



“We saw the need for increased speed, more bandwidth, and lower latency. Check Point emerged the winner for performance and for enterprise management.”

Head of Firewall Operations and Engineering

CUSTOMER CHALLENGE

Improve security while maintaining the competitive advantage that high performance brings

- Performance of information services makes or breaks the business in the intensely competitive financial services industry
- Banks face heightened scrutiny for security and the protection of customers confidential data
- Security concerns require firewalls at every external connection with customers and partners
- The investment banking division needed firewalls with higher speed, more bandwidth, and lower latency, especially for ecommerce and market data services

SELECTION PROCESS

Selection Criteria

- ✓ Performance for high-volume traffic
- ✓ Reduced latency to remain competitive
- ✓ Ability to pass SEC and other security audits
- ✓ World class support
- ✓ Enterprise management

Why Check Point

“Against some of the known and emerging firewall players, the Check Point IP Appliance was 40 to 50% faster.”

Head of Firewall Operations and Engineering

Customer Profile

- Investment banking division of a large financial services company (most recently a consolidation of two financial services companies)
- A global leader in commodities, foreign exchange, interest rate trading, and investment grade debt
- Employs 20,000 people

Industry

- Financial services

Business Challenge

- Secure the business without transactional delays and slow latency
- Satisfy government and internal security requirements

Why Check Point?

- Top all-around performance
- Low latency necessary for competitive advantage
- Outstanding service
- Leading enterprise management

Check Point Solutions

- IP 2455 appliances
 - Turnkey security for large businesses and service providers
- Accelerated Data Path (ADP) service modules
 - Improved performance for a broad range of traffic types

QUICK FACTS

ROI

“We’ve found that the Check Point IP appliances pay for themselves in less than two years. That’s a very good return on investment.”

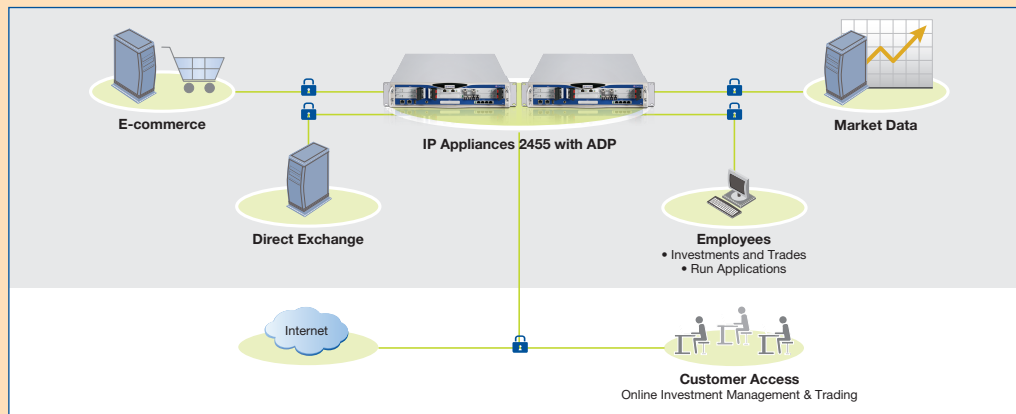
Head of Firewall Operations and Engineering

THE CHECK POINT SOLUTION

IP 2455 appliances address the investment banking division's need for compliant security with high performance

1 Securing market-data feeds at high speed.

The bank and its customers rely on the investment banking division to collect and relay constantly changing prices of securities and commodities. Most firewalls don't have the bandwidth for the high volume of data, but a high-availability clustered pair of Check Point IP 2455 appliances easily handle the traffic from multiple exchanges and market-data vendors. Against some of the known and emerging firewall players, the Check Point IP Appliance was 40 to 50% faster.



2 Reducing the latency in the system and preventing a drag on the business.

Latency of the network is as critical as throughput to the investment banking business, because sub-second delays can mean lost opportunities. "The business couldn't afford for a firewall to add more than 10 or 20 microseconds of latency to our market-data or ecommerce silos," explains the Head of Firewall Operations and Engineering. The division minimizes latency and boosts security performance by adding Accelerated Data Path (ADP) service modules to its Check Point IP appliances. "The unique ADP module is a great performance enhancement add-on product, it further extends the IP 2455 appliance investment."

3 Meet stringent requirements of internal and external security audits.

Investment banks used to bypass firewalls for market-data feeds and direct exchange connections because of severe performance limitations, but those days are over. "Auditors inspect our network and review the design of every silo, looking for security vulnerabilities," states the Head of Firewall Operations and Engineering. "The Check Point solution gives us the confidence that we comply with internal requirements and with SEC and other government regulations, without sacrificing performance."

CHECK POINT BENEFITS

Performance

- Significantly outperformed all competitors in large packet transmission
- 22 gigabits per second on the Check Point appliance, while maxing out at 12 or 13 gigabits on other vendors' products
- ADP service module has minimal latency for packet transmission and delivers the bandwidth that the Financial Services Firm desires

Ease of Management

- "No one can touch Check Point when it comes to enterprise management" – Head of Firewall Operations and Engineering
- Central management is as important as performance in large-scale environments
- Easy troubleshooting of problems anywhere from one interface saves time and improves availability

Superior Security

- "We feel more secure using Check Point's IP Appliances than any other competing products" – Head of Firewall Operations and Engineering
- Confidence to pass internal and government security audits

SUMMARY

Fast • Intuitive • Compliant

- ADP service module increases performance and reduces latency
- Simplified security management speeds troubleshooting and improves uptime
- Superior protection ensuring government and internal compliance

Total Value - Cost Effective Solution

- Appliance pays for itself in two years or less
- Best all-around solution for performance
- Best enterprise management
- Future-proof appliance designed for extensible add-ons, offering overall investment protection