

BCCL MODERNIZES CORE BANKING PLATFORM WITH RED HAT AND TEMENOS



Banco Credicoop Cooperativo Limitado (BCCL), a large cooperative bank in Argentina, manages millions of customer accounts. To respond to increasingly complex industry and regulatory environments, the bank upgraded its core banking platform to Temenos T24. To support this new platform, the bank worked with Red Hat to deploy Red Hat Enterprise Linux, Red Hat JBoss Enterprise Application Platform (EAP), and other enterprise open source software. This cost-effective, easy-to-use environment helps the bank provide reliable, efficient services to its customers.

SOFTWARE AND SERVICES

- Red Hat® Enterprise Linux®
- Red Hat Enterprise Linux High Availability Add-On
- Red Hat JBoss® Enterprise Application Platform
- Red Hat Process Automation Manager



FINANCIAL SERVICES

267 BRANCHES
2.65 MILLION CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS

“Working with Temenos and Red Hat has been a very good experience for us. We’re pleased with our Red Hat products and all our projects based on their distribution.”

PABLO RECEPTER
CIO, BCCL

BENEFITS

- Increased system reliability, avoiding unscheduled downtime
- Enhanced software interoperability and innovation with standardized, supported enterprise open source solutions
- Improved efficiency to process 4 million transactions daily



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INCREASING COMPLEXITY AND REGULATION

Founded in 1979, Banco Credicoop Cooperativo Limitado (BCCL) has 267 branches and 24 service centers throughout Argentina. The bank provides a wide range of financial services to small and medium businesses, cooperatives, social enterprises, and individuals.

A few years ago, the bank decided to replace its core banking systems as part of a digital transformation initiative. “The goal of this major strategic project was to have the necessary technology to ensure the bank could function efficiently in an increasingly complex industry, as well as meet changing regulatory requirements, while maintaining costs,” said Pablo Recepter, CIO at BCCL.

“We analyzed 53 different possible solutions in a formal selection process and found that Temenos T24 met our demanding technological requirements,” said Gabriel Skliar, BCCL Core Implementation Project Manager. “It is scalable, flexible, able to be customized, and provides a wide range of functionality. We also appreciate how Temenos invests heavily in research and development.”

However, to take full advantage of this new software, BCCL needed a more effective software environment. As a result, the bank sought software to create a robust IT foundation for its core banking systems and Temenos software, resulting in better support for modern business.

CHOOSING A RELIABLE CORE BANKING PLATFORM

For the new core system, BCCL evaluated several alternatives before choosing to deploy solutions from a Temenos certified partner, Red Hat. The bank was already familiar with Red Hat Enterprise Linux from other projects. Based on these positive experiences, BCCL decided to use Red Hat Enterprise Linux to support its new Temenos T24 solution, as well as its Oracle 11g database.

“We chose Linux primarily due to our preference for using free software whenever possible because of its diversity, its security, its vendor independence, and lower overall costs,” said Recepter. “And Red Hat is a trusted vendor.”

BCCL deployed Red Hat JBoss Enterprise Application Platform (EAP) as an application server in cluster mode for its Temenos software, as well as Red Hat Process Automation Manager (formerly Red Hat JBoss BPM Suite) and Red Hat Enterprise Linux High-Availability Add-On to gain high availability for its network file system (NFS).

“After reviewing three or four solutions from key market players, we chose Red Hat Process Automation Manager because it was a robust, proven, and cost-effective option that placed highly in our comparative analysis,” said Recepter. “It also aligned with our preference for open source software distributed under GPL [General Public License].”

Implementation occurred in multiple phases, with support from Red Hat, Temenos, and Semperti and other local partners. As part of its migration, the bank completed many customizations of its core banking system, with 150 employees working to develop 230 functions and 130 interfaces—as well as changes related to regulatory updates during implementation. Testing involved over 25,000 test cases, with the final system version implemented for a single branch

location for verification before being rolled out to all locations. BCCL is now running close to 100 servers on Red Hat Enterprise Linux, 32 JBoss EAP cores, and 16 Process Automation Manager cores.

NO DOWNTIME FOR MILLIONS OF CUSTOMERS

GREATER SYSTEM RELIABILITY

With Red Hat software, BCCL can ensure availability for its critical banking systems and services, avoiding unscheduled downtime. For example, Red Hat Enterprise Linux High-Availability Add-On supports high availability on its NFS. In addition, the bank has run Red Hat Enterprise Linux on a particular server for 10 years—and it has only been rebooted three times for scheduled downtime.

Without this level of reliability, the bank would be unable to offer core retail banking services, such as access to account details or fund transfers.

“Red Hat JBoss EAP is robust, with no outages to date, and it saves time in daily maintenance,” said Ricardo Soto, BCCL CTO. “One of the capabilities we found most useful is the online live updating feature that eliminates any downtime for updates.”

OPEN SOURCE INNOVATION

With open source software combined with enterprise support from Red Hat, BCCL can take full advantage of the free software development model to support and improve its software environment.

“Using open source whenever possible is a priority for our bank, because there is a lot of documentation and community support,” said Recepter. “The variety of options helps us to meet our requirements, including keeping costs low and complying with increasingly complex regulation, with software that uses standard formats and specifications. This standardization means better interoperability between our systems and helps us avoid the incompatibility issues we tend to see with proprietary software.”

For example, JBoss EAP offers the prerequisite connectivity for the bank’s Temenos T24 back end, helping the software interact smoothly with its Red Hat solutions.

In addition, switching to free software solutions creates financial benefits for the bank.

“Open source software has lower installation and support costs. The business model is based on services and not licenses, which ends up being local work, resulting in greater economic and social growth for our country,” said Recepter.

FASTER PROCESSING

BCCL’s core banking solution now processes around four million transactions daily and helps the bank manage 2.65 million customer accounts. This productivity is supported by faster workflows. For example, Red Hat Process Automation Manager is responsible for dozens of processes and thousands of daily procedures across the bank’s departments, from human resources to foreign trade.

The ease of use of the bank’s Red Hat software distribution also speeds the bank’s work, helping employees devote less time on routine processes and focus on value-creating work.



CUSTOMER CASE STUDY Argentine bank modernizes core platform to speed services

“Red Hat JBoss EAP is easy to use. Its features have a relatively low learning curve,” said Ricardo Soto. “We also have very good documentation for it from Red Hat and the open source community.”

HEADING TOWARD A DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Working with Red Hat, Temenos, and other local partners on its core banking project has helped BCCL take advantage of the market-leading capabilities of Temenos T24 and open source software innovation while avoiding the cost and vendor lock-in of proprietary software.

“Working with Temenos and Red Hat has been a very good experience for us,” said Recepter. “We’re pleased with our Red Hat products and all our projects based on their software distribution.”

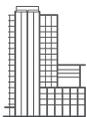
ABOUT BCCL

The Banco Credicoop Cooperativo Limitado (BCCL) is, from its origin, a genuine cooperative organization. It was created in 1979 by the merger of 44 cooperative credit funds, some with more than 60 years of experience. BCCL is a nonprofit institution that is run by its own associates. Today, with 267 branches and 24 service centers throughout Argentina, BCCL is the most important cooperative bank in Latin America.

ABOUT TEMENOS

Temenos AG (SIX: TEMN), headquartered in Geneva, is the world’s leader in banking software, partnering with banks and other financial institutions to transform their businesses and stay ahead of a changing marketplace. Over 3,000 firms across the globe, including 41 of the top 50 banks, rely on Temenos to process the daily transactions of more than 500 million banking customers. Temenos customers are proven to be more profitable than their peers: over a seven-year period, they enjoyed on average a 31% higher return on assets, a 36% higher return on equity, and an 8.6 percentage point lower cost/income ratio than banks running legacy applications. For more information, please visit www.temenos.com.

ABOUT RED HAT



Red Hat is the world’s leading provider of open source software solutions, using a community-powered approach to provide reliable and high-performing cloud, Linux, middleware, storage, and virtualization technologies. Red Hat also offers award-winning support, training, and consulting services. As a connective hub in a global network of enterprises, partners, and open source communities, Red Hat helps create relevant, innovative technologies that liberate resources for growth and prepare customers for the future of IT.



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