

Using Lenovo data center solutions to underpin banking services.

How **Libra Internet Bank** delivers high-quality digital banking services during a rapid business growth phase with an application performance boost from Lenovo ThinkSystem DE6000F storage arrays.

Lenovo Infrastructure Solutions
for The Data-Centered

Lenovo

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Background

Libra Internet Bank, a member of the American investment group New Century Holdings since 2003, is one of the most innovative and dynamic banks in Romania. It offers a wide range of banking services, available in-branch, online, and on mobile. With a network of 55 branches, the bank specializes in areas such as professionals, real estate developers, agribusiness, and the small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) segment, and pays special attention to modern technology and fintech partnerships.

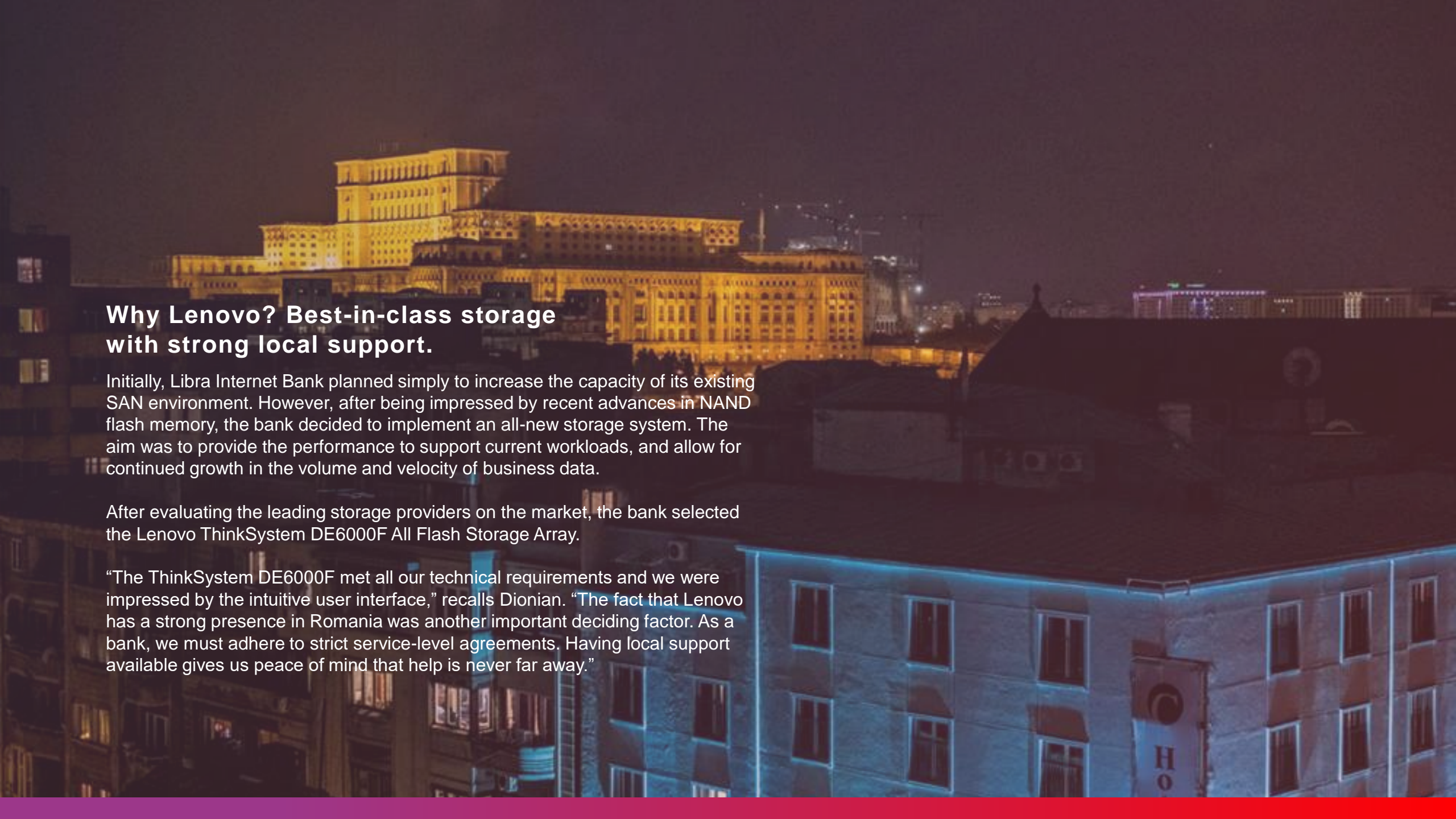
While successfully tapping into rising demand for digital banking services, Libra Internet Bank is growing fast. Thus, the bank expanded its market share more than 7 times between 2011 and 2019 and recorded a net profit equivalent to more than \$27 million in 2019.

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Challenge

As Libra Internet Bank continued to scale up its operations, its Storage Area Network (SAN) architecture had to deal with increased workloads. Growing transaction volumes led to longer processing times, which had the potential to impact customer services.

Alexandru Dionian, Director of IT Division, Libra Internet Bank, confirms: “The SAN solution underpinning our IT operations was nearing full capacity, which threatened to cause performance issues for our customer-facing services.”

A nighttime photograph of a cityscape. In the background, a large, ornate building is brightly lit with warm yellow lights. In the foreground, a modern building is lit with cool blue lights. The sky is dark, and other city lights are visible in the distance.

Why Lenovo? Best-in-class storage with strong local support.

Initially, Libra Internet Bank planned simply to increase the capacity of its existing SAN environment. However, after being impressed by recent advances in NAND flash memory, the bank decided to implement an all-new storage system. The aim was to provide the performance to support current workloads, and allow for continued growth in the volume and velocity of business data.

After evaluating the leading storage providers on the market, the bank selected the Lenovo ThinkSystem DE6000F All Flash Storage Array.

“The ThinkSystem DE6000F met all our technical requirements and we were impressed by the intuitive user interface,” recalls Dionian. “The fact that Lenovo has a strong presence in Romania was another important deciding factor. As a bank, we must adhere to strict service-level agreements. Having local support available gives us peace of mind that help is never far away.”



Supercharging performance.

Working with Lenovo, Libra Internet Bank implemented one ThinkSystem DE6000F array at its primary data center, replacing its seven existing SAN storage enclosures with a single system. Impressed with the performance, reliability, and ease of management of the solution, the bank implemented a second ThinkSystem DE6000F array at its disaster recovery (DR) site soon after.

Libra Internet Bank also took the opportunity to upgrade its server infrastructure, implementing Lenovo ThinkSystem SN550 servers, virtualized using VMware vSphere technology, to support its core banking applications and back-office workloads.

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Results

Since refreshing its IT infrastructure with Lenovo technology, Libra Internet Bank has increased performance and improved reliability.

Furthermore, Libra Internet Bank has improved its Disaster Recovery readiness. Thanks to the advanced hardware-based data replication capabilities built into its Lenovo ThinkSystem DE6000F arrays and by buying a second DE6000F array for its DR site the bank can fail over almost instantly. Crucially, Libra Internet Bank can then also fail back—restore operations—to the primary data center in less than 6 hours.



✓ 1.5 times faster application performance

✓ 6-hour failover and failback window



“In the past, we’d see performance levels in terms of response time of around 10-15ms on our old SAN system. With the Lenovo ThinkSystem DE6000F arrays, we are now seeing performance levels usually less than 10ms, which means our customer-facing banking applications are running up to 1.5 times faster. Ultimately, this helps to ensure a responsive, high-quality experience for customers.”

Alexandru Dionian,
Director of IT Division, Libra Internet Bank

What will you do with storage solutions?

Explore how the Data-Centered implement Lenovo Storage solutions: easy to manage, simple to scale, and always available.

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