

Nominee: Aegis Data

Nomination title: Colocation data center provider

Aegis Data is a purpose built, Tier 3 aligned, ISO 9001 and ISO27001 certified colocation data centre based in Godalming, Surrey. The facility has been specifically designed to house High Performance Compute (HPC) requirements within its 6,000 square foot of technical space, providing 1,400kW IT loads. Phase one currently consists of a 30,000 square foot facility within which the data centre is housed. Phase two has a 7,000 square foot of technical space requiring a fit-out to offer 2,000kW IT loads. The site also comprises designated land for Aegis Two, a 42,000 square foot development to allow the data centre to expand and provide additional facilities when required.

Aegis Data was designed specifically to accommodate HPC capacities. This has factored in to the design and construction of the facility in order to meet the additional demands required by high performance computers. Currently many existing data centres within the South East of England do not have sufficient power to support 10-30kW racks, or sufficient headroom for growth, limiting the future needs of their customers. Aegis Data's data halls are specifically engineered to deliver the high density power and cooling required by these next generation platforms. Many existing data centres limit the available power and cooling of the racks due to legacy supporting infrastructure. For these data centre's customers, regardless of how many servers they wish to use in each rack, they are limited to the low ceiling capacity, frequently set as low as 4-5kW's per rack. This is not a problem for Aegis Data customers who can fully utilise the space in their racks without restriction, enabling them to enhance their efficiency and save money on needless additional power and footprints. Aegis Data customers can go up to 25kW per rack without requiring supplementary and ancillary cooling. The power headroom allows customers to grow their estates, helping to future proof their businesses. The ultra-low PUE environment helps deliver a lower total cost of ownership to Aegis Data's customers, saving up to 55% on operational costs.

Aegis Data's offering stands out from other colocation providers is that it offers the most cost-efficient Tier 3 enterprise solution on the market. This is in part aided by its location, 40 minutes from London and Surrey. By being based outside of the dense urbanisation of London, Aegis Data has already acquired land for future expansion. The land availability allows Aegis Data to be the sole proprietor of their 10MW data park. This space also provides Aegis Data with the space for state of the art direct fresh air cooling, the first to the UK market. This helps to provide the facility with an ultra-low PUE of 1.12, ensuring Aegis Data meets its carbon green commitments and helps customers save money the moment they have moved in. The purpose built site offers 10 layers of security and various levels of access control, surpassing the expected 8 layers of security. The state of the art Data Centre Infrastructure Management (DCIM) provides customers with complete transparency of use.

Aegis Data are constantly challenging industry standards and changing customer expectations through a variety of ways. By offering a pricing certainty, customers are offered a market leading power consumed per kw hour, with customers only paying for what they use. The pricing certainty that we offer our clients is one of the key differentiations between our offering and those of our primary market competitors. Thanks to the design of the Aegis Data facility and the energy saving technologies we employ, we can use the running cost savings and pass these onto our customers. The pay-as-a-you-grow approach reduces operational expenditures and total cost of ownership over the life of the client contracts.

Unlike many of Aegis Data's competitors, its customers are not constrained by power and cooling capacity limitations per rack. This allows its customers to optimise and virtualise their racks without having to take into account an increasingly costly footprint. This is further enhanced by the complete flexibility customers have over their rack environments, developing bespoke solutions that work for them. This helps set Aegis Data apart from its competitors by accommodating all rack densities. The customer centric approach gives them control over the DCIM which allows them to monitor performance of their servers which helps them to be more efficient and can give an advance warning of hardware failures.

Supporting quotes

"We were really impressed with the Aegis Data facility, both the existing infrastructure and the surrounding land that they have to grow in to. In addition, Aegis Data secured a new round of funding so partnering with a financially secure data centre was very important to us. We've searched a long term for a like-minded business partner that is able to provide the necessary density, flexibility and scalability needed to help take Custodian to the next level – Aegis provides this in abundance, both in terms of space and HPC capabilities."

Leonard Kay, Commercial Director, Custodian Data Centres

Why nominee should win

- Purpose built colocation data centre to provide high performance computing power
- Space already designated for growth as many organisations look to capitalise on colocation rather than enterprise data centres
- Located outside of London to reduce client hosting and running costs but close enough so London-based enterprises can easily access the site

- Ideally suited to support the rapid growth in consumer technologies such as online gaming, virtual reality and augmented reality
- Global Cloud Exchange member extending its data centre partnerships throughout Europe, Middle East, US and Asia