



ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND LOW ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT: UBI REVOLUTIONISES ITS BRANCHES AND MAKES THEM SUSTAINABLE

The first bank in Italy to invest in the installation of intelligent domotics in 1,900 branches. Consumption and costs are reduced, while security at the workplace is increased by using one of the largest cloud systems ever created.

Milan, August 17th, 2017 - One single electronic brain will now control energy consumption in all branches and reduce emissions and costs, while it will raise safety standards at the workplace at the same time. By using this latest generation technology, UBI Banca will revolutionise all its branches spread throughout the country with a view to increasing energy efficiency and reducing the environmental impact of each branch

It is the first bank in Italy to undertake an initiative of this type, as it took up the challenge launched to the whole banking sector by "ABI Lab", the Italian Banking Association's R&D centre for banks, which in 2014 suggested that credit institutions should monitor the energy impact of their properties and consider sustainability-oriented investments.

The aim of the project is twofold consisting of increasing awareness of energy consumption and reducing it by switching devices off intelligently. It was developed by an operating team in partnership with Job Service Srl, a firm that specialises in systems maintenance in the world of industry and finance and a technology partner Over Spa, a spin-off of the Sapienza University of Rome, that has been operating in the intelligent electrical systems sector since 2012.

The use of domotics is particularly innovative because it is not limited solely to monitoring power lines, but also uses its own intelligence which stores events and reports problems in real time so that the immediate action can be taken.

By the first months of 2018, domotics systems will be installed in all of the banking Group's 1,900 branches and connected to one of the largest cloud systems ever created, so it will be possible to control them remotely. At present 772 of UBI Banca's branches are connected to a central computer, but the entire network will soon be rapidly upgraded for complete compatibility with the new system. The necessary work in individual branches will take around two days and will not involve complex structural changes.

On the basis of calculations carried out following intervention in branches that are already operative, the investment will pay for itself in a short space of time, starting as early as the

first half of 2019. Energy savings of 15% have been recorded so far by monitoring branches with domotics systems already installed. There are also indirect advantages from using this innovative system, such as for example higher safety standards at the workplace. The control centres will be able to recognise simple faults automatically and detect problems on power lines outside office hours, which increases safety and efficiency.

Planning of this work will also involve branches belonging to the “good banks”, the three banks recently acquired by the UBI Group. The next step, once all branches have been connected to the control centre, will be to study management headquarters, not included in this stage of the project.

“The rationale behind this investment”, explained **Andrea Raffone, Real Estate Manager at UBI Banca**, “is based on the knowledge that we are taking action to change energy consumption related-behaviours and to eliminate waste by switching systems off intelligently in order to achieve a low environmental impact. Small details like switching off an LED device, a computer not used outside office hours or a printer left switched on result in significant cuts to consumption and this has a large impact also in terms of the bank’s corporate social responsibility”.

“What we have done at UBI Banca”, said **Adriano Cerocchi, the Chief Executive Officer of Over Spa** “is not merely to set remote controlled clocks. Over is not a ‘blind’ technology which acts by following statistical rules, but is a true and genuine intelligent technology installed in each branch which learns each day and switches off systems on the basis of contingent situations, with the aim of reducing energy costs to a minimum”.

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