



“Accessing, tracking and reporting time-critical financial data is essential to ensuring our investments remain profitable. For our traders and client-facing teams, this means 24/7 access to large volumes of data generated by the global markets, irrespective of location or device. Resilience, continuity and security of our ICT processes are therefore essential features of our business.”

**James Bagshawe,**  
Chief Financial Officer  
Gatehouse Bank.



**evolution**  
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## Shariah-Compliant IT for Investment Bank

Gatehouse Bank plc (Gatehouse) is a fully Shariah-compliant wholesale investment bank based in the City of London. Gatehouse undertakes all of its activities in accordance with Shariah principles and focuses on business opportunities throughout the Gulf region, Europe and North America as well as selected jurisdiction in the emerging markets. The bank has hand-picked a team of financial services professionals who are able to provide the expertise and experience in both investment banking and Islamic finance necessary to develop its reputation as an innovative investment bank specialising in Shariah-compliant financing solutions.

As a newly launched bank, Gatehouse needed an ICT partner that would operate within best-practice design principles to ensure both FSA and Shariah compliance. Evolution worked in collaboration with specialist financial IT provider, Path Solutions to provide a network infrastructure that was specifically designed and configured to support iMAL banking software.

Evolution's solution also included a hosted twin-datacentre, enabling the bank to benefit from a robust disaster recovery program, efficient data management environment and provide absolute transparency and accountability for all financial transactions.

- Evolution have considerable experience in providing ICT solutions within the Finance and Banking sector

- Islamic Banking and compliance to Shariah law are particular areas of specialisation

## Objectives

- To design and build a resilient IP network infrastructure that complies with FSA regulations and Shariah law.
- To deploy an ICT infrastructure that would ensure data integrity and visibility to the bank's clients and partners.
- To employ an effective disaster recovery strategy that ensures business continuity.
- To ensure specialist banking software could be fully integrated across the entire data networking infrastructure, processes and devices, and remote working strategy.
- To demonstrate a thorough understanding of Shariah practices and how these translate into a trusted partnership and effective IT strategy.

## Solution

- A hosted twin-datacentre, with a robust disaster recovery program and efficient data management environment to provide absolute transparency and accountability for all financial transactions.
- A network infrastructure specifically designed and configured to support iMal/Sybase software.
- 24/7 access to large volumes of data, generated by the global markets, irrespective of location or device.

## Benefits

- A resilient and secure network infrastructure that supports Gatehouse's long-term business strategy.
- A disaster recovery program that generates near real time recovery, and reduces risk to the business' operations.
- Ability to access, track and report time-critical financial data to ensure investments remain profitable.
- An IT service that is continually monitored and analysed according to strict security polices and ensures compliance with financial regulations and Shariah law.

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