

The Merlin Data Centre

Capgemini - Leading the way in Sustainable Data Centres



In September 2010 Capgemini's pioneering environmentally-sound data centre came online. Located in Swindon, Wiltshire, UK, this state-of-the-art, 3,000m², high specification facility set a new global standard for energy efficient data centres, which are good for the environment and good for business.

With the rapid expansion of the internet and the innovation of new Information Communication Technologies (ICT), coupled with renewed global commitments to reduce carbon emissions and adopt sustainable business practices, the demand for energy efficient data centre facilities has never been higher.

Spotting this unique business opportunity, Capgemini pioneered the development of Merlin – a market leading energy efficient data centre facility. In creating Merlin, Capgemini pushed back the boundaries of resource, power, and cost efficiency, creating – an improved technical facility, a more effective business model and one of the most sustainable data centres in the world.

Good for the Environment

It is widely accepted that data centres currently contribute a similar amount of global CO² emissions to that of the aviation industry. This is due to the extremely energy intensive activities of powering

and cooling data centres. Power Usage Efficiency (PUE) is the metric used to measure data centre efficiency and the market average PUE currently stands at 1.8 (Uptime Institute). We are extremely proud to say that through innovating a new modular design and optimising fresh air cooling systems, we have achieved an industry leading PUE of 1.08.

However, we didn't stop there; we took a 360-degree view of sustainability and green innovation for this new facility. This included:

- Developing Merlin on a brown-field site to avoid unnecessary construction activity
- Using renewable power provision to reduce carbon emissions
- Constructing modules with 95% recyclable materials
- Using cleaner flywheel energy storage technology to replace the role environmentally damaging batteries.

Given this committed approach to sustainable design, Merlin was accredited as a green building by Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED).

Good for Business

With increased energy efficiency driving down running costs, Merlin is not only excellent for the environment, it is good for business too. The benefit to clients is clear: the massive cost savings, business efficiency and environmental benefits without any diminishing of space or technical services. Not only that, but because of Merlin's modular design, clients can specify exactly what they require for their design and can have a fully customised data centre up and running in 22 weeks, as opposed to the typical 12 to 18 months. Due to the environmentally sound technology and high specification, Merlin has been well subscribed to, currently supporting around 80 clients, many of whom chose Merlin due to its high environmental standards.

Conclusion

Through the application of pragmatic and innovative thought leadership, coupled with significant investment, Capgemini has revolutionised data centre technology. Merlin, now supplies a service to our clients which is more sustainable, energy-efficient, flexible, highly secure and far less costly to use.





Capgemini receiving the EU Code of Conduct Award for 'Data Centre Innovation and Energy Efficiency'



“ Today, our clients want first-class services delivered for the best price, and they increasingly demand business partners to minimise their carbon footprint. Merlin, one of the world’s most sustainable data centres, enables us to do all this, thereby giving us a clear advantage in the marketplace. ”

Richard Dicketts
COO Infrastructure Services

Awards and Accolades

Capgemini’s Merlin data centre demonstrated outstanding environmental performance and innovation, thus meriting the top award for data centre innovation and energy efficiency at the prestigious EU code of conduct awards.



About Capgemini

Now with 180,000 people in over 40 countries, Capgemini is one of the world’s foremost providers of consulting, technology and outsourcing services. The Group reported 2014 global revenues of EUR 10.573 billion. Together with its clients, Capgemini creates and delivers business, technology and digital solutions that fit their needs, enabling them to achieve innovation and competitiveness. A deeply multicultural organization, Capgemini has developed its own way of working, the Collaborative Business Experience™, and draws on Rightshore®, its worldwide delivery model.

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