

With PIREL software, major financial institution emerges from the mainframe dark ages without replacing legacy hardware: time to process a cheque is reduced from 15 minutes to 10 seconds

Our financial customer is a global investment bank that provides brokerage, investment banking, and asset management services to corporations, governments, and individuals around the world. With total assets of more than \$1 trillion they are one of the world's leading investment and equity banks.

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Everyone is facing the same problems. How can you get a myriad of legacy hardware, software, and business applications to interoperate with new systems in order to increase the efficiency of your organization and ultimately its competitiveness? How can you benefit from modern content management technologies without completely revamping your IT infrastructure, a solution that is not an option for most enterprises. PIREL has an answer.

The following is a real case study that describes the situation and the solution for one of our customers. We have removed the name because we do not want to highlight our customer's predicament before implementing the PIREL solution, although their challenges are certainly not unique.

The Challenge

Before deploying the PIREL solution, our customer was manually processing thousands of cheques per day at its many branches across North America. When a cheque request was made at one of its branches, a clerk would search for data from a mainframe terminal, manually type personal information on cheque stock, update a cheque log, request a signature from a branch manager or supervisor, and finally, present the customer with the cheque. This was a cumbersome and error prone procedure that could take anywhere from 15-30 minutes, while the customer would be waiting at the counter. The bank wanted to automate the process, while continuing to print cheques in-house. They also wanted a solution that would include archiving of cheques and the automatic generation of cheque reports at each branch.

The PIREL Solution

PIREL implemented a system to streamline cheque-processing procedures. A centrally located PIREL EFS Server™ was installed to print and archive cheques and reports.

Now, when a cheque is requested from a bank branch, the PIREL EFS Server™ intercepts cheque data from existing legacy hardware, archives the cheque image, and directs the results to the appropriate printer at the requesting branch either locally, or in another city, province, or state.

A cheque report is made available daily at each local office. One of the more crucial challenges in implementing this system was to work within the existing IBM Global Solutions framework, and this was accomplished without the help of the mainframe manufacturer.

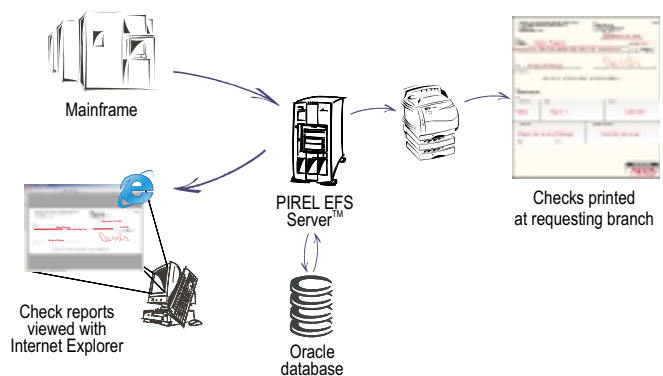
The Result

PIREL was able to create substantial savings for the customer by eliminating the need for pre-printed cheque stock, as well as the need for the security measures that were necessary to keep track of the stock. Since cheque information is no longer entered by hand, fewer mistakes are made and cheques have a more progressive appearance. Authorized staff are now able to view archived cheques and cheque reports using a web interface. Customer service has improved, since customers do not have to wait while each cheque is manually processed. With the PIREL solution, printing a cheque takes approximately ten seconds. Our customer was able to realize these benefits without the added expense of installing costly printers or additional hardware at branches.

Today, a clerk simply enters a customer request at a terminal, and a cheque is instantly printed on a laser printer at the branch.

Summary of Benefits

- Increased security of the check approval and printing process.
- Check reports automatically generated and made available daily.
- Seamless auditing process.
- Increased efficiency of the check approval and printing process.
- Reduction of purchasing and inventory costs.
- Elimination of the possibility of obsolete check stock.
- Elimination of errors due to manual preparation of cheques.
- Support for direct output to printers, fax machines, and email.
- Improved corporate image through the use of advanced laser graphics.



About PIREL

Founded in 1994, PIREL is a software company dedicated to improving the way that business manages documents by providing robust, secure, high-calibre integrated document and content management solutions at competitive prices. PIREL recognizes the need for rapidly deployed web-based solutions that conform to open standards and maintain document integrity in a scalable and customizable framework. PIREL is committed to helping customers achieve their objectives by providing innovative software solutions and by building long-term, honest, and respectful relationships.