



# FINANCIAL SERVICES PROVIDER OPTIMIZES SECURITY AND TOOL ROI WITH VSS

## Healthy Networks are Vital for Financial Service Providers

Case Study

### About the Company

Industry: Financial Services  
Location: California, USA

This financial institute is one of the oldest independently owned and managed banks in the region.

### Business Challenges

- Best utilize new security tools
- Minimize possible points of failure
- Avoid daisy-chained architecture

### Security Solutions

- Maximize ROI on security tools
- Guarantee 99.999% uptime
- 100% network visibility

### Benefits

- Minimized latency
- Reduced CAPEX and OPEX
- Architected for plug-and-play expansion

### Product Information

VSS Protector Series

<http://www.vssmonitoring.com/products/protector.asp>

### Customer Profile

A full-service personal bank has provided award winning financial services to its customers for over fifty years. As one of the oldest independently owned and managed banks in the region, it takes great pride in offering superior customer service and support. Its networks support daily operations for over 19 local offices and hundreds of thousands of customer accounts.

### Security Challenges

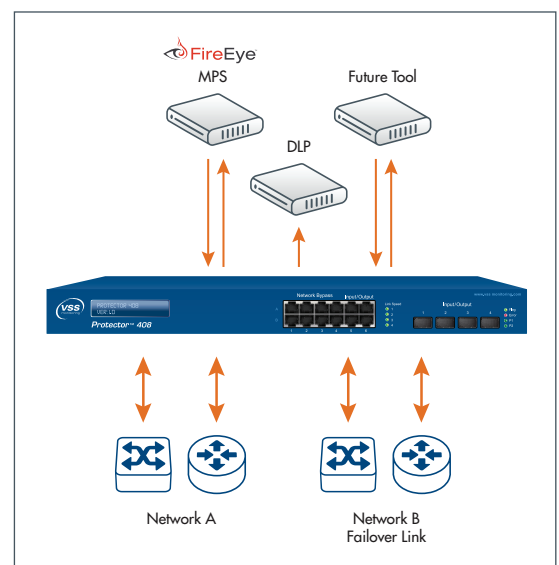
The bank's IT managers realized in order to adequately manage network support for all 19 offices there was a need to **optimize monitoring** at all choke points to protect the network from emerging cyber threats as well as insider threats from data leakage. At the same time, they needed to gain complete network visibility and coverage for security and monitoring tools in order to meet high regulatory standards.

The team deployed a FireEye Malware Protection Systems (MPS) to enhance their other security devices, and needed a way to maximize tool utilization and ROI.

IT managers also wanted to architect a network that would minimize possible points of failure. Its existing network had daisy-chained traffic capture and analytical tools, where a failure in any one of these devices would bring down the network.

### Security Solution

Because the financial service provider wanted to direct traffic to multiple security tools without creating a daisy chain, its IT managers



knew to look for a cost effective aggregation solution. They explored multiple aggregation vendors, and found that only VSS Monitoring allowed them to meet their objectives:

1. Aggregate traffic from active and passive links and direct it to any security tool instantly.
2. Maximize ROI by enabling any one tool to monitor traffic from multiple sources through intelligent network link aggregation and hardware-based filtering.
3. Guarantee the network remains operational by using vAssure™ to change connections from tapped to direct-connection in 30 – 60ms.
4. Introduce minimal latency. VSS adds a fixed (deterministic) latency of only 350 nanoseconds from network port to network port, and less than 13.2 microseconds from network port to monitoring port.

The IT managers chose to deploy the VSS Monitoring Protector Series appliance because no other tool vendor offered a solution that would solve each of their network access and coverage problems and enable 100 percent network visibility.

The Protector Series deployment added network aggregation capabilities, session-based/flow-aware load balancing, inline tool bypass option with policy based event triggering and custom health check functionality.

With Protector the customer can not only check that the FireEye appliance is passing traffic, but also be sure the software is functional and blocking malicious packets. Combining Protector Series with FireEye MPS enables the customer to validate that downstream MPS appliances are up and ready to perform at their highest competency and capacity – thus gaining [optimal network intelligence](#).

## Business Results

**Maximize ROI:** The VSS deployment maximized ROI and utilization of the FireEye MPS and the entire security tool farm.

It increased coverage, offered inline bypass protection for the inline FireEye MPS appliances, and together provided an advanced persistent threat prevention solution with optimized CAPEX and OPEX.

**Monitoring Efficiency:** The combination of VSS Monitoring and FireEye also greatly reduced network intrusion by allowing traffic from multiple sources to be monitored simultaneously, enabling engineers to fully execute their IPS strategies.

**Increased Reliability:** Deploying VSS enabled the financial service provider to reduce network intrusion, minimize MTTR and surpass its 99.999 percent uptime guarantee. The project was a success with upper management because it minimized CAPEX and OPEX by improving the way tools are evaluated, tuned and deployed.

## Next Steps

The IT management is now in a position to quickly respond to future security and monitoring needs. vStack™ architecture brings a simple plug-and-play method of adding vNodes (VSS Distributed Taps, Protectors, Object Finders) into the network.

The next phase is monitoring traffic at each of its 19 locations with one centrally located set of traffic capture and analysis tools. The new VSS IntelliScale Architecture enables them to deploy a VSS vNode at each location and securely send traffic over the cloud to the centralized tool farm at headquarters. This is the most cost-efficient and scalable way to monitor traffic at all locations.

## For More Information

To learn more about the Protector, vStack or any other VSS solutions used to improve the Financial Services industry please visit [www.vssmonitoring.com/solutions/financial\\_services.asp](http://www.vssmonitoring.com/solutions/financial_services.asp).



Network Visibility. Optimized.

USA  
 (Corporate HQ)  
 + 1 650 697 8770 phone  
 + 1 650 697 8779 fax  
 1850 Gateway Drive - Suite 500  
 San Mateo, CA 94404  
 USA  
[www.vssmonitoring.com](http://www.vssmonitoring.com)

Japan  
 + 81 422 26-8831 phone  
 + 81 422 26-8832 fax  
 T's Loft 3F, 1-1-9,  
 Nishikubo, Musashino,  
 Tokyo, 180-0013  
 Japan  
[www.vssmonitoring.co.jp](http://www.vssmonitoring.co.jp)

China  
 + 86 10 6563-7771 phone  
 + 86 10 6563-7775 fax  
 C519, 5 Floor,  
 CBD International Tower  
 16 Yong'An Dong Li,  
 Beijing, China 100022  
[www.vssmonitoring.com.cn](http://www.vssmonitoring.com.cn)

VSS Monitoring, Inc. is the world's leading innovator of Distributed Traffic Capture Systems and network taps, focused on meeting the rapidly evolving requirements of security and performance conscious network professionals. Distributed Traffic Capture Systems herald a new architecture of network monitoring, one which fundamentally improves its capability and price-performance.

VSS, Distributed Traffic Capture System, Distributed Taps, Protector, Object Finder, vAssure, vStack+, and LinkSafe are trademarks or registered trademarks of VSS Monitoring, Inc. in the United States and other countries. Any other trademarks contained herein are the property of their respective owners.