

Seecheck Print Presentation for London Bank

The Republic National Bank of New York (RNBNY), founded in 1966, conducts its international business through a network of branch and representative offices, subsidiaries and affiliates throughout the world. RNBNY's services include acting as a dealer in foreign exchange, high-quality bonds, precious metals, banknotes, interest rate SWAPS, and other derivatives; international and domestic private banking; institutional banking; middle market services and consumer banking in New York, Florida and California. RNBNY's London branch is one of the top 10 UK foreign exchange banks.

...concerned about the volume of paperwork

RNBNY has played a leading role in developing computer systems, not only for its own purposes but also by supporting initiatives to establish European and worldwide computing standards for banking. These standards include REMOS, from the Bankers Trust Company, now established as the leading foreign exchange trading system used by banks worldwide, and BIMAS, the general banking system.

By 1990 the London branch of RNBNY, like many other banks, was becoming increasingly concerned about the volume of transaction-related paperwork which it was having to store. At about this time, the first computerised document imaging products were being introduced onto the market. Dissatisfied with the slowness, inefficiency and expense of microfiche, the bank decided to implement a document processing solution.

...store on laser disk for easy access

"We needed more than just a straightforward imaging process," explains Kevin Short, RNBNY's UK project manager. "We were looking for a system that would be able to take data from different applications running on our IBM and DEC mainframes, and then store it on laser disk for easy access."

After examining the options, RNBNY decided to implement ROCC Computers' OSCAR (Optical Storage Control Archive and Retrieval) solution, based on the ROCCImage document processing technology.

OSCAR was integrated with the bank's other primary computer systems. Using OSCAR, data from the IBM-based BIMAS system could be downloaded directly onto the ROCCImage PC network, while REMOS data from the DEC VAX mainframe was transferred to the PC network by tape. Users could then access from their PCs all the records that were stored on the laser disk storage 'jukebox'.

...image processing technology has matured

RNBNY found that the OSCAR system, installed in 1992, significantly reduced costs and increased efficiency. Since that time, however, the bank's requirements have continued to evolve, while the technology involved in image processing has matured.

"We are currently storing the equivalent of 10,000 pages of computer printout every single day, and it is vital for us to retain rapid and flexible access to this information," says Short.

In order to match these needs, RNBNY decided recently that a new system was required. Once



Short: "...vital to retain rapid and flexible access"

again the bank approached ROCC Computers, and chose this time to implement the SEECHECK® Print Presentation system. This system is based around a Motorola processor and uses the UNIX operating system. Print Presentation has now been installed at RNBNY's London headquarters.

...improving efficiency and customer service

In Short's view, Print Presentation has several important advantages over the old OSCAR system. It incorporates considerably more flexibility. The

capacity to divide the archived data up into small databases covering specific areas is combined with an inbuilt search facility within reports. These properties allow information to be accessed much more quickly than before, thus improving efficiency and customer service.

...ROCC has responded well to our problems

The processing speed of the Motorola computer is considerably higher than that of RNBNY's old system. Also, Print Presentation's laser disk architecture allows a much greater degree of data compression, so

that a single Print Presentation disk stores four times as much data as an OSCAR disk. In conjunction with the larger 25-disk jukebox, this means that far more information will be accessible via the PC network than before, cutting retrieval time even further.

Currently, the information stored on the old disks at RNBNY is being converted so that it can be read by the new system.

"In the past we have enjoyed a good rapport with ROCC, which has responded well to our problems. We are working very much as a team on the current project, and I am looking forward to continuing our working relationship in the future," concludes Short. □

