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Case Study

Secure Mobile

Three financial institutions. Three countries. One mobile security architecture.

Overview

When your workforce goes mobile, so do your attackers. Three financial institutions in South Africa, Uganda, and Mauritius, were navigating exactly this reality: rapid growth in mobile banking operations and executive mobility, combined with a surge in mobile-based attacks targeting their staff and systems. Each bank had matured security controls in place. What they lacked was consistent, governed protection that travelled with their people. They partnered with Knovation Solutions to close that gap.

The challenge

Going mobile-first dramatically expanded the attack surface. Relationship managers, executives, and third-party contractors were accessing core banking systems from smartphones and tablets operating well beyond the traditional network perimeter, and the existing controls were not built for that reality.

Across all three engagements, we found the same pattern: unmanaged or partially managed mobile devices accessing core banking, CRM, and payment platforms. Mobile malware was rising. Attacks targeting staff were increasing. And limited visibility into device posture made it near-impossible to enforce consistent security policies across both BYOD and corporate-owned devices.

At the same time, regulatory pressure was intensifying. Each institution needed to demonstrate control, auditability, and cyber resilience to their respective regulators. In each case, mobile devices had become the weakest link in an otherwise mature security environment.

The solution

Each bank needed security controls that protected mobile endpoints without restricting the productivity gains that had driven mobile adoption in the first place. We worked with all three to design and deliver a solution that provided real-time visibility, threat response, and compliance, without adding friction for their users.

By combining Knovation's cross border professional and managed services with Ivanti's Mobile Device Management (MDM) and Mobile Threat Defence (MTD) powered by Zimperium, we provided the three financial institutions in South Africa, Mauritius and Uganda with end-to-end mobile security governance — from device configuration to real-time threat response.

This integrated approach allowed the organisations to control who accessed their banking systems, from which device, and under what conditions, while also being able to detect and stop mobile-based attacks. Knovation Solutions enabled them to maintain regulatory compliance without restricting workforce mobility.

The result was secure mobility with accountability, rather than visibility gaps and reactive incident response.

Key capabilities

Mobile Device Management (MDM)

- Centralised policy enforcement across corporate-owned and BYOD devices
- Conditional access based on device compliance and risk posture
- Remote lock, wipe, and recovery for lost or compromised devices

Mobile Threat Defence (MTD)

- Real-time detection of mobile malware
- Behavioural analysis to identify risky apps and user actions
- Zero-day threat protection and automated remediation

Knovation Solution's Integrated Security Services

- Endpoint security specialists
- Translate security requirements into executable roadmaps
- Deploy, support and optimise cross border

The outcomes

Each financial institution moved from fragmented, partially managed mobile security to a single, unified control that managed, monitored, and protected every device accessing their banking systems. One architecture supported multiple regulatory frameworks, reducing compliance complexity rather than adding to it. Mobile threats that previously went undetected are now identified and contained before they reach banking operations. Each one gained the visibility they'd been missing, and the confidence to continue expanding their mobile workforce without expanding their risk.

Why this succeeded

Throughout the engagements, Knovation provided hands-on scoping and deployment support and ongoing managed services across borders, ensuring the three financial organisations could operate in a mobile environment confidently and securely.

These engagements succeeded because they addressed the human reality behind the security challenge of mobility. The banks needed to feel in control again. They needed a partner who understood the weight of compliance pressure and mobile risk, but also the genuine business value that mobility brought to their operations.

When control becomes confidence

If this challenge sounds familiar, let's talk. We'll start with your current mobile security posture and show you exactly where the gaps are as part of the "Secure Anywhere" journey.

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