

Bank of Montreal Eyes RFPs for Digital Platform That Will Ultimately Link 600 Traders Worldwide

As it looks to globally standardize its trading room technology—in support of some 600 traders in facilities from Calgary to Guangzhou—Toronto-based Bank of Montreal is being courted by a host of digital data distribution system vendors. In reviewing responses to the requests for proposal it sent out earlier this year, the bank has already put together a short list that includes Dow Jones Telerate, Market Vision Corp., Micrognosis Inc., Reuters and Reuters' subsidiary Teknekron Software Systems Inc.

The winning platform will ultimately be rolled out worldwide, at Bank of Montreal's affiliated trading rooms in Chicago, New York City, Toronto, Montreal, Calgary, Vancouver, London, Hong Kong, Seoul, Singapore, Tokyo and Guangzhou. (The bank only recently received a license to op-

erate in China.) Much of the bank's growth in the past year or two has been driven by a series of mergers, involving, variously, Nesbitt Thomson Corp., Burns Frye Ltd. and Harris Bankcorp Inc. While rollout of the new platform will begin immediately for most of the bank's operations, sites in the Asia/Pacific region won't feel the impact until 1996.

Meanwhile, as an interim measure until global platform evaluations are completed, the bank is expanding its reliance on Micrognosis' Tradelook 3 data distribution system running on Sun Microsystems Inc.'s Unix-based workstations—a platform that is incumbent at several of the bank's trading sites worldwide. The bank has begun a fresh rollout of the interim platform at a new 120-

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Swiss Bank New York Checks Out Triarch, TIB, Considers Rolling Its Own, for Planned New Facility

IN preparation for the move of its New York City-based trading operations to Stamford, Conn., Swiss Bank Corp. is evaluating digital data distribution systems from both Reuters and Reuters' Teknekron Software Systems Inc. subsidiary as possible replacements for its Micrognosis Inc.-supported incumbent. The bank, which currently employs Micrognosis' Mips in support of some 300 traders in New York City, is checking out Reuters' Triarch 2000 and Teknekron's TIB (Teknekron Information Bus) to see if either system can meet the needs of its future Stamford-based staff—a group that may eventually number up to 900 traders by

(TST Jan. 9). At the same time, SBC is also considering the possibility of collaborating with other vendors to build its own trading room platform. The 300 New York City-based traders are part of a group of 1,300 personnel SBC plans to move to the new building in downtown Stamford by Jan. 1, 1998 (TST, Oct. 3, 1994).

According to Ulrich Kunz, executive director for information technology at SBC, the bank's evaluation of Triarch 2000 and TIB is part of a routine exercise the bank goes through when it re-evaluates its "position, its requirements and its vendors." Kunz

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