



Reference Project

## Cecabank automates mainframe administration task and RACF event security management

Information security is a fundamental aspect at Cecabank and technology is key to optimising its information systems. Cecabank combines the most advanced technology with strict compliance with regulations and high standards in terms of information security. Cecabank's strong commitment to technological innovation has driven this project with Beta Systems, significantly improving automation and efficiency in the area of information security. Cecabank, relying on Beta Systems' technology, automated its mainframe security and cybersecurity risk management to reduce and mitigate risk, increased efficiency in zOS/RACF management, and provided additional functionality to assist in the detection of attacks or threats, along with GDPR compliance and monitoring requirements.

Over the past four years, Cecabank has worked intensively on digital transformation plans and have made significant progress in their implementation and maturity. In order to guarantee the level, quality and security of their services all the hardware and software must support the digital transformation.

The Cybersecurity department must increase security as well as fulfill compliance requirements according to GDPR and meet internal audit requirements. Each employee is only granted those authorizations in IT systems that he or she needs to perform his or her tasks in order to achieve an appropriate level of security.

Cecabank chose Beta Systems' \_beta access admin because it met and exceeded their requirements, providing a single simplified yet robust solution for zOS security administration and audit. As an added bonus, the integration with the SIEM system made things much easier.

### About Cecabank

Cecabank is the leading Spanish wholesale bank in Securities Services. It supports the business projects of different financial institutions. Also specialising in Treasury, Payments and Digital Solutions, it offers financial and technological solutions tailored to its customers' needs and is present in the main European markets. Leader in Fund Depository and one of the main players in Custody and Settlement of Securities, it has deposited assets in excess of 189,202 million euros and more than 210,800 million euros in assets under custody as of March 2021. In 2020, Cecabank was chosen for the fourth consecutive year as the best custodian bank in Spain by the specialist magazine Global Banking and Finance Review.

Cecabank is also present in the United Kingdom, Switzerland, Germany and Portugal.

Before the introduction of \_beta access Cecabank handled the security events originating in the mainframe (RACF SMF events) in batch mode, i.e. with a daily load. The administration of users, access to resources, protection of resources and mapping between them was done with the tools provided by the operating system. Access to audit data required additional effort on the part of the zOS administration team, as they were familiar with the environment and had sufficient access rights. This presented challenges because alerts would not reach the SIEM in real time, and also the administration was complicated -the administrators had to execute and control the audit tasks in order to deliver the information to the auditors.



*"We can now easily identify security gaps in the RACF system and meet compliance provisions. Even non-technical users can generate the needed audit reports."*

*Sela Santamaría  
IT Systems Director at Cecabank*

With the implementation of \_beta access Cecabank gained many benefits. The IT was now able to provide a convenient Windows interface that allows auditors to operate the system without any special RACF or zOS know-how. The solution allows even non-technical users to check the RACF system and generate audit reports. They can perform quick audits via a user-friendly Windows interface and create pre-configured audit reports based on actual requirements and industry best practices.

With the new real-time monitoring the user will get an alert in real-time, whenever a critical RACF or security relevant event occurs. Therefore, security breaches can be much easier identified. This leads to the rapid escalation of these to predefined recipients or operations monitoring systems. Thus, the cybersecurity department is now able get early warnings and alerts.

\_beta access admin with its user-friendly ISPF interface delivers functions for the centralized RACF administration. A comprehensive set of functions enables RACF profile maintenance while also providing a transparent overview of all information managed in the RACF system.

#### Benefits of the Solution:

- ✓ Increase efficiency in the administration and the management of zOS users, resources and access
- ✓ Identify security gaps in the RACF system and meet compliance provisions.
- ✓ Generate and view reports on access authorizations and system configurations.
- ✓ real-time monitoring tool alerts relevant staff to critical RACF events, such as when sensitive data is being accessed or when critical user attributes are being modified.
- ✓ Quick alarms in case of incidents in the mainframe RACF environment, capacity to send alarms and alerts to SIEM in "almost" real time".
- ✓ Check violations that impact security and ensure that the configured RACF settings properly protect their system.

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