

# Large Financial Institution **Secures** the Web for Competitive Advantage

protegrity

## FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

### Problem

Ensuring the security of sensitive personal and financial data within the firewall in order to offer an innovative and competitive service allowing clients to review and manage their portfolios over the Web. The objective of the system is to increase the customer base while enhancing service and cutting costs.

### Solution

Implementing **Secure.Data™**, the only security software that selectively encrypts sensitive data within databases. Secure.Data enforces security policies by managing client and employee access to personal and account data and ensures compliance with U.S and international privacy legislation.

### Platform

Sun Solaris; Oracle 8i.



When one of the world's largest financial institutions decided to offer its clients the ability to manage their portfolios over the Web, security and privacy were key concerns. Not only was the company's reputation on the line — and therefore its business — but new legislation such as the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act in the United States, the European Union 95/46/EC Directive on Data Privacy (Safe Harbor) and other laws required the protection of non-public information.

The company was concerned about critical data being compromised. While the firm was most concerned about intrusion from outside, it also was aware of the need to protect the privacy of customer data within the organization.

### Encrypting at the source

This institution did what a growing number of organizations are doing to ensure the privacy of valuable, sensitive or personally identifiable data stored in databases: implement Secure.Data. Secure.Data is a robust software suite from Protegrity that selectively encrypts data at its source within corporate database and manages user access in accordance with an organization's privacy policies. Secure.Data consists of a powerful encryption engine and a secure key management system. It functions as an adjunct to a firm's database to authorize requests for access to data.




**Protegrity, Inc.**

1177 Summer Street  
Stamford, CT 06905 USA  
solutions@protegrity.com  
www.protegrity.com

**Eastern United States**

+ 1.888.776.8347

**Western United States**

+ 1.408.366.0417

**Canada**

+ 1.416.693.7233

**Europe**

+ 46.31.755.2520

Secure.Data encrypts and decrypts data at the data-item level and decrypts information for authorized users, without reworking or affecting the applications that access the database.

The multi-national, multi-billion-dollar company's database has hundreds of complex tables that require referential integrity and frequent mapping from one to another based on application. Secure.Data encrypts all client financial-related information within the database and, depending on the table, other personal information such as name and address. Only columns containing sensitive data are stored in encrypted form according to an organization's security and privacy policy. All other data are available in clear text.

**Inherent separation of duties**

The database security system is managed by a privacy/security officer, allowing the organization to maintain a distinct separation of duties between the database administrators and the privacy/security officer. The system also provides real-time policy management and auditing capabilities. Reviews by executives demonstrated that the features provided by Secure.Data match the company's privacy policies point by point.

The company earlier considered implementing a toolkit to protect its data, but quickly realized that while toolkits provided individual components for building discrete security protocols or functions, they did not provide the turnkey, cross-platform elements of a complete privacy solution, such as key management, policy

management and system administrators. They also relied heavily on systems administration and DBAs, and required time-consuming and expensive installation, implementation and maintenance. Perhaps most importantly from an IT resources perspective, every time an application is changed, the toolkit implementation must be changed.

One of the features that the financial company found particularly attractive was that, unlike security toolkits, Secure.Data does not require security reprogramming for different applications. Other appealing features included Secure.Data's ease of installation and use, and the separation of duties. The software generally installs in a matter of hours, not days or weeks, and training can be done in less than a day.

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Protegrity's one-of-a-kind software solution defends critical Franchise Data such as product formulas, research, financial information, customer lists and human resource material in a wide variety of organizations throughout the world. Secure.Data not only protects data, but enables companies to meet increasingly stringent privacy and security laws emerging globally. Protegrity's Secure.Data is compatible with Oracle, Sybase, IBM and Microsoft relational databases. It is interoperable with other security technologies such as firewalls, VPNs, smart cards, user authentication and intrusion detection systems.

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Security and privacy are critical issues in all organizations. Most will not reveal how they protect their data. That includes the institution profiled here.

