With the deployment of Hitachi Content Platform, BMBS gained a cost-efficient active archive storage solution that maintained its content to meet long term preservation, availability and retention policies.

**Beijing Municipal Bureau of Statistics**

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Beijing Municipal Bureau of Statistics Banks on Hitachi Solutions for Reliable Figures

Responsible for churning out reliable data for both public and government decision making, Beijing Municipal Bureau of Statistics considers data reliability a huge concern. By pooling together its disparate systems using Hitachi Universal Storage Platform® VM and implementing a SAN architecture that is both open and scalable, the government department was able ease reliability concerns. And it enhanced protection for its most important data assets with Hitachi Content Platform.

About BMBS
Data exchange is the primary purpose of the Beijing Municipal Bureau of Statistics (BMBS). As a department of the Beijing municipal government for local statistics and national economy accounting, it relies heavily on IT for data accuracy, reliability and security.

The Beijing Municipal Bureau of Statistics is regulated under the Statistics Law of the People’s Republic of China, under Regulations of the Beijing Municipality on Statistics Administration and under other laws and regulations on statistics. These state that BMBS is a national organ to implement statistical laws and systems, and a department of Beijing municipal government for local statistics and national economy accounting.

The department offers these statistics through its state-of-the-art Beijing Statistical Information Net (BSIN). Through this extensive professional network, it exchanges key data services to key government and public bodies.

Over the years, the department built an extensive but disparate network of systems to support the growing size and importance of its data. Storage and servers were added whenever the need arose. This led to a decentralized information network that was proving to be difficult to manage.

Tackling Reliability and Security Concerns
With data growth and demand of its services increasing, BMBS wanted to improve its information infrastructure for reliability and ease data administration.

Data security was also high on the department’s agenda, since data will be made available to the public periodically. To ensure data accuracy and to protect against illegal data amendments, BMBS wanted the new information infrastructure to enhance data protection.

In addition, the department needed the infrastructure to be both open and scalable to manage future data growth.

After an extensive search, BMBS found the answer with Hitachi Data Systems.

The Universal Storage Platform VM Difference
The first task was to pool together the disparate data storage infrastructure to create a centralized one that eased management and improved reliability. Hitachi Data Systems deployed SAN switches to link the heterogeneous storage infrastructure to a new core data SAN.

Now, when physical storage space is used up, all BMBS administrators have to do is upgrade the capacity of Hitachi Universal Storage Platform VM. This not only improves budget forecasting, but also supports a 15% reduction in related energy usage.
At the heart of the new SAN lay the Hitachi Universal Storage Platform VM. Blending enterprise-class functionality with a smaller footprint and employing the Hitachi Universal Star Network™ crossbar switch architecture, it met BMBS’ needs to deliver proven and innovative controller-based virtualization, logical partitioning and universal replication.

The solution also met BMBS’ mandates for reliability and availability with its wide array of storage and data services. This included thin provisioning with Hitachi Dynamic Provisioning software, application centric storage management and logical partitioning, as well as simplified, unified data replication across heterogeneous storage systems. It also featured 51TB of capacity that provided ample room for BMBS’ data storage and archival needs.

**Improving Data Security with Hitachi Content Platform**

With the deployment of Hitachi Content Platform, BMBS gained a cost-efficient active archive storage solution that maintained its content to meet long term preservation, availability and retention policies. In addition, the 6.6TB Content Platform 500-DL solution also optimized storage efficiency and scalability, while enabling secure discovery of fixed content.

One of the key features that impressed BMBS was its support for “write once, read many” or WORM capability. WORM prevents data corruption and record deletion prior to a set data retention end date.

Two additional Hitachi Adaptable Modular Storage 1000 storage systems were deployed to improve overall reliability. They provided a flexible, scalable, cost-effective modular storage system that featured enterprise-class features for its mission critical applications. One served as an issue storage while the other was used for disaster recovery.

BMBS was also well supported by the Hitachi Data Systems Global Solution Services team from Hitachi China, which figured as one of the key winning factors.

**Robust, Yet Flexible Solution**

Once deployed, BMBS reaped the dividends of a centralized data storage infrastructure. Data reliability improved and management headaches eased.

With the logical partitioning feature, BMBS administrators can now create new partitions when they need it. This allows BMBS to allocate new storage space to key applications and data as when it needed. By allocating storage space centrally, it also improved storage utilization and investment protection. In contrast, the bureau previously had to physically buy new storage space for different servers; that translated to BMBS buying an extra 20% of storage capacity.

Now, when physical storage space is used up, all BMBS administrators have to do is upgrade the capacity of Hitachi Universal Storage Platform VM. This not only improves budget forecasting, but also supports a 15% reduction in related energy usage.

In addition, Hitachi Content Platform 500-DL provided an open archive interface for Universal Storage Platform VM disks, while its support for WORM eliminated fears of accidental or intentional data deletions.

**Secure Future**

With its revamped information infrastructure paving the way for better data reliability and protection, BMBS is now looking forward to enhancing data management.

Based on Universal Storage Platform VM capabilities, the department has now its sights on data archiving and data protection in the near future.