

Groupe BPCE Invests in Mobility and Ensures Security with AirWatch

The Client

Groupe BPCE, the 2nd largest banking group in France, has put down deep roots in its local markets, working through its two major cooperative banking networks, Banque Populaire and Caisse d'Épargne, and through its different subsidiaries. Its 115,000 employees serve a total of 36 million customers, 8.8 of whom have decided to become cooperative shareholders. Groupe BPCE finances 20 per cent of the French economy.



The Challenge

The evolution of the mobile market and employees' demands for user-friendly devices more suitable for their needs, including the option to use banking applications, led the group to migrate from a BlackBerry fleet to a multi-OS one. In the banking and insurance environment, protecting confidential data and remaining in compliance with industry regulations is essential. The group's IT team required a mobile device management (MDM) solution to maintain the same level of security on these new devices to enable them to access the corporate network and emails.

The group's four IT entities, BPCE, ITCE, IBP and Natixis, evaluated the leaders in the 2013 Gartner Magic Quadrant for Mobile Device Management. Each provider was reviewed in a tender created with stringent requirements and each entity conducted a pilot on a solution. Security was the top priority for the group and requirements included data encryption, access codes, remote wipe of data and data access lock. At the conclusion of these evaluations, Groupe BPCE selected AirWatch® by VMware®. "AirWatch best meets the needs of the four entities of the group in terms of safety, installation and configuration," explained Hervé Le Loët, head of fixed and mobile telephony and multimedia, BPCE. "AirWatch offers the same services regardless of the technology used, and innovates at the same pace as operating systems change."

The Solution

Groupe BPCE opted for an on-premise deployment to retain maximum control over the data. The console allows the organisation to apply variable security policies depending on each entity's needs. An AirWatch engineer installed the solution and trained the four administrators on site. A mix of 3,000 smartphones and tablets were enrolled over time, replacing

Solution Overview

- Client: Groupe BPCE
- Industry: Finance and Insurance
- Geography: France
- Solutions: MDM, MAM, AirWatch® App Catalog, MAG, SEG, MEM, SDK
- Infrastructure Integrations: Exchange, Wi-Fi, Active Directory
- Devices: 5000+



BlackBerrys. The iOS and Android devices are distributed to employees based on their position and responsibilities within the company. Different profiles are pushed according to the users' needs, but the safety profile is a prerequisite: access by password, encryption or an email gateway.

To mitigate data loss, the integration between Exchange and AirWatch[®] Secure Email Gateway prevents sending email attachments to a personal inbox or a public service for file sharing and syncing. AirWatch[®] Mobile Access Gateway provides secure access to corporate resources. Integration with certificates and KPI enables a seamless yet simplified authentication.

Administrators create a whitelist of useful public applications such as WebEX and a blacklist of unapproved apps including online games. Banking applications developed for the group by third-party companies integrate with the AirWatch[®] Software Development Kit. Recommended public or internal applications can be downloaded from the AirWatch[®] App Catalog, designed for BPCE employees.

Employees quickly adopted the new mobile devices, adapted for their individual professional use cases and enabled for personal use (COPE). In return, employees have to comply with a usage guideline in terms of security and telecommunications. In case of non-compliance, a user receives notifications that require a set of actions to return the device to a complaint state. Eventually, if no action is taken, access to the company's information system is denied and corporate data is wiped.

"AirWatch offers our organisation great value and a number of added benefits in addition to its product offering," said Hervé Le Loët. "AirWatch Connect global and local events provide opportunities to meet mobility experts, share experiences and discover new features. In addition to in-person events, the ASK portal is a great resource and has been very helpful. For us, AirWatch is an insurance policy that allows us to be confident that our data will remain secure," he concluded.

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– Hervé Le Loët
Head of Fixed and Mobile
Telephony and Multimedia
Groupe BPCE

