



CUSTOMER STORY

European Bank Achieves Proactive Data Security, Compliance Using ABAC

Executive summary

The primary driver for this project was to achieve compliance with a Personal Data Protection Law and to prepare for future regulatory challenges. In addition, the bank's authorization was historically domain-specific, meaning policies were defined, governed, and implemented by the application owners only. This approach delivered adequate functionality within silos but no control and no transparency across the enterprise. The bank wanted a central and standardized solution.

Our Client

The bank is among the ten largest universal banks in Europe and has expertise across a wide range of products, services, and solutions within banking, asset management, and insurance.



Challenges

Regulation and compliance

The Personal Data Protection Law mandated that all access to personal data records for citizens needed to be subject to the right purpose and should be logged for audit purposes. The law also stated that the bank's consumers needed the ability to define which bank employees should be denied access to personal records.

When the data protection law was established, the bank consisted of several local banks spread throughout multiple countries. Each bank had multiple, fine-grained authorization engines throughout the organization.

"ABAC has given us the ability to be proactive. We are well positioned to handle all future regulatory requirements quickly and cost effectively."

- Head of Access Control



The need for a standards model

The bank lacked both a standards model and a cohesive approach to authorization management. All solutions the bank built prior to [attribute-based access control \(ABAC\)](#) worked well in the beginning, but as maintenance and development costs steadily increased, the “matured” solutions quickly became less manageable.

Decentralized authorization

For the client, authorization has historically been a domain-specific issue, meaning that policies were defined, governed, and implemented by the application owners only. This approach delivered adequate functionality within silos but no control and no transparency (i.e. auditing) across the enterprise. The bank had no control or transparency over who could access what data at a specific time. The bank needed a central and standardized solution to adhere to regulations.

The bank also needed to handle different types of “exceptions”, which have been implemented as blacklist (always deny) and whitelists (always permit) policies. These challenges led to the start of a collaboration between the client and Axiomatics.

Use Cases Included Policy Evaluation of:

- Country and Branch
- Employee Roles
- Bank Function
- Location (physical branch office)
- Whitelist
- Blacklist



The solution

As the best-in-class vendor for [policy-based authorization](#), Axiomatics was chosen by the bank to help address various specific use cases, and provide a solution that would ultimately provide authorization across the enterprise.

The [Axiomatics Authorization Management Platform](#) provides dynamic authorization for applications, and is an independent solution which easily integrates with existing Identity and Access Management (IAM) tools. In addition, this suite provides friendly policy authoring and life-cycle management, service administration, and monitoring. The Axiomatics platform boasts the industry’s most robust Policy Decision Point, meaning better performance and authorization, as well as the capability to do reverse queries, auditing, and reporting.

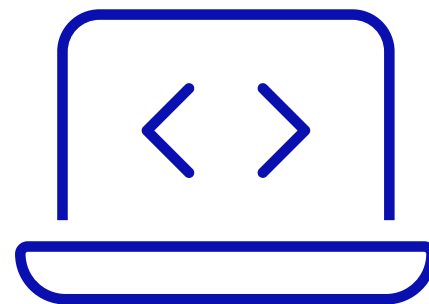
A bank can always build [security] solutions itself, but it is easy to neglect maintenance and support, which makes many old solutions today ineffective.



Take the next steps

Learn how a security vendor can help secure your access control while allowing you to focus on your core business initiatives.

[Meet with our solution experts for a demo](#) of our Axiomatics Authorization Management Platform and discuss how our approach can save your organization time and money.



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Axiomatics - a Leonardo Company is the originator and leading provider of runtime, fine-grained authorization delivered with attribute-based access control (ABAC) for applications, data, APIs, and microservices.

The company enables enterprises to effectively and efficiently connect Axiomatics' award-winning authorization platform to critical security implementations, such as Zero Trust or identity-first security. The world's largest enterprises and government agencies continually depend on Axiomatics' award-winning authorization platform to share sensitive, valuable, and regulated digital assets – but only to authorized users and in the right context.

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