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*Jie Li
Deputy Director of Information Center
Sichuan Local Taxation Bureau*



Sichuan's Golden Tax Project Builds a Stable, Secure and Reliable Infrastructure With Hitachi Solutions

Challenge: Launch a consistent, reliable and performance-based storage platform within weeks to manage a new phase of its tax information system.

Solution: Hitachi Virtual Storage Platform G1000 with active-active design delivers continuous availability and protection for key applications and data services.

Outcome: Consolidated single-source pooled storage solution now delivers straightforward, automated operations without requiring changes or migrations, or impacting existing services.

Challenge

The Sichuan Local Taxation Bureau administers tax collection and management across its jurisdiction for the Golden Tax Project of the People's Republic of China. To ensure the aging core tax system grew with new data protection and business continuity demands, the bureau needed a system update.

In the early 1990s, the People's Republic of China implemented a value-added tax (VAT) program, which imposes taxes on the purchase of goods and services. Nations around the world experience VAT compliance issues, so China chose to address potential challenges from the beginning. China launched the Golden Tax Project, which mandates the use of information

technologies to manage VAT invoicing and compliance, and reduce fraud.

The Sichuan Local Taxation Bureau carries out the Golden Tax Project across 21 prefectures, 185 counties and 42 cities, each with its own sub-bureau, as well as 172 audit offices and 1,732 satellite offices. To administer the Golden Tax Project in Sichuan, the bureau required a highly available and straightforward tax collection system to cull and analyze taxpayer information, invoices and payments.

Initial phases dealt with VAT data collection, anti-counterfeiting efforts, cross-audit processes and, eventually, online invoicing and management. Hitachi Data Systems participated in



Sichuan Local Taxation Bureau

INDUSTRY

Government

SOLUTIONS

Storage, Data Protection

HARDWARE

Hitachi Virtual Storage Platform G1000

SOFTWARE

Hitachi Storage Virtualization Operating System with global-active device

SERVICES

Implementation and management services provided by Hitachi Data Systems Global Services Solutions and Hitachi TrueNorth partners: Yunnan Nantian Electronics Information Co., Ltd. (Phase I); Guangzhou Jiajie Technology Co., Ltd. (Phase II and Phase III)

Outcomes

- Business continuity: consistent, excellent performance and optimized I/O.
- Guaranteed availability and reliable system operations.
- Fast deployment of new project phase without data migration or downtime.

development and implementation of phases I and II, providing Hitachi Virtual Storage Platform (VSP) G1000 in 2014 for phase 2, as the foundation for both intranet and extranet operations.

Now, Sichuan Local Taxation Bureau faces challenges with ongoing data protection, storage and performance of its core tax information control system. The bureau plans to build a new platform in phase III for its Golden Tax Project. This phase must capitalize on existing architecture, fully integrate core business processes, and maintain highest levels of availability and performance. The bureau wants to implement phase III quickly and without disruption or migration issues.

Solution

The Sichuan Local Taxation Bureau chose Hitachi VSP G1000 with the global-active device feature for phase III. Global-active device enables two VSP G series systems to be deployed as an active-active storage cluster for data availability and high-performance access in distributed environments. By building on its existing VMware cloud computing platform, the bureau could ensure data service continuity and performance without having to purchase a lot of additional equipment.

“We needed a highly reliable platform to protect the core system and existing devices for our national tax program. The VSP G1000 with active-active clustering will give us continuous operations and

excellent performance, without interruption, for applications and data services,” explains the Bureau’s Deputy Director of Information Center, Jie Li.

With a reputation for proven resiliency, the VSP G series provides no-compromise versatility and performance, plus a 100% data availability guarantee. The active-active global-active device technology adds extra resiliency by protecting against complete site failures. Global-active device cross-mirrors storage volumes between the bureau’s new and existing VSP G1000s, so read-write I/Os on both sides can be continuously updated. The result is zero downtime, zero recovery time and no data loss.

“This provides us a read-write copy of the same data in two places at the same time. We believe this is the most mature and compact active-active storage solution in the industry. We did not need to change the original system architecture or migrate data, so there was no impact to services, and we were able to deploy and go live within two weeks,” Li recalls.

Outcome

With successful deployment of phase III, the Sichuan Local Taxation Bureau realized greater business continuity, automation and availability of core production data and applications. “The fully redundant architecture, with active-active clustering between the two VSP G1000s, streamlines day-to-day processes and reduces administrative burdens and costs,” explains Li.

IT can manage and maintain the solution without the need for advanced training, and has more time to devote to other priorities. Consistently outstanding performance allows submillisecond delivery on a petabyte scale, and global-active device optimizes I/O and resource utilization.

The phase III success contributes to greater overall efficiencies for users throughout the tax system. The Sichuan Local Taxation Bureau now manages more processes with less effort.

“Due to the quality of this solution and an experienced implementation team, it took just eight days from equipment delivery to implementation,” explains Li. “We saved as much as 40 days, because there was no need for data migration or downtime. We have gained a simpler storage infrastructure capable of better data protection, highest availability and excellent performance. The VSP G1000 with active-active storage gives us highly stable, flexible and reliable operations for the Golden Tax Project,” Li concludes.

About HDS

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Hitachi Data Systems

Corporate Headquarters

2845 Lafayette Street
Santa Clara, CA 95050-2639 USA
www.HDS.com community.HDS.com

Regional Contact Information

Americas: +1 866 374 5822 or info@hds.com
Europe, Middle East and Africa: +44 (0) 1753 618000 or info.emea@hds.com
Asia Pacific: +852 3189 7900 or hds.marketing.apac@hds.com

