

Finance | Japan

Making infrastructure management effortless

Shimane Bank

Shimane Bank becomes Japan's first financial institution to deploy Lenovo TruScale Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) solutions, securing critical networking infrastructure through a flexible commercial model that releases IT teams from tedious management tasks and frees up capital for service enhancement and innovation.



Lenovo

Lenovo
TruScale

1

Customer background

Who is Shimane Bank?

Shimane Bank is a leading regional bank in Japan, providing private and commercial banking services for more than 100 years. The bank operates 24 branches in Shimane Prefecture and nine branches in neighboring Tottori Prefecture, and employs 337 people.

In 2019, Shimane Bank entered a capital and business alliance with the SBI Group. This partnership became the catalyst for far-reaching changes across the bank, from launching all-new mobile banking services to overhauling IT systems and sales processes.



2

The challenge

As Shimane Bank pushed ahead with its transformation agenda, a new priority emerged: modernizing an aging network infrastructure. Maintenance contracts for a large number of networking switches and servers were due to expire soon, prompting the bank to undertake a major infrastructure renewal.

It was during this process that Shimane Bank decided to take a more critical look at its IT procurement strategy. The bank's traditional approach of buying hardware outright and managing it internally was becoming more costly and labor-intensive with every refresh cycle. Instead of simply swapping old equipment for new, Shimane Bank was eager to embrace a more flexible approach.

“

“We had introduced different networking devices at different stages over the years, which complicated asset lifecycle management. Our IT team spent many hours **registering and updating inventory, checking up on contract deadlines, and managing equipment replacement and disposal**—leaving them with less time to dedicate to more strategic work.”

Mr. Tsukasa Fujiwara

Business Administration Group, Shimane Bank

3

The
solution

Choosing a flexible subscription model

Shimane Bank chose to procure its newest round of networking equipment through [Lenovo TruScale Infrastructure as a Service](#) (IaaS)—becoming the first financial institution in Japan to adopt TruScale. This pioneering move allowed the bank to deploy [Lenovo ThinkSystem SR630 V2](#) servers and Cisco networking equipment through a multi-year lease arrangement.

In parallel, Shimane Bank worked on a comprehensive update of its device fleet, rolling out [Lenovo ThinkPad L13](#) and [Lenovo ThinkPad L15](#) laptops to teams across the business.

Services

[Lenovo TruScale Infrastructure as a Service](#)

[Lenovo Professional Services](#)

Hardware

[Lenovo ThinkPad L13](#)

[Lenovo ThinkPad L15](#)

[Lenovo ThinkSystem SR630 V2](#)

3

The
solution

Collaboration keeps a complex project on track

Making the transition to a new-generation networking infrastructure was a complex project, requiring collaboration between Lenovo and multiple technology providers. In addition to building a network environment for the transition to the new system, Shimane Bank also needed to update the network line configuration for branches and off-site locations, reconfigure network management protocols, and replace its network monitoring system.

Support from [Lenovo Professional Services](#) helped to ensure that work progressed smoothly. Alongside procuring network equipment and managing Shimane Bank's transition to the TruScale IaaS model, Lenovo Professional Services provided valuable assistance with the network monitoring system and DHCP design and configuration, as well as Active Directory integration.

3

The Solution

Crucially, Shimane Bank was able to make the move to the IaaS model without changing its conventional network operation support system. This played a major part in guaranteeing a smooth migration.



“This was a complex project, involving many moving parts and players. Our success came down to close collaboration and trust between everyone involved. We genuinely worked as one team.”

Mr. Tsukasa Fujiwara

Business Administration Group, Shimane Bank

4

The results

With Lenovo TruScale, Shimane Bank has reimagined its entire network infrastructure lifecycle, from procurement to maintenance, renewal, and disposal. The bank now deals with one vendor and clear contract terms, simplifying administration. As Lenovo shoulders the burden of asset and contract management, the IT team can focus on core business tasks.

By shifting IT spend from CAPEX to OPEX, Shimane Bank has rationalized its balance sheet and freed up capital that can be directed towards all-important service improvements and innovation.



Simplifies vendor management and IT administration



Frees IT team to focus on business priorities



Releases capital for service improvements and innovation

“

"Lenovo TruScale has **completely transformed** how we think about hardware procurement, and we are eager to explore more solutions that take us beyond conventional approaches. As the nature of our work and technology strategy continues to evolve, **we look forward to having Lenovo as a partner** who can help us navigate that change."

Mr. Tsukasa Fujiwara

Business Administration Group, Shimane Bank

Why Lenovo?

Choosing Lenovo TruScale IaaS allowed Shimane Bank to secure networking hardware with attractive commercial terms and simplified management. Lenovo offered a five-year lease at the same price that it would have cost the bank to purchase the networking equipment outright.

This project also builds on a burgeoning partnership between the two companies. In 2023, Shimane Bank worked with Lenovo to migrate to a new virtual infrastructure, underpinned by Lenovo ThinkSystem servers and storage solutions. For Shimane Bank, Lenovo solutions are steadily becoming part of a modern IT landscape that empowers it to deliver trusted, innovative financial services to local communities.

How can banks focus on core business, not IT upkeep?

Shimane Bank becomes Japan's first financial institution to deploy Lenovo TruScale solutions, freeing time and resources for growth and innovation

[Explore Lenovo TruScale IaaS](#)