

Public Bank

Upgrading Bank's Infra with Make in India Switches

HFCL's Make in India Switches
deployment across 1600+ branches



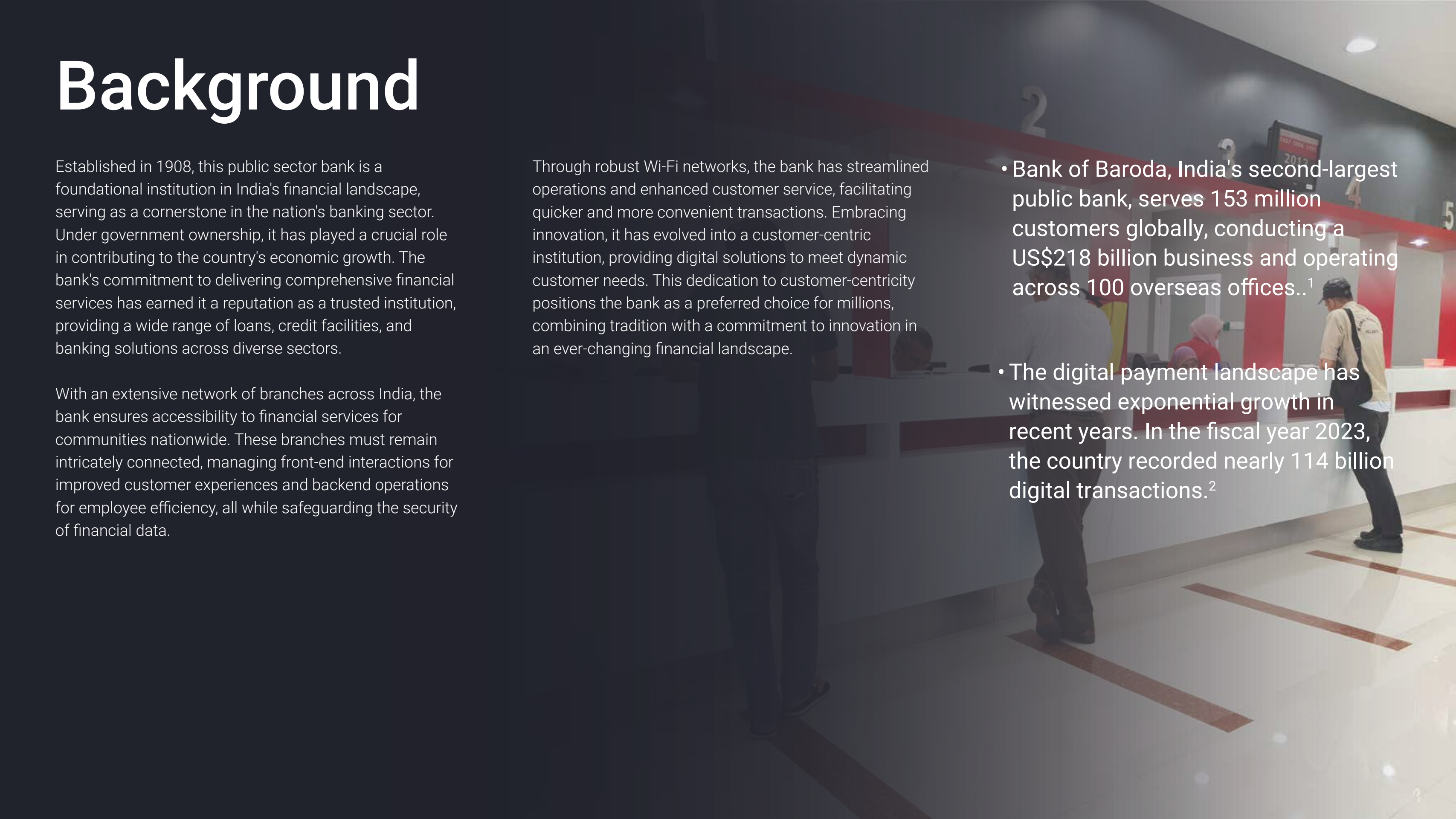
Background

Established in 1908, this public sector bank is a foundational institution in India's financial landscape, serving as a cornerstone in the nation's banking sector. Under government ownership, it has played a crucial role in contributing to the country's economic growth. The bank's commitment to delivering comprehensive financial services has earned it a reputation as a trusted institution, providing a wide range of loans, credit facilities, and banking solutions across diverse sectors.

With an extensive network of branches across India, the bank ensures accessibility to financial services for communities nationwide. These branches must remain intricately connected, managing front-end interactions for improved customer experiences and backend operations for employee efficiency, all while safeguarding the security of financial data.

Through robust Wi-Fi networks, the bank has streamlined operations and enhanced customer service, facilitating quicker and more convenient transactions. Embracing innovation, it has evolved into a customer-centric institution, providing digital solutions to meet dynamic customer needs. This dedication to customer-centricity positions the bank as a preferred choice for millions, combining tradition with a commitment to innovation in an ever-changing financial landscape.

- **Bank of Baroda, India's second-largest public bank, serves 153 million customers globally, conducting a US\$218 billion business and operating across 100 overseas offices..¹**
- **The digital payment landscape has witnessed exponential growth in recent years. In the fiscal year 2023, the country recorded nearly 114 billion digital transactions.²**



Overview

Our recent implementation of Make in India compliant 24-Port switches across over 1,600 branches marked a transformative milestone for us.

These switches seamlessly integrated with the existing banking infrastructure, ensuring uninterrupted connectivity while upholding stringent security measures for core systems.

This strategic deployment was a testament to HFCL's commitment to innovation and precision, enabling the bank to navigate this transition flawlessly.

Anand Kumar
Associate Vice President Communications

A forward-thinking financial institution has embarked on a transformative journey by prioritizing the implementation of a resilient and secure network across its branches. At the core of this advanced network strategy is a strong focus on security, ensuring robust protection against cyber threats and unauthorized access. Simultaneously, the institution places a premium on network reliability, enabling uninterrupted services for swift transactions and efficient customer service tools. The primary challenge was to maintain seamless business operations while aligning with the government's Make in India initiative, particularly given the reliance on foreign switches in the network. An advanced solution was needed to optimize banking operations and facilitate a smooth transition to domestically manufactured switches.

Taking the lead, HFCL addressed the challenge of integrating Make in India switches into the existing network. Approximately 2,800 24-Port switches were supplied to equip over 1,600 branches across the country. Dynacons Systems & Solutions managed the deployment of these switches, ensuring a secure and compliant connectivity system without compromising business continuity.

- The digital banking users will surpass 3.6 billion by 2024, marking a 54% increase from 2.4 billion in 2020.³
- In June 2023, Bank of Baroda served as the remitter bank for more than 604 million UPI transactions in India, showcasing a consistent increase over the past year.³

Challenge

The institution faced the challenge of replacing foreign switches with Make in India alternatives while maintaining network performance—particularly complex due to the absence of prior deployments of such switches. The focus was on ensuring uninterrupted business continuity during the transition while upholding compliance standards. Additionally, there were concerns about how the new switches would integrate with the existing network access control (NAC) system. Officials were also apprehensive about whether a domestic OEM could deliver a large number of switches within a short timeframe, especially given the known chipset crisis.

Solution

HFCL did fantastic work in advance planning of all critical components and was able to deliver switches within the prescribed time. The deployment of switches was carefully planned across all 1600+ branches to facilitate a smooth transition from the existing foreign switches. The integration of HFCL switches with the bank's existing NAC was done successfully which allowed secured access to only legitimate devices working at various branches.

HFCL Switches were chosen for their balanced capacity, offering an effective compromise between scalability and physical space constraints. This selection ensured that the network architecture could efficiently accommodate the existing connectivity requirements while allowing room for future growth and technological advancements. Its versatility accommodates a range of devices, including computers, printers, and other networked equipment, making it a flexible solution for diverse operational environments.

The deployment also incorporated a robust authentication mechanism, guaranteeing secure navigation for users within the system while maintaining stringent security standards. Additionally, the solution included a resilient local security feature. In the event of disconnection from the central system, this local security capability ensured uninterrupted and secure operations at the branch level, mitigating potential disruptions, and maintaining operational continuity.

By combining 24-Port switches with secure authorized access and local security measures, this comprehensive approach significantly strengthened the institution's network. It provided a scalable, secure, and resilient infrastructure, effectively addressing both immediate and future demands in the evolving digital banking landscape.

Managed Switches



24-Port L2 Switches

Smart PoE capabilities with enhanced security

Result

- 01** The successful integration of Make in India switches resulted in a seamless transition, ensuring uninterrupted business operations without any downtime across Bank of Baroda's network.
- 02** A resilient network guarantees continuous connectivity and highly secure authorized access. Enhanced switches strengthened the bank's security protocols, ensuring secure data transmission and defending against potential cyber threats.
- 03** The inclusion of a local security feature ensured uninterrupted operations at the branch level, even in the event of a disconnect from the central system. This local security capability contributed to maintaining the integrity and security of operations during unforeseen circumstances.

Conclusion

HFCL's strategic initiative to enhance the bank's network infrastructure by deploying indigenously developed 24-Port switches highlights its commitment to innovation and customer-centricity in the evolving banking landscape. This seamless transition was achieved without disruptions, reflecting the thorough planning and precise execution necessary to maintain uninterrupted business operations across over 1,600 branches nationwide. The deployment has successfully provided seamless connectivity, strengthened the bank's security infrastructure, and ensured resilience with local security features. These outcomes demonstrate the institution's dedication to efficiency, security, and adaptability in today's dynamic banking environment.



References

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3. <https://www.juniperresearch.com/press/digital-banking-users-to-exceed-3-6-billion>
4. <https://www.statista.com/statistics/1226048/india-total-upi-transaction-volume-from-bank-of-baroda/>

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