LEVERAGING VIRTUALIZATION TO POWER GRASS-ROOT BANKING
“VMware’s technology has enabled DCB Bank IT to extend its capability in helping and accelerating the Bank’s business objectives. Having the agility to provision IT services quickly, automation of data synchronization between DC and DR through a software-defined datacenter is crucial. DCB Bank is evolving with the time to deliver next-generation banking services.”

Abhijit Shah,
Chief Technology Officer,
DCB Bank Limited

Customer Profile
DCB Bank is a new generation private sector bank with 323 branches across 19 states and 3 union territories. It is a scheduled commercial bank regulated by the Reserve Bank of India. DCB Bank’s business segments are Retail, micro-SME, SME, mid-Corporate, Agriculture, Commodities, Government, Public Sector, Indian Banks, Co-operative Banks and Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFC). DCB Bank has approximately 6,00,000 customers.

The Challenge
DCB Bank’s legacy physical IT infrastructure was faced with challenges associated with gradual obsolescence, optimum utilization of resources, managing cost of procurement, maintenance and lower downtime for systems. Legacy systems also demanded constant human intervention, which was a drain on the Bank’s IT team. In addition, the Disaster Recovery (DR) procedure was more manual that consumed more time and was vulnerable to errors creeping in.

DCB Bank however, was in the fray to launch and deploy unique IT related services and products both for the customer as well as for the frontline sales and business acquisition teams. Moreover, the Bank at a certain point in time was expanding the branch network to garner more business. All in all, it was crucial that time-to-market of new business initiatives and applications was not impacted.

DCB Bank wanted to virtualize its IT infrastructure to address these issues. It wanted to streamline cost, and make maintenance, monitoring and provisioning of resources easier. The Bank sought a solution that would deliver high availability of IT infrastructure to business units, and other assigned stakeholders. Additionally, DCB Bank wanted to automate its DR (Disaster Recovery) to ensure business continuity in the event of a catastrophe such as a datacenter failure.

The Solution
VMware created a solution for DCB Bank to consolidate its myriad physical servers into a virtualized platform running on barely 34 servers supported by the backbone of VMware vSphere. Building a robust digital foundation, the vRealize Operations solution helped DCB Bank run, manage, connect and secure applications in a unified virtualized environment. It enabled DCB Bank with an IT operations management platform to optimize performance and integrate capacity monitoring and planning. To address the DR concerns, VMware provided DCB Bank with Site Recovery Manager (SRM) deployment. SRM helped the company to meet lower recovery point and recovery time objectives (RPO/RTO) and eliminate manual processes with scheduled automated synchronization between datacenter and disaster recovery sites.

The Benefits
VMware’s solutions helped DCB Bank virtualize its IT operations and consolidate its physical servers substantially to just around 34. Not only did the solutions help DCB Bank better utilize its existing IT resources, it also reduced the cost of refresh by 60% and made available for valuable datacenter real-estate space. Post-deployment of VMware solutions the provisioning time for servers substantially reduced from a maximum 6 weeks to 6 hours. The SRM deployment also enabled DCB Bank to orchestrate DR drills and reduce the RPO and RTO times up to 80%. With automatic building of applications at the DR site as compared to manual replication, it significantly reduced the time for business-critical application to get up and run in case of disaster or downtime, thus achieving business continuity.