



## Romanian Bank taps Veritas NetBackup to lower risk and improve performance.

### OVERVIEW

#### Leading Bank Ensures Business Continuity with Veritas™ Solutions

Headquartered in Bucharest, Bank Leumi Romania is a subsidiary of Israel's oldest bank. It offers a wide range of services to personal, commercial, and private banking clients and provides its parent company, Bank Leumi, a stable platform from which to grow Eastern European operations. Leumi Romania relies on an assortment of business-critical applications running on VMware-based virtual machines (VMs). Ensuring the continued availability of these applications and their associated data is a top priority for the bank. That's why Leumi Romania turned to Veritas solutions to improve the speed and efficiency of backups, shorten recovery times, build business resiliency, and protect the bank's valuable data.

#### DATA PROTECTION FOR VIRTUAL MACHINES DEMANDS SPEED AND FLEXIBILITY

Bank Leumi Romania maintains two data centers in Bucharest that are connected by dark fibre and configured in an active-active cluster. A third data center, used for disaster recovery (DR), is located approximately 400 kilometers outside the city.

"We need to be sure we will not lose any customer data in the event of a system failure," says Robert Nechita, head of IT infrastructure and systems administration at Leumi Romania. "We have a range of applications to protect, including Exchange, file servers, some custom reporting applications, and our core banking systems." The bank runs approximately 250 virtual machines and backs up over 25 TB of data per week.

While not displeased with his legacy environment, Nechita decided to upgrade. "We wanted faster, more efficient backups for our VMs," he says. "The new solution had to be simple to use and have better process automation."

#### AUTOMATED REDUNDANCY AND VM DISCOVERY

Nechita was initially concerned that NetBackup was too complex for his environment. However, the flexibility and performance of the solution quickly won him over. "I was very impressed with what NetBackup could do."



#### ORGANIZATION PROFILE

**Industry:** Financial services

**Headquarters:** Bucharest, Romania

#### KEY CHALLENGES

To improve data protection and business continuity for its 250-plus VMware virtual machines, Bank Leumi Romania needed a faster backup solution, a more reliable clustering platform, and a resiliency application that would streamline disaster recovery.

#### SOLUTION

Leumi Romania rolled out the latest version of Veritas NetBackup™ and integrated it with Veritas InfoScale™ and the Veritas Resiliency Platform to create a comprehensive backup, storage, and disaster recovery solution.

#### BENEFITS

- 100% success rate for backups and data restores
- 100% success rate, with zero data loss, in disaster recovery testing
- 81% less time to recover from full data center failure (45 minutes, vs. 4 hours previously)
- 60%–80% less data transferred with each backup, thanks to deduplication
- Streamlined backup and recovery processes cut IT administrative time

“One example is the ability to create multiple copies of our backups,” Nechita continues. “We can put one on disk, another on tape, and one in each data center. It all gets done automatically. This way, if something happens to the first and second copies, we still have options for recovery.”

NetBackup Intelligent Policies for VMware have solved another ongoing issue for Leumi Romania by automating the discovery of VMs requiring backup. Previously, the bank’s business units would not always notify IT when creating new VMs. “They wouldn’t be backed up, and IT would only find out they existed when the business needed a restore,” Nechita says. Now, NetBackup automatically finds new VMs and adds them to the backup schedule.

“NetBackup has not only reduced downtime and data loss for our virtual machines. The simplified VM workflows also provide an intuitive user experience: It’s simple to use.”

*Robert Nechita, Head of IT Infrastructure and Systems Administration, Bank Leumi Romania*

Leumi Romania is now trialing NetBackup’s Granular Recovery Technology (GRT) functionality, which allows recovery of individual items from larger backup sets. “If a user asks me to restore a 2 KB file, I don’t have to restore the entire 200 GB VM,” Nechita says. “GRT is working very well in our VMware environment.”

### **FAST BACKUPS REQUIRING MINIMAL STAFF TIME**

In addition, “the speed of the backups is quite impressive.” Nechita touts the VMware SAN Transport mode in NetBackup, which enables Leumi Romania to complete the backup process at speeds up to 1.5 GBps. Meanwhile, NetBackup’s deduplication capability reduces the amount of data that must be replicated between data centers. The total impact is a reduction of 60 to 80 percent in the amount of data being transferred.

One more benefit is that NetBackup makes data protection processes much more straightforward. “NetBackup has not only reduced downtime and data loss for our virtual machines,” says Nechita. “The simplified VM workflows also provide an intuitive user experience: It’s simple to use once everything’s set up.”

With backups now as simple as “the click of a switch,” Nechita can outsource them to the help desk, freeing up his team to work on more strategic initiatives. Another important task for the Leumi Romania IT team is to monitor storage and Fibre Channel assets to ensure they are functioning correctly. NetBackup’s daily and weekly reporting has streamlined this task, as well.

### **VERITAS ALSO STREAMLINES BUSINESS CONTINUITY**

In addition to the NetBackup upgrade, the bank replaced Microsoft Cluster Server with Veritas InfoScale. “We seemed to have a lot of problems with Microsoft Cluster Server failing when we needed it most,” Nechita says. “I knew about InfoScale, but I had never worked with it in a production environment. Now I’m sorry it took me so long to adopt.” Nechita and his team also sought a DR solution. After testing multiple solutions, they chose Veritas Resiliency Platform.

They built an InfoScale cluster that replicates all data and applications between the two Bucharest data centers. Veritas Resiliency Platform automates the transfer of traffic loads between the two sites. Once the solution was working well in Bucharest, Leumi Romania extended it into a global cluster that uses Veritas Volume Replicator to replicate data to the DR site. “With this DR platform, disaster recovery has no issues,” Nechita says. “InfoScale will do all the necessary scripting, DNS updates, and reverse replication. It’s great.”

Veritas Support Services helped integrate the three solutions. “They were very helpful—they knew the products very well and provided us with quick, thorough answers,” Nechita says. “NetBackup, InfoScale, and Veritas Resiliency Platform are critical to our business continuity plan. In case of a disaster, they will work together to restore all my applications.”

### **MORE RELIABLE DISASTER RECOVERY, 81% Faster**

The Veritas solution has had a significant impact on Leumi Romania’s ability to recover from a critical outage. Each year, the bank performs a disaster



recovery test, simulating the total loss of the primary data center. Two years ago, a full recovery took over four hours. In the last test, with NetBackup, InfoScale, and Resiliency Platform in place, the complete recovery process took just 45 minutes.

Tests of disaster recovery on the Veritas platform have been 100 percent successful, and all VM restores have met Leumi Romania's service level agreements for recovery time objective (RTO) and recovery point objective (RPO). "Accelerating recovery in case of a disaster is important to the bank's image," Nechita says. "Most customers would survive having to wait four hours for a transaction, but they would have a bitter taste from that experience."

More important, DR is now more reliable, with less room for human error. "Our business continuity is much simpler now," Nechita says. "I can do the switch with one click. Previously, disaster recovery involved a lot of manual work. There was a lot of scripting, and you had to be very careful because one wrong script run at the wrong time could corrupt the whole infrastructure."

"We're impressed with the performance of NetBackup," Nechita concludes. "And we like how well the different Veritas solutions work together, and how easily they integrate. It's great to get the benefits of all these best-in-class solutions from a single vendor."

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please contact your local veritas Sales Representative or Business Partner, or visit

[Veritas NetBackup](#)

[Veritas InfoScale](#)

[Veritas Resiliency Platform](#)

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Veritas Technologies empowers businesses of all sizes to discover the truth in information—their most important digital asset. Using the Veritas platform, customers can accelerate their digital transformation and solve pressing IT and business challenges including multi-cloud data management, data protection, storage optimization, compliance readiness and workload portability—with no cloud vendor lock-in. Eighty-six percent of Fortune 500 companies rely on Veritas today to reveal data insights that drive competitive advantage. Learn more at [www.veritas.com](http://www.veritas.com) or follow us on Twitter at [@veritastechllc](https://twitter.com/veritastechllc).

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