoring, and integrated with corporate ticketing system

RESULTS

The Bank was able to model initiatives and future projects and see the fully loaded impact within the same forecast cycle, enabling executive input and action on a timely basis.

- Improved system availability and production uptime of Hyperion applications from **53% to 99.999%** for 6+ years
- The re-engineered solution ran all the business processes under **40 hours – a reduction from over 310 hours** on the legacy systems
- They were able to run forecasts of financial data for **60 months within a 2-day window** reliably without any errors before publishing the quarterly business results
- Allowed the Bank to **model initiatives and future projects** and see the fully loaded impact of those things within the same forecast cycle, enabling executive input and action on a timely basis
- Provided the Bank strategic advantage by allowing them to **see the fully loaded impact of a wide range of proposed business initiatives** in their forward-looking views
- **Provided insight** into their proposed impact on revenue, expense, efficiency ratio and fully loaded profitability

Wow! Cutting a 12 hour cycle to 2 is amazing! This will be key in driving our new culture of enabling buyer and seller conversations and systematically driving better efficiency ratios across the bank.

Senior Vice President