

# Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V. Japan Branch

**Transition from Tape to Online Backups**

**15-minute Incremental Backups Boost Convenience**

**ROBECO**  
The Investment Engineers

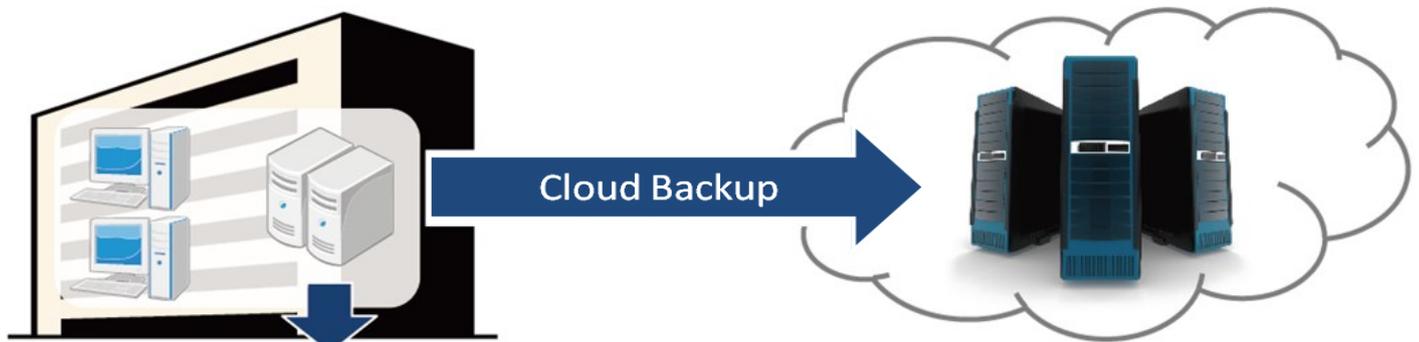


Established in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, in 1929, Robeco is one of the few major asset management companies in Europe. It currently employs more than 1,800 people in 15 countries and invests in various assets, including stocks, bonds, short-term money market instruments, funds of hedge funds, private equity and single strategy hedge funds.

We talked to Ai Watanabe, Office Manager at Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V. Japan Branch, about her company's backup environment. Robeco Japan operates in a thin client environment connected to a Citrix server and uses Blueshift Data Protection to back up the Citrix server. Taking a backup of the Citrix server means files belonging to individuals also get backed up, so she says it is more efficient than backing up each PC.

Before taking advantage of Blueshift Data Protection, the Citrix server was backed up once a week on tape. This task was outsourced, so once a week, an outside engineer would come and take the backup, which was quite a hassle. Watanabe laughs and says, "Towards the end, I was the one switching out tapes." She says when she found out about Blueshift Data Protection, she decided right away to sign up. "The biggest thing is that there's no need to switch out tapes or anything, and the automatic backups are convenient."

Robeco HQ (Rotterdam, the Netherlands)



# Advantages of Cloud Backup

## Restore data easily

Watanabe says, “What makes cloud backups so convenient is how they save you if you accidentally overwrite a file or log out without saving your work. It’s really simple to restore the data.” She says with team members working on shared files, it’s not uncommon to accidentally overwrite changes with an old file or to forget to save the file before logging out. “When that happens, we contact the Help Desk and ask them to restore previous data. These careless mistakes are hard to eliminate, so we have them restore data probably once a month or so.”



Blueshift Data Center Locations: Osaka & Tokyo

Being able to restore what you need when you need it is the biggest selling point of online backups. It makes sense, then, that Watanabe would tell us, “Now backups are taken automatically every 15 minutes, so even if a file is deleted, we have access to backups that are almost unaffected by human error. I never knew automatic online backups and restoration could be so convenient.”

## Automated backups simplify operations

Tape-based backups require tasks like switching out tapes, so automating of backups is not so easily accomplished. With online backups, on the other hand, all you have to do is configure a setting, and you never have to think about backups again. There is no need to worry when there are planned power outages, and you do not have to be concerned when the power is shut off for building maintenance. Moreover, since the backups are automatically copied to data centers in Tokyo and Osaka, you can have peace of mind even if disaster strikes.

Watanabe says that over the three years since they started using the service, the space they use has doubled. “We’re in the financial business, so we can’t just delete customer data. You never know when you’re going to need data from three years ago. So the volume of our data is always going to be increasing. The cost has also risen, but the pricing is reasonable.” Cloud backups are charged on a pay-as-you-go basis, so you only pay for what you use. You do not have to secure space that you may need in the future. Indeed, one of the major advantages is that there is no need to spend money on unnecessary space.

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