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## UBI Banca Chooses AD Lab for High-Speed Processing of Internal Digital Investigations

**UBI Banca is the fourth-largest Italian commercial bank**, with more than 1,900 branches throughout the country and more than 22,000 employees. The bank operates mainly in the retail market and is present in most regions of Italy, although its focus is primarily on northern Italy. The parent company is headquartered in Bergamo, Italy.

The bank was formed in 2007 as a result of the merger between BPU - Banche Popolari Unite and Banca Lombarda e Piemontese. UBI Banca is listed on the Milan Stock Exchange and included in the FTSE/MIB index.

### Seeking the Best Software

UBI Banca set a strategic objective of building its own internal audit and IT operations capabilities. The team realized that a key first step would be to acquire software tools that would support their professionals.

“We knew that we needed software tools to support us with our internal investigations,” said Andrea Gianola, Head of Audit ICT & Operations department at UBI Banca. “We felt that it would help us to be more independent if we purchased our own software platform.”

Gianola and his colleague, Luca Antonioli, Senior IT Auditor at UBI Banca, set out to review a number of products in the industry.

“We looked at several different products to manage the processing of data in our digital investigations,” said Gianola. “We quickly narrowed it down to AD Lab and a short list of other tools that would give us the possibility of working as a team on the same case.”

The UBI Banca team met with representatives from both companies and did a thorough assessment of each product's features and benefits. Then they conducted a comprehensive test of the two products in real-life conditions.

### The Solution

"We tested the tools from AccessData and the other vendor in a side-by-side comparison," explained Antonioli. "The features were similar but AD Lab was superior in two important ways. First, AD Lab was definitely faster than other tools we have seen when it came to processing speed. Second, AccessData offered us a far more cost-effective package for our investment."

UBI Banca chose AccessData's AD Lab as its internal software platform for managing digital investigations.

AD Lab is a large-scale investigations and processing engine that enables computer forensics labs of all sizes to provide their teams with collaborative analysis, centralized

case management and web-based review, thereby dramatically streamlining the investigative process. The software uniquely enables distributed processing, allowing investigators to utilize additional hardware to dramatically increase their case processing and resolution speed.

AD Lab helps users power through massive data sets, handle various data types and run multiple cases at the same time—all within a collaborative and scalable environment. With AD Lab, users get the fastest processing available on the market with virtually limitless scalability (depending on their own hardware) and AD Lab's state-of-the-art data visualization supports deeper analysis by uncovering relationships and patterns that make better decisions possible.

"Our first experience with AD Lab was to use it to manage digital evidence collected in an internal investigation," recalled Gianola. "It performed very well, which was an immediate reassurance that we made the right choice."



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—Luca Antonioli  
Senior IT Auditor at UBI Banca

## Results

Since deploying AD Lab, UBI Banca has realized a number of important benefits, including the following:

- **Lightning-fast processing**

With AD Lab, the UBI Banca team processed a 160-gigabyte image file in just 13 minutes when using one processing server and two client servers (three engines). “The software’s tremendous speed sets the standard for excellence in the IT industry,” said Antonioli. “The fast processing of AD Lab allows us to move quickly to the process of reviewing and analyzing the data collection.”

- **Ease of use**

“AD Lab is so simple to operate that we actually began using it before we even had our official training session,” said Gianola. “The software’s web-based user interface allows easy collaboration with a wide range of team members across various parts of the organization.”

- **In-country partner**

Datamatic, a Milan-based IT consultancy, is a member of AccessData’s partner network. Datamatic Sistemi e Servizi helped UBI Banca design and implement AD Lab as its internal software platform.

“Datamatic,” said Gianola, “is a real partner, not simply a supplier or vendor, but a true business associate. This relationship has been very important to us and a key to our success with implementing AD Lab.”

- **Integrated solutions**

The integration of other AccessData® software tools has been a welcome additional benefit to the UBI Banca team. Specifically, they have been able to take advantage of: FTK®, to find relevant evidence faster; FTK® Imager, to acquire data in a forensically sound manner by creating copies of data without making changes to the original evidence; and Password Recovery Toolkit®, to decrypt encrypted files using various techniques.



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### Conclusion

AccessData’s AD Lab is a powerful investigations and processing engine that enables corporate digital forensics teams to perform collaborative analysis, have access to centralized case management and conduct web-based review. This streamlines the investigative process and speeds up the internal workflow.

“We’re very pleased with AD Lab and the other tools from AccessData,” said Gianola. “Their software allows us to work faster and smarter, producing excellent results for our bank.”



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