Be Free SOFT
PC Blades Makes the Travel Industry Safer

OVERVIEW

▶ **The Challenge**

Harden asset and data security at a leading travel software provider in order to better protect sensitive customer information

▶ **The Solution**

Replace box PCs in the finance, development and support/maintenance departments with ClearCube PC Blades and User Ports

▶ **The Benefit**

Elimination of unauthorized data downloading and a more easily managed computing environment

Be Free SOFT specializes in developing, producing and marketing packaged software for the travel industry. As the name suggests, Be Free SOFT takes an innovative approach to producing high quality software and has been a top vendor in the industry since 1995. Be Free's travel software includes the popular "Travel WINS" as well as the more recent "Travel ANSWER," which allows travelers to directly compare accommodations and book packaged tours.

The Challenge

In developing, operating and supporting systems for its travel agency clients, Be Free SOFT manages a high volume of personal information. The company was worried that traditional box PCs would enable unauthorized individuals to download sensitive data onto hard or floppy disks.

The Solution

To increase data security, Be Free SOFT approached Japanese IT systems provider Hitachi Systems to deploy a ClearCube PC Blade solution in its finance, development and support/maintenance departments. The company also wanted to connect the deployment to a projector in its customer meeting room for presentations and demonstrations.

The ClearCube solution removes the PC from the work area, condenses it into a dense Intel®-based form-factor, and rack-mounts it in a centralized data center. All that remains at the work area are the peripherals (monitor, mouse, keyboard) and a small ClearCube connection device called a User Port. Utilizing ClearCube browser-based management software, IT personnel can easily manage both assets and users from anywhere in the world.

The Benefit

Be Free SOFT immediately recognized the security benefits of the ClearCube solution. "We can keep a great amount of data on the PC Blades without risking it being stolen," says Mr. Ohnishi, CIO of Be Free SOFT.

The ClearCube deployment also increased the ease of asset manageability while continuing to provide a seamless computing experience for users. "The greatest advantage of installing the ClearCube solution is the ability to control and manage the client environment through the system software," says Mr. Ohnishi. "Also, our employees find it just as easy to use as PCs."

Mr. Watanabe, IT solution group leader at Be Free SOFT, says, "Be Free SOFT is often changing its office layout. Before installing the ClearCube solution, we had to move the box PCs every time we had a new layout. However, now we are able to simply switch the PC Blades in the data center. It allows us to complete relocations very easily."

Be Free SOFT's goal for the future is to replace all of its office devices with the ClearCube solution. It also plans to utilize the ClearCube "Switch Manager" software, which enables IT administrators to instantly reallocate users to spare PC Blades in the event of a failure.