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SUCCESS STORY

Increased productivity thanks to automated payments

CHALLENGES

- Higher risk of insecurity and non-compliance of decentralized payment processes
- Reduced productivity as a result of the management of individual e-banking systems for payment generation and bank statement processing
- Lack of a central overview of bank accounts and authorized signatories that can be inventory checked at any time

PROJECT GOALS:

- Further automation of payment transactions and bank statement processing
- Increased auditing acceptability
- Introduction of a unified authorization concept across all banks
- Outsourcing payment format development and maintenance, thus saving on internal IT resources
- Availability of all payment-related data in one system for analytical purposes

WHY TIS?

- TIS covers the global presence of NTT Security and will grow organically with the company's future growth
- The scalable platform and associated community effect support the company's expansion strategy
- User-friendly solution ensures quick acceptance
- Seamless integration in SAP thanks to a certified native plug-in

BENEFITS:

- TIS enables standardized processes for bank communication, payment transactions and bank statement processing
- Greater transparency of payments, bank accounts and cashflow reduce costs and risks

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Cloud-based Software-as-a-Service solution releases the IT resources and enables them to focus on other digitalization tasks in NTT Security. NTT Security is the specialized security company and the center of excellence in security for NTT Group. With embedded security NTT Security enables NTT Group companies (Dimension Data, NTT Communications und NTT DATA) to deliver resilient business solutions for clients' digital transformation needs. NTT Security has 10 SOCs, seven R&D centers, over 1,500 security experts and handles hundreds of thousands of security incidents annually across six continents.

Process optimization and automation have always been a focal point of the NTT Security Treasury department's strategy. It is this focus that has enabled this unit, founded in 2009 with responsibility for cash and risk management, as well as for the banking policies for 20 national subsidiaries in EMEA, the USA and the Asia Pacific region, to establish itself and operate successfully with just a few employees.

Joanna Grönling, Head of Group Treasury at NTT Security, has long held the aim of further optimizing payment transactions and bank statement processing. The Treasury team therefore launched a project in 2016 and, after a call for tender, chose the Enterprise Payment Optimization Platform by TIS. The company-wide implementation of SAP S/4HANA began shortly afterwards. The connection between TIS and SAP facilitated the Straight Through Processing of both IDoc payment files and bank statements. In addition, the Bank Account Manager, a key module of the TIS payment platform, was implemented for the central administration of bank accounts distributed around the world.

Many companies take advantage of the switch to the TIS platform to consolidate their banking landscape. For NTT Security, the challenge was different and mainly around the management of the individual e-banking tools. "We generally ensure that we only cooperate with a few global banks – seven, in fact – and about 60 bank accounts in 17 countries. Treasury approval is required in order to open or close any account." However,

the administrative costs for the individual e-banking systems were still high and were further increased by the permanent monitoring of payment transactions and timely user management.

The implantation of the TIS platform took away the pain of managing individual e-banking systems. In use since the end of 2016, this solution has now been adopted by nearly all the national subsidiaries. NTT Security uses TIS as a platform for unified and standardized processes for bank communication, payment processing and bank statement processing. National subsidiaries remain responsible for these processes; the Treasury Team in Munich primarily acts as a system administrator, internal support center and a knowledge center. The work of the accounting departments of the national subsidiaries has since then been greatly simplified and the user-friendly solution has been quickly accepted. The TIS platform automatically imports bank statements into SAP every morning and fetches IDoc payments from SAP to the payment platform, where they simply require approval from the authorized signatories – a fully automated process without any manual intervention or the possibility of manipulation.

Thanks to TIS, NTT Security has achieved its goal of full automation and work reduction in many functions, in particular Accounting and Treasury but also Compliance and Auditing. In contrast to traditional e-banking systems, which only store audit evidence of payment approval for a short time, TIS archives these documents in the central Bank Transaction Manager, another core module of the TIS payment platform. The Treasury Team has an overview of all the bank accounts, it can perform inventories and see all account opening documentation and signature cards. The current status of group-wide authorized signatories can be checked and verified at any time.

With its choice of TIS as its payment provider, NTT Security is well equipped for further company growth. Joanna Grönling says: "TIS covers our global presence and is supporting us in our digital transformation. The scalable platform and associated community effect are precisely what will best support our company's growth strategy."

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR: TIS

TIS is reimagining the world of enterprise payments through a cloud-based platform uniquely designed to help global organizations optimize outbound payments. Corporations, banks and business vendors leverage TIS to transform how they connect global accounts, collaborate on payment processes, execute outbound payments, analyze cash flow and compliance data, and improve critical outbound payment functions. The TIS corporate payments technology platform helps businesses improve operational efficiency, lower risk, manage liquidity, gain strategic advantage – and ultimately achieve enterprise payment optimization. Visit www.tispayments.com to reimagine your approach to payments.

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