The Challenge of Energy Management "Are renewables enough to keep the lights on?"

Responsive Environments – Next Generation Datacentre's Tony Day Global Director Datacentre Projects and Professional Services



Business Drivers.....





- Technology is key earlier what used to be done via Human interaction has become technology driven – this is becoming a key business differentiation.
- Companies rely on their information systems to run their operations and **maintain business continuity**. The main purpose of a datacentre is running the applications that handle the core business and operational data of the organisation.
- Not just commercial business or industry today all areas of human activity and endeavour are more and more reliant on technology which somewhere in the support chain will often contain a datacentre facility......



Reality check- cost, supply and demand





- The days of cheap energy are gone and there is increasing uncertainty over security of fuel supplies.
- "The energy abundance on which this nation was built is over" – Former Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan, Washington June 7th 2006 (Reuters);
- "doubted producers would pump enough oil to meet future demand" and;
- "the buffer between oil supply and demand was razor thin" and "even small acts of sabotage or local insurrection have a significant impact on oil prices".



Increasing environmental focus





- Whatever the reason's you choose to believe in (human activity?) greenhouse gas levels in the atmosphere are increasing.
- Climate change affects the patterns of electricity demand and the efficiency of the raw power plant.
- Governments struggling to achieve publicly made commitments to Kyoto targets look for the areas most likely to provide a opportunity for serious energy reduction (and perhaps also an opportunity for a new tax revenue stream).
- The datacentre is a prime target for "greening" and energy efficiency/reduction due largely to its incessant consumption of energy.
- Public pressure Corporate Citizen.



Sufficient Power and Cooling capacity are always key concerns for any datacentre



Priority for 2012 Olympic Games-"shackling the City of London, the UK's top money earner, by denying it access to the national grid"

- The Guardian, Thursday 29th May 08

 Are we still too wedded to the Tier 1 Cities?

 While some are taking advantage of capacity off-tier others are experiencing difficulties due to their need to be in close proximity to the tier 1 markets -

but if this critical aspect of your business only accounts for between 17% to 25% - why not move the other 80% and gain additional headroom for that which is really critical without any increase in current capacity ?



Increasing regulation & codification







- UK Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC)
- EU Code of Conduct for Datacentre's (EU CoC)
- EU Energy Performance Building Directive
- Revision of Part L of The Building Regulations 2000 "Conservation of fuel and power
- Climate Change Levy
- F-Gas regulation
- EU Eco-design Directive for Energy Using Products, Energy Star, Eurovent certification
- BREEAM, LEED certification,
- Carbon Trust ECA Scheme
- Green Grid metrics PUE/DCIE
- BCS
- Financial instruments
- Standards ANSI-TIA-942-2005 / ASHRAE TC9.9 etc,
- Legislators should always engage and consult with the industry to ensure the most effective means of dealing with the issues of energy consumption are implemented.



Data havens - ways to avoid punitive legislation?





This is the side view of the data center system.

- On a sea fort 6 miles offshore a sovereign principality Sealand.
- Containers take to sea not just for shipping purposes enroute to a site on terra firma but for deployment as a **floating DC** using the **tides for energy generation** and the **sea** as a thermal heat sink **for cooling**.
- Lots of issues around marine DC installations



denser with more frequent change, focus on efficiency and cost





- Blade technology adoption as a mainstream architecture
- Consolidation & Virtualisation
- Dynamic cooling loads
- Cloud Computing (External / Internal)
- Warehouse-Scale Computer (WSC)
- Thin-client architecture

Together with the above, the recent economic turmoil and the ever shrinking business horizon has driven the need for more flexible, scaleable, modular DC facilities



Stranded capacity = inefficiency for power & cooling

Figure 4 – Using scalable power and cooling to minimize the inefficiency of unused capacity during consolidation and regrowth





Raising the efficiency curve

Figure 13 – Optimized power and cooling raises the efficiency curve





Management of a virtualized environment

Figure 5 – Meeting the management challenge in a virtualized environment







PowerLogic ION EEM software architecture

Moore's Law and Nielsen's Law



- Processing power increases on the CPU due to Moore's Law but without the ability to get it off the CPU fast enough due to pipe limitations (ISA bus late 90's). Clock speeds were increased but without great gain in data throughput, multi-cores introduced to help overcome wire delay and increase data throughput.
- Moore's Law- computers double in capabilities every 18 months or about 60% annual growth, a factor of 100x every 10 years. Nielsen's Law relating to the speed of bandwidth has a 50% annual growth, a factor of only 57x over the same timeframe.



Location, location, location.



- Traditionally the prime clients and top dollar have been obtained by those facilities located in the **Tier 1 Markets** which in EMEA are the following cities:-
- Amsterdam
- Frankfurt
- London
- Madrid
- Paris
- Increasing regulation, power supply issues, and environmental pressure together with technology improvements are likely to significantly impact the selection of location and the dominance of the Tier 1 markets in the future.



Needs to know basis and lost opportunity – "nobody told us"



- Existing factory and offices converted to colocation facility Amsterdam
- "nobody told us the IT industry had chosen Amsterdam as the European landing point and that you would need all this power – and would be building all these large facilities" – Chair of Amsterdam City Council 2002.



Tiering-four levels relating to availability and security ANSI/TIA-942-2005



"Is it safe?"

- Would the business not want any additional risk regardless of any potential benefits?
- Recent trends in an increasing power constrained and regulated market are a move from Tier 3 or Tier 3+ to Tier 2 and in some cases two Tier1 or three Tier 1 facilities in a delta spaced within the latency limits.
- The modular datacentre (depending on the configuration of its building blocks) offers the opportunity to have multiple tier levels within the same facility and/or use of the lower Tiers to benefit from a better PUE without any real loss in availability and security.



2008 ASHRAE Environmental Guidelines for Datacom

Equipment — Expanding the Recommended Environmental Envelope



	2004 Version	2008 Version
Low End Temperature	20°C (68 °F)	18°C (64.4 °F)
High End Temperature	25°C (77 °F)	27°C (80.5 °F)
Low End Moisture	40% RH	5.5°C DP (41.9 °F)
High End Moisture	55% RH	60% RH & 15°C DP (59 "F DP)

Table 1 Comparison of 2004 and 2008 recommended operating envelope

- Open up the bandwidth for temperature and humidity control to avoid wasting energy, improve the cooling plant efficiency and make best use of "free" cooling opportunities.
- Don't get fixated on specific set points consider allowing these to gently "float" within the broadest possible band – obviously within rate of change requirements.
- Further opportunities to broaden the operational band to save energy requires input from all the OEM's re their internal fan control and possible fan less versions of their boxes? – warranty issues may limit the opportunity here.



Polar research facility - to further our understanding of climate change



- Schneider Electric: Technical partner for the first zero emission polar station at Princess Elisabeth, Antarctica.
- Sustainable energy (wind generators and solar panels) and passive construction.
- Extreme conditions in which the on-board technologies must operate include violent winds, -40℃.
- Energy requirements are barely 20% of those for any other Antarctic station of comparable size.
- Handling electrical distribution, energy management, automation, supervision, and remote communication of the station (monitoring and management) during hibernation periods – March to October.



Sustainable energy -zero emissions







- Photovoltaics
- Wind Turbines
- Ground-coupled systems
- Biomass systems
- Tidal Systems
- Tri-generation
- Fuel cells
- Greywater/Rainwater recovery
- Water conservation
- Solar cooling On-site renewable energy systems are desirable but:
 - 1-start by reducing the loads
 - 2-increasing the efficiency of power, cooling, lighting etc (passive design, correct design, specification, and construction.
 - 3-reduce the carbon in the mains fuel supplies eg district biomass-CHP, offsite wind/tidal turbines community energy schemes make more environmental and economic sense than lots of separate, smaller renewable systems serving individual sites.



Passive Construction



- Make maximum use of passive construction in basic design to reduce mechanical loads due to environmental gains.
- Maximise off-site work using prefabrication, standardised modular systems to better control cost, quality, and reduce or avoid the "fuzzy edge disease" of the industry (site interface issues).



DC in a tent?

 Microsoft tent in DC fuel yard from November 07 to June 08



- Water dripped from the tent onto the rack.
- A windstorm blew a section of the fence onto the rack.
- An itinerant leaf was sucked onto the server facia.
- An interesting exercise to demonstrate the robustness of modern electronics but by current normal industry definition's the uncontrolled environment does not entitled this to be referred to as a datacentre.



Datacentre size



- A datacentre can occupy **one room** of a building, **one or more floors**, or an **entire building**.
- 2/3rds of US servers are housed in datacentres smaller than 5,000ft² (450m²) and with less than 1MW of critical power.
- Most large DC's are built to host servers from multiple companies (colocation DC's) and can support a critical load of 10-20MW. Very few DC's today exceed 30MW of critical power.
- Use of empty warehouses as shell stock has resulted in typical large DC halls of 10,000ft² to 15,000ft² (929m² to 1394m²) which is a property development metric related to the economic span of a portal frame (27m to 30m) and has nothing to do with IT requirements. Trends are to breaking down DC halls into smaller modules eg 2,000ft²



Features of the datacentre today





- Buildings where multiple servers and communication gear are colocated because of their common environmental requirements and physical security needs, and for ease of maintenance.
- typically host a large number of relatively small or medium-sized applications, each running on a dedicated hardware infrastructure that is de-coupled and protected from other systems in the same facility.
- host hardware and software for multiple organisational units or even different companies.
- Different computing systems within such a datacentre often have little in common in terms of hardware, software, or maintenance infrastructure, and tend not to communicate with each other at all.

Google



Main components of a typical datacentre





Low Cost Industrial shed construction modules relate to economic span of a portal frame- not relevant to IT needs

Two-Storey Facilities





Modular build out inside traditional large halls with pods or clusters

Standardised Scalable Facilities





Topologies applicable to all DC categories in satisfying their respective requirements



Two Story Vertical Flow-Through High Performance Data Center



- **Connectivity** internet access and wide-area communications
- Operational hosting web hosting, file storage and backup, database management, etc
- Additional services application hosting, content distribution, etc
- Failsafe power
- Environmental controls
- Fire detection and suppression
- System redundancy
- Security



Features of Warehouse-scale computer (WSC)

- These facilities power the servers offered by companies such as Google, Amazon, Yahoo, and Microsoft's online division.
- There are significant differences compared to a traditional datacentre,
- they belong to a single organisation
- use a relatively homogenous hardware and system software platform
- share a common systems management layer
- much of the application, middleware, and system software is built inhouse compared to the predominance of third-party software running in conventional datacentres
- run a smaller number of very large applications (or Internet services) and the common resource management infrastructure allows significant deployment flexibility.
- Google



Microsoft Generation IV Modular DC





Agile and adaptive architecture







Delivering service spine corridors-2002

Construction off site



Construction off site





Containerised datacentre



- Despite Google's patent filing in 2003 containerised DC's are not new, the military, oil industry and others have been using them for years, and companies like US DataPort had advertisements in DC trade magazines in 2003 for "a DC in a box" (also showed them stacked on the deck of a ship at sea).
- They provide all the functions of a typical datacentre room (racks, CRACs, PDU, cabling, lighting) even if not the physical space, in a small package. Air handling and cooling is similar to inrack cooling and typically allows higher power densities than regular raised floor DC's.
- Rack boxes must be complimented by utility boxes containing infrastructure such as chillers, generators, UPS etc. Good PUE values.
- Google has been operating a container-based DC since 2005 and others are to be heavily reliant on containers for new DC's – Microsoft, HP, IBM, Sun, Dell, etc (the cloud).



Sun MDC 20









Container solution – internal/external











Prefabricated substation's











Prefabricated modular rooms



- Normal DC room heights 3.8m
- Normal DC aisle widths 1.35m
- Takes deep racks 1.2m
- Each room with two 18m rows
- 500kW critical load per room
- N+1 cooling, dual feed power
- Weathered use externally or internally
- Transportable



FlexDC – 2007 Prefabricated building





Modular DC?



- 7000+ racks in custom ISX HACS provides secure scaleable build out in large hall deployment.
- 407,000ft² of space
- 250 MVA substation
- Modular cooling plant plugs into side of DC – all air cooling hot aisle containment maximises rack space.
- Modular generation plant at perimeter
- For security reasons the basic construction is heavy concrete and requires placement for whole site – not modular scaleable in regard to the building fabric.



The modular scaleable DC - tecnikon MDC shown at ECTA Vienna in 2000





- Tecnikon MDC 58RMU air-cooled sealed IP65 fully ducted
- Pre-assembled fully wired spines (rows 20 racks per row)
- Plug-in plant modules, stair and lift towers
- Factory built/prefabricated, transported by road, can be relocated for reuse elsewhere, fast build.



Example of concept application - ALBA 1



- 250 acre site arranged in 5 acre grid of 50 secure campus units.
- Each campus with IT technology space of approx 60,354 ft² to 80,472 ft².
- Std 600mm wide x 1200 deep racks between 2,268 to 3,024 per campus.
- Std 750mm/800mm wide racks x 1200mm deep between 1,764 to 2,352 per campus.
- Potential total site IT technology space of just over 3M ft² with between 88,788 to 114,156 racks.
- Up to 2,114 compute cells/pods/rooms.



JIT Approach Build-out what is needed when it is needed, standardized, scalable, modular.



- Minimum site implementation for build out is a single starter bay which consists of 2 x compute cells each of 1,437 ft² and the associated infrastructure/plant/ circulation space for rack loads scalable up to 30kW per rack (or greater if required) – footprint 5,695 ft².
- Thereafter single bays of building structure of similar size (2 x 1,437 ft²) overall 3,815 ft² inc plant etc can be added individually or in multiples as required according to the users business need in a step and repeat approach.
- Payment is only made for the infrastructure actually deployed when it is deployed – not for reserved space to grow into.
- Adequate land, power and cooling resource ensure future upgrade capability using JIT approach..



Power and Cooling and touching earth lightly



- Dual Grid supplies 400MW
- Bio-mass 2 x 50MW from community facility using existing sustainable renewable fuel supply (waste from established industry)
- Maximising use of direct and indirect "free cooling".
- Infrastructure is not just recyclable but more importantly reusable.
- Virtually everything can be removed from site and relocated for reuse.



Datacentre Scotland - Summary





- Already has:-
 - abundant diverse sources of renewable power
 - favourable ambient climate
 - available reasonably priced land
 - a skilled workforce
 - favourable political climate
- Important to:-
 - acquire connectivity direct to mainland Europe and US without having to route through London
 - engage with industry
 - **meet client needs** with green, energy efficient, responsive, agile and adaptive DC architectures
 - **establish centre of excellence** ("high tech cluster") around university research facilities and training for future industry requirements.



The infrastructure must support the technology to support the business



- We require modular, scalable, responsive architectures
- An agile infrastructure adapts to the ever changing business needs

