

# Capital Securities grows transaction volume by 50% with HP Integrity NonStop BladeSystem

Securities corporation handles explosive growth while cutting its IT footprint in half



**“Moving to HP Integrity NonStop BladeSystem gave us the processing power to grow business by 50% and a migration path that allows us to integrate all our custom applications.”**

— Lynn Kuo, CIO, Capital Securities Corporation

**HP customer case study**  
Financial securities firm delivers massive growth without sacrificing stability

**Industry**  
Financial Services

## Objective

Refresh legacy hardware with new platform capable of delivering at least 50% growth in transaction volume

## Approach

Move toward a modular, scalable system to boost transaction volume while shrinking IT footprint

## Technology improvements

- Expands transaction volume by 50% while not sacrificing business continuity
- Integrates with legacy solutions for faster migration
- Reduces I/O bottlenecks during peak periods, improves overall transaction speeds
- Minimizes infrastructure footprint with 50% less hardware than previous solution

## Business outcomes

- Meets need for massive business expansion with no systems outages
- Handles high volumes of transactions during peak loads without risk of downtime
- Provides business continuity, supporting existing applications
- Supports 50% revenue growth since deployment

## Lightning-fast wins the race

Growing a successful financial securities corporation requires a unique balance of deep research and lightning-fast reaction times. It's an axiom with which the thought leaders at Capital Securities are intimately familiar.

Based in Taipei, Taiwan, the company offers a full range of services in all major areas of finance. It was formed in 1988 and following local success, it quickly opened subsidiaries in Hong Kong and Shanghai in a bid to become one of the leading financial companies in the Asia Pacific region. Its services include corporate finance, fixed income securities, derivatives, asset management, financial consultation, venture capital investment, brokerage, proprietary trading, mergers and acquisitions.

To manage its high daily transaction volume, the IT team at Capital Securities has relied on HP Integrity NonStop servers for more than a decade, beginning with the NonStop S74000 and eventually upgrading to the NonStop S78000 series servers. The systems provided the team with a solid foundation on which to build, dream and grow.

## Maintaining stability during rapid growth

In 2010, that dream became a reality on a large scale when management announced their intentions to merge with Taiwan International Securities Corporation—a competing securities firm almost half Capital Securities' size.

The Capital Securities IT team had already been discussing an upgrade to its HP NonStop environment.



## Company Profile:

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The NonStop S74000 platform was already legacy technology and the NonStop S78000 was reaching end of life. Combined with the need to grow its transaction volume by 50%, the IT team made the decision to look for a new platform to drive the massive growth they knew they were going to accommodate.

The team relies on its HP NonStop environment to drive the very core of its business: stock, futures and options trading. The IT team knew it needed 24/7 reliability with the ability to deliver real-time transactions to its growing customer base.

## Choosing the best migration route

The team researched solutions from HP and IBM, but came to a crossroads when pricing systems from a total cost of ownership (TCO) perspective. Faced with the challenge of building a system to not only upgrade its current capabilities, but also manage an unknown amount of additional traffic, the team took its time to make the decision.

Because HP NonStop servers had always provided the reliability Capital Securities and its customers needed, they considered migrating to the new HP Integrity NonStop NB50000—a modular server blade solution and key HP Converged Infrastructure technology—to meet the corporation's upcoming business challenges. Offering the scalability, availability and data integrity of traditional NonStop solutions, the HP Integrity NonStop BladeSystem leverages the power of Intel Itanium multi-core architecture to deliver double the performance in half the footprint of traditional systems.

## Fault-tolerant for the future

To deliver high volumes of mission-critical transaction processing, the team at Capital Securities chose HP Integrity NonStop BladeSystem with four server blades for fully fault-tolerant application availability.

The system's massive parallel processing capabilities provide the stability Capital Securities needs to deliver real-time transaction response even during times of explosive transaction volume.

## Mission-critical performance for massive growth

To perform the migration, the IT team at Capital Securities turned to Syscom, and HP partner with whom Capital Securities has had a technology partnership for 20 years.

Together, Syscom and Capital Securities installed the HP Integrity NonStop BladeSystem, migrated the data

## Customer solution at a glance

### Hardware:

HP Integrity NonStop BladeSystem NB50000

### Software:

- HP Pathway with NonStop TS/MP
- Financial applications developed in-house to support stock trading and 24x7 operating foreign stock, futures and re-consigned trading businesses including CME, NYSE, EUREX, HKSE and SGX

### Operating System:

HP NonStop operating system

### Network Protocol:

TCP/IP

and got systems up and running in time to handle the increased transaction volume that the merger brought with it. Deployment and data migration took place in November and December of 2010, paving the way for the environment to go online by January 2011.

“Our main goal was to eliminate I/O bottlenecks during peak periods and improve overall transaction efficiency,” explains Lynn Kuo, chief information officer at Capital Securities Corporation. “And we needed to make the migration with as little business disruption as possible. Moving to HP Integrity NonStop BladeSystem gave us the processing power to grow business by 50% and a migration path that allows us to integrate all our custom applications.”

By scaling to several petabytes of data, along with thousands of users and concurrent sessions, NonStop is fully virtualized to ensure business never slows down.

## Growing business without limits

Today, the data center at Capital Securities is processing more transactions and growing revenue with a smaller IT footprint than its previous solution. “Our IT infrastructure has shrunk by 50%, yet we're processing 50% more transactions and experiencing 50% revenue growth with HP Integrity solutions,” Kuo says.

Along with reduced energy consumption, the IT team is experiencing operational efficiencies in managing the new solution while customers are receiving improved system response times. Now, business growth is no longer dictated by limitations in the data center. “With HP Integrity NonStop BladeSystem solutions powering our financial applications, Capital Securities no longer has to be held back by transaction volume during peak periods,” Kuo concludes. “We can focus on growing our business.”

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