

About the customer

A global bank with over 120 sites, operating across 50+ countries in Asia, Africa, Middle East, Europe, and the USA. It serves millions of retail and corporate customers worldwide, with a workforce of 87,000+ employees and a strong focus on driving commerce and prosperity through digital innovation and global connectivity.

THE CHALLENGE

Legacy network limits cloud adoption

Bank's ambition to expand cloud adoption was constrained by its network. With around 120 branches worldwide and central data centres in the UK and Hong Kong, its legacy MPLS and Ethernet infrastructure struggled to handle growing traffic. The legacy network posed specific challenges, including:

Massive bandwidth demand

The rollout of Office 365 caused a significant increase in network bandwidth requirement that MPLS couldn't handle efficiently, leading to high latency, slowed collaboration and bottlenecks in day-to-day operations.

Unsustainable backhauling

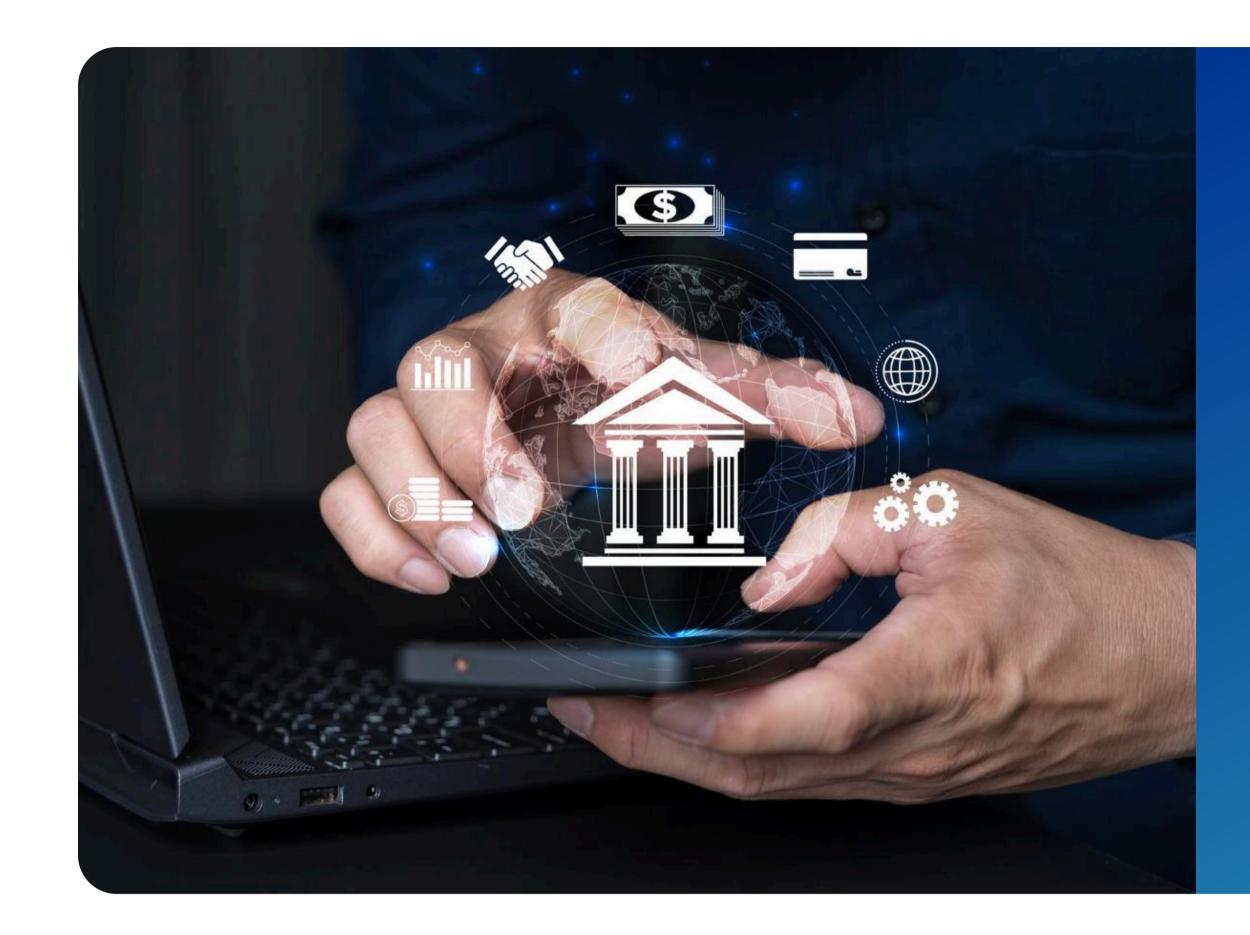
Routing traffic from 120+ global sites through central data centres caused noticeable delays in accessing cloud applications and was expensive. Expanding MPLS to handle the growing cloud traffic would have also been too costly.

Operational complexity

Multiple service providers made troubleshooting slow and cumbersome, keeping IT teams occupied with urgent day-to-day problems instead of long-term strategic initiatives.



To overcome these legacy network challenges, the bank sought a network partner that could review its WAN strategy and design a complete hybrid underlay architecture that would: Ensure critical traffic, latency-sensitive applications are routed through the existing MPLS network.



- Route other traffic via Internet, with 60% local breakout traffic for Office 365 and 40% between customer sites for VPN, VDI session, Skype screen sharing and file transfer
- Optimise non-critical and SaaS traffic via direct secure Internet from branches to improve end user experience
- Minimise latency, fast track resolution of disruptions, and reduce overall risk

This framework set the stage for the bank to create a secure, cloud-ready network capable of minimising latency, improving SaaS performance, speeding up issue resolution, and reducing overall risk.

THE SOLUTION

A blueprint for secure, hybrid connectivity

To overcome the challenges of high bandwidth demand, backhauling delays, and operational complexity, Tata Communications re-architected the bank's global network with an $IZO^{\mathbb{M}}+$ Hybrid WAN solution, designed to optimise traffic, improve cloud performance, and secure branch connectivity. The solution included three key components:



Intelligent hybrid foundation

MPLS was retained for critical traffic to ensure reliability, combined with high-performance IZO™+ Internet WAN (DIA with SLAs), and policy-based routing to ensure each application used the optimal path, enabling employees to work without delays.



Secure cloud access at the network edge

Zscaler™ Private Access (ZPA) enabled secure local internet breakouts at each branch, reducing latency and eliminating costly backhauling, while providing a fast, direct path to the cloud for seamless collaboration across locations.



Dedicated cloud on-ramps

IZO™+ Multi Cloud Connect provided private, high-performance connections to AWS and Azure workloads, ensuring reliable cloud access.



BUSINESS OUTCOMES

Enhanced productivity, cost efficiency, and future readiness

By leveraging Tata Communications' comprehensive solutions, including SLA-backed Internet connectivity and policy-based routing, along with service provider consolidation, the bank realised measurable business impact:

Cost optimisation

Moving from costly MPLS upgrades to a hybrid model cut network costs by 40-50%, freeing capital for key digital initiatives



Enhanced productivity

Cloud latency reduced to 2-3 ms, boosting productivity by enabling seamless collaboration and instant access to Office 365 and other SaaS applications

Simplified and secure operations

The scalable hybrid architecture underpins the bank's cloud-first strategy and future digital growth, providing a resilient and adaptable foundation

Future-ready infrastructure

Consolidating network, cloud, and security under a single partner reduced complexity, accelerated troubleshooting, and lowered operational risks, allowing IT teams to focus on strategic projects

By transforming its network into a high-performance, secure, and cloud-ready foundation, the bank ensured that employees and customers alike could operate without disruption, turning network reliability, cost efficiency, and operational simplicity into a strategic advantage for the bank.

For more information, visit us at www.tatacommunications.com







