



SUCCESS STORY

Multi-National Investment Services Company Upgrades Data Center Visibility with Riverbed and Keysight

HIGHLIGHTS

Industry: Finance

Customer: A 70+-year-old multinational provider of investment services

Challenge: Upgrading network visibility and monitoring while evolving its data center networks to support higher speeds and greater scale

Solution: Complete visibility with Keysight's Vision network packet brokers (NPBs) delivering complete, actionable network data to Riverbed performance monitoring solutions for analysis

Results: Higher performance, 100% access to data, streamlined complexity, scale, and ease of use

Banking and finance companies stay at the forefront of their industry by staying at the forefront of technology. To take its multi-national digital services portfolio to the next level, one of the world's most trusted investment services providers began upgrading its network infrastructure during the global pandemic.

Modernization centered around migrating the company's existing 1Gbps and 10Gbps data center networks to 40Gbps and 100Gbps speeds to support the growth of online trading and other digital services. To ensure successful transition, the firm's IT team chose to up-level its performance and security monitoring to the latest solutions from Riverbed, and to replace outdated network packet brokers (NPBs) with a modern Keysight visibility fabric.

The Challenge: Upgrading Visibility to Drive Simplicity and Scale

The investment firm's NetOps team needed to capture and provide complete, reliable data from its multi-national network to Riverbed devices for real-time analysis.

Having encountered performance challenges with its incumbent visibility vendor, the team engaged a longtime solution provider partner to help evaluate solutions from Keysight, Gigamon, and other potential replacements.

Continental Resources IT Solutions helped define goals for a modern visibility platform including:

- Maintaining or improving financial services-class performance while upgrading the network to higher speeds
- Delivering complete, actionable data to Riverbed without dropping packets
- Streamlining the visibility architecture to scale easily as the network evolves
- Adding flexibility and ease of use

Since the visibility fabric would span more than a dozen modern data centers, the provider needed the new infrastructure to monitor multiple physical locations as one seamless entity. Keysight worked with Continental Resources to design and conduct a remote — and rather creative — proof of concept (PoC) demonstration.

Keysight engineers built a remotely accessible demonstration facility featuring a variety of Vision packet brokers along with Keysight's BreakingPoint Perfect Storm traffic generators. The evaluation team used Perfect Storm to simulate realistic application traffic and test visibility and monitoring performance under peak network conditions that might impact financial trades and transactions. The PoC included simulating challenging industry applications to ensure the Vision NPBs could recognize and filter specialized protocols used in financial services.

Keysight's Vision NPBs outperformed other solutions and demonstrated greater scale and ease of use during the PoC. When the exercise concluded, the investment company moved forward, refreshing the Riverbed technology at the heart of its monitoring infrastructure and replacing outdated packet brokers with 90+ Vision NPBs.

The breadth and depth of the Vision portfolio allowed the team to deploy the ideal visibility configurations across 13 individual data centers based on size, network speeds/capacities, scale, and requirements for advanced visibility features like deduplication, decryption, and filtering. Keysight's Vision X and Vision ONE packet brokers serve as the cornerstones of the visibility fabric with Vision Edge 40 and Vision Edge 100 devices extending coverage to small or remote locations. Where competing solutions require more layers and levels of complexity to deliver the same coverage, Keysight's robust architecture eliminates complexity and streamlines aggregation and processing with fewer less hardware and fewer handoffs.

The company also engaged Keysight's Professional Services team to work with Continental Resources experts during the buildout. With the teams working closely together, the new solution achieved timely access to network traffic from a centralized, easy-to-use platform that meets internal SLAs for performance as modernization progresses.

Looking ahead

The new visibility and monitoring platform delivers timely access and analysis of network data to support call recording, trade floors, and a growing multinational network infrastructure. Having experienced the power of simulating real-world networks to test performance at will, the investment company began contemplating adding its own testing infrastructure to maintain a competitive edge as future technology unfolds.

Visit [GetNetworkVisibility.com](https://www.getnetworkvisibility.com) for the latest from Keysight on insights for optimizing network monitoring, security, and analysis.

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