

Data Centres - UK - May 2019

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“Colocation data centres are set to see huge and rapid growth in demand. This will lead to both the development of new facilities and the constant upgrading of existing facilities to accommodate the ever increasing volumes of data being created and analysed.”
 – Terry Leggett, Senior Analyst

This report looks at the following areas:

- **5G is just around the corner**
- **Build it any colour as long as it is green**
- **Security the heart of a data centre**

The volume of data created by businesses and consumers has grown exponentially, and is currently doubling every two years. Data centres are not just housing this ever increasing volume, but facilitating its interrogation in an increasingly sophisticated way (including artificial intelligence) to address business opportunities and problems which were previously unimaginable. At one end of the sector are the vast cloud servers operated by the likes of AWS, Microsoft, and Google, but there is also growing demand for colocation data centres. These range from wholesale colocation where tenants typically lease a fully-built data centre, to retail colocation where a customer leases space within a data centre, usually a rack, space within a rack, or a caged-off area. Hybrids of these two traditional definitions are also emerging.

With the imminent arrival of 5G, the Internet of Things (IoT) will amplify the number of connected devices beyond those currently humanly operated. Traffic in a data centre typically flows in three directions. Traffic entering or exiting the data centre (often called north-south traffic) will grow exponentially with the advent of the IoT. However, east-west traffic will also magnify - the network communications between servers and applications within the data centre, which typically account for 70% of total traffic. Moreover, many enterprise and financial services companies have traffic flowing between the multiple private and public clouds they manage.

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DID YOU KNOW?

This report is part of a series of reports, produced to provide you with a more holistic view of this market

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Strategy

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