Simple, secure banking on web and mobile for Boursorama Group

Background

Boursorama Group was set up in 1995 and is one of Europe’s leaders in online savings, trading under several brands across Europe including SELFBANK (Spain), Selftrade (UK), Boursorama.com and Boursorama Banque (France), OnVista and OnVista Bank (Germany). Across its many sites, Boursorama Group offers a diverse range of online financial services including current accounts, savings, life assurance, pensions, investments and trading products and financial data services. With annual revenues in excess of €240 million, the group’s websites processed over 6.3 million trading orders in 2009.

Objectives

Boursorama Group’s web hosting and infrastructure needed to meet the demands of the company’s growth through acquisitions and international expansion whilst maintaining the high levels of security and performance needed to succeed in the financial services sector.

Challenges

Boursorama’s web infrastructure must support both high quantities of financial transactions across Europe, as well as delivering secure, high quality, customer experiences based upon up-to-the second financial data on web and mobile platforms.

In order to meet these goals, Boursorama needed an ICT partner with the right technology solutions which could also work closely with a range of third party suppliers across Europe and deliver high levels of account management and technical support.
Solution

To achieve the highest levels of availability for its web and mobile banking hosting platform, NTT Europe deployed two separate, but entirely synchronised ‘Active’ platforms built using IBM Green servers, in separate NTT data centers in Paris. Having two fully live, synchronised environments offers the highest level of availability and customer security with one site able to seamlessly take over from the other preventing any loss or reduction in service delivery.

In order to increase the speed and performance of its services, a number of network-level measures were also implemented by NTT Europe to improve the transfer of data between Boursorama’s offices, supplier applications and databases in Spain, France, Germany and the UK. NTT Europe installed a WAN Performance Acceleration box to increase traffic speeds as well as the L2 links and MPLS services to support high bandwidth usage and manage different classes of traffic in line with customer demand.

Benefit

“The double-active structure gives us complete confidence in the resilience and performance of our services which helps me sleep better at night!” said Boursorama CIO Alexandre Baumeister.

“We know that if there is ever an issue with one platform, the other would take over instantly with zero impact on the customer and no loss of data. Behind the main site, the WAN network acceleration box is key for protecting traffic and ensuring the performance of our online banking tools as it moves between our servers and those of our partners. Being one of the first companies to deploy the green x86 IBM servers with NTT Europe was a bonus for us, enabling us to reduce energy consumption.”