

# Securing the bank

## Intel® vPro™ technology helps Ukraine's central bank galvanise its computer defences

The National Bank of Ukraine is the country's central state-owned bank. It co-ordinates the country's banking system, determines bank notes and denominations, and ensures the accumulation and custody of gold and currency reserves. It has over 10,000 desktop PCs and notebooks in its Kiev-based headquarters, regional locations and universities that are connected to the bank. The bank wanted to improve its management of this PC fleet, galvanise its security policies relating to PC usage and generally augment its computer maintenance with more effective processes.



"Intel® vPro™ technology has given us the out-of-hours remote management technology we need to deliver secure, efficient, robust and cost-effective PC fleet management."

Anatoliy S. Savchenko,  
Member of Board,  
Head of Informatics Department,  
National Bank of Ukraine

### CHALLENGES

- **Out of hours:** The bank could not remotely access desktop PCs outside of working hours, which hampered PC fleet management
- **Large area:** With approximately 10,000 desktop PCs and notebooks and a geographical area of 233,000 square miles, the IT team struggled to manage PCs

### SOLUTIONS

- **How good is it?:** The bank investigated the hardware-based remote management and security features of Intel® vPro™ technology<sup>1</sup>
- **First phase goes live:** Impressed with its functionality, the bank began a refresh cycle by rolling out 400 desktop PCs powered by Intel vPro technology

### IMPACT

- **Reliable and efficient:** Desk-side visits fell by 40 per cent and the IT team could apply software and security upgrades remotely and out-of-hours
- **Lower costs:** The bank immediately reduced its energy costs by 15 per cent thanks to remote power-up and power-down
- **Blueprint:** Benefits from remote management of 400 desktop PCs provide blueprint for entire PC fleet

### Comprehensive sweep

The National Bank of Ukraine has more than 10,000 desktop PCs and notebooks to manage and maintain. Approximately 89 per cent are desktop PCs; the remaining 11 per cent are notebooks. Managing this large fleet of computers required permanently dedicated resources and time.

Effective management of this fleet was compromised because remote PC management was not possible unless a PC was turned on. Essentially, this meant that maintenance, software upgrades and security updates could only be carried out during working hours. Given the size of the computer fleet and the large geographical spread of approximately 233,000 square miles, the IT team was struggling to properly manage the fleet.

The bank decided to investigate the remote management features of Intel® vPro™ technology. PCs and notebooks with Intel vPro technology integrate robust, hardware-based security and enhanced maintenance and management capabilities that work seamlessly with the latest management consoles from independent software vendors.



## Forty per cent reduction in desk-side visits, 15 per cent reduction in energy consumption

### Embedded features

Because remote management capabilities are built into the hardware, Intel® vPro™ technology provides down-the-wire security even when the PC is turned off, the operating system is unresponsive or software agents are disabled. The bank was immediately impressed by a number of features. To start with, the CPU provided higher performance than comparable CPUs from other vendors due to an optimised memory subsystem. This reduced response times for remote management and also increased data throughput in everyday usage. Hardware-assisted security features, such as the ability to remotely apply security upgrades or software during out of work hours, also proved compelling. Intel® Anti Theft Technology<sup>2</sup> was also considered a strong advantage because stolen computers can be programmed to shut down. Protected communication tunnels between the management console and computers and remote PC assist were also highly valued.

### Energy gains

Along with security benefits, the bank realised that by adopting Intel vPro technology it could make significant energy savings through remote power-up and power-down of PCs, reduce substantially the number of desk-side visits, and enable fast and accurate asset gathering.

As a result, the bank launched a strategy designed to introduce desktop PCs powered by Intel vPro technology during its refresh cycle. To date, 400 desktop PCs powered by Intel vPro technology have been activated and managed remotely. These are computers that belong to employees who spend a lot of their working time out of the office. The management console it uses is from Avalon Net, an Israeli company.

### Counting the cost

Even with this relatively small number of desktop PCs, the benefits are already apparent. For example, the bank estimates it is saving 15 per cent on energy consumption while reducing desk-side visits by approximately 40 per cent. The time required to track and conduct an inventory has fallen by half and these assets can be scanned by Avalon Net\* configuration management database. This enables rapid handling of problems relating to degraded

### Spotlight on National Bank of Ukraine

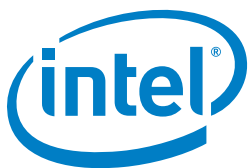
National Bank of Ukraine is the central bank of Ukraine. Before the collapse of the USSR, it was a branch of the Central Bank of the USSR. Officially, it has acted as the Central Bank of Ukraine since early 1992. Like institutions of many newly independent nations, it faced difficult financial times during the 1990s, leading to a prolonged period of hyperinflation. However, since then, with astute planning and co-operation with other countries, the bank has helped stabilise the economy. Viktor Yushenko, the country's president, worked at the National Bank of Ukraine from January 1993 to December 1999, before becoming prime minister.

performance and anomalies, and accurate planning of resources for future needs. Even more savings have also accrued from software licensing as a result of more accurate inventories.

The National Bank of Ukraine now has an intelligent remote PC management platform that enables more efficient management and maintenance of its PCs.

This brings a range of benefits including energy cost savings, accurate inventories, incisive future planning, greater security and less strain on IT employee resources.

Find a solution that is right for your organization. Contact your Intel representative or visit the Reference Room at [www.intel.com/references](http://www.intel.com/references)



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<sup>1</sup> Intel® vPro™ Technology is sophisticated and requires setup and activation. Availability of features and results will depend upon the setup and configuration of your hardware, software and IT environment. To learn more visit: <http://www.intel.com/technology/vpro>.

<sup>2</sup> Intel® Anti-Theft Technology—PC Protection. No computer system can provide absolute security under all conditions. Intel® Anti-Theft Technology requires the computer system to have an Intel® AT-enabled chipset, BIOS, firmware release, software, and an Intel AT-capable Service Provider/ISV application and service subscription. The detection (triggers), response (actions), and recovery mechanisms only work after the Intel® AT functionality has been activated and configured. Certain functionality may not be offered by some ISVs or service providers and may not be available in all countries. Intel assumes no liability for lost or stolen data and/or systems or any other damages resulting thereof.

Data, results, and estimated improvements reported in this study are based on an evaluation of prototype Intel vPro technology equipment. Actual improvements in a production environment might vary. Other companies may see different results, depending on their IT service environment.

Intel does not control or audit the design or implementation of third party benchmarks referenced in this document

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