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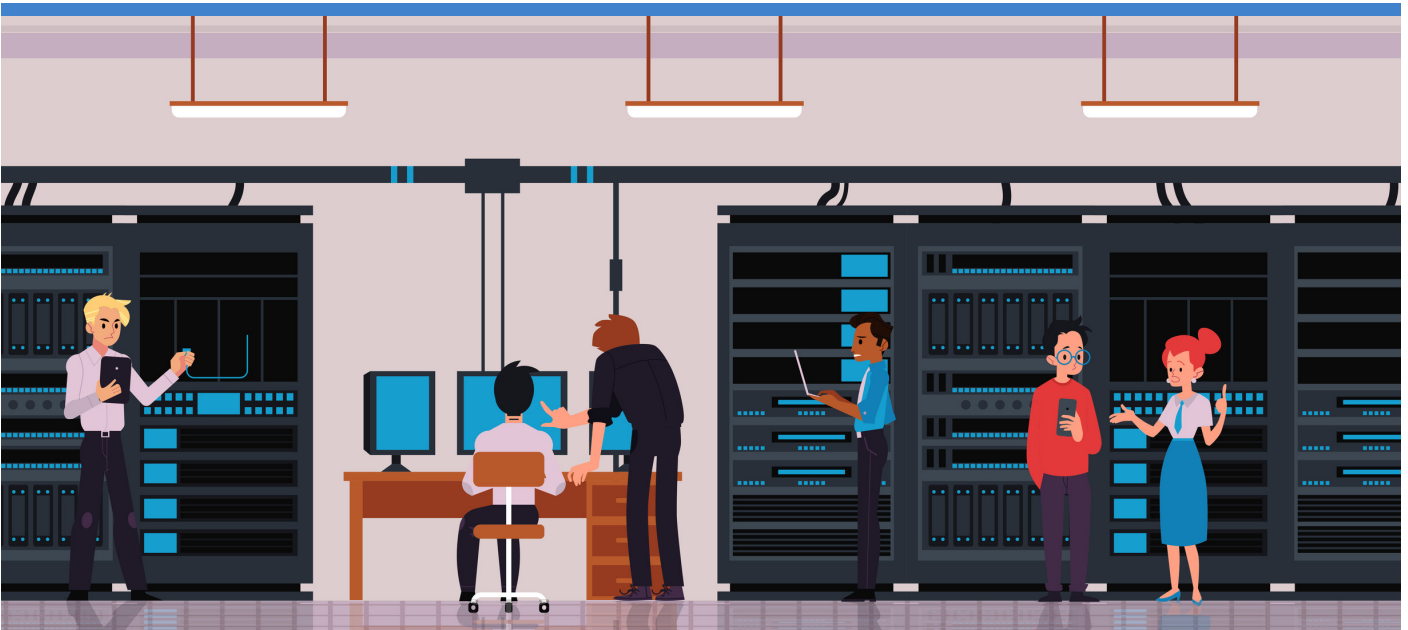Everywhere™

Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic on Data Centers And How to Save Energy in Data Centres

Data Centers are the hub and soul of a company. At its core, a Data Center is a physical facility that is used by a company for the storage of crucial data and applications.

Data Centers include many basic components like firewalls, routing devices, switches, servers, etc.

Data Centers aid business activities like email sharing, CRM, ERP, etc tremendously.

As with every component of business, the COVID-19 pandemic has completely changed the data center landscape.

Disruptions to IT Operations

There will be huge disruptions to IT operations in the data centres during the pandemic. Due to widespread and strict travel restrictions, on field IT engineers might face problems like lack of access to critical facilities which are usually monitored by them

Even if they do manage to get to a customer location, physical access to servers to resolve hardware issues in the data centre will be extremely tough due to impending quarantine restrictions.

Also to resolve infrastructural issues in servers, hardware components and commonplace parts like fans and power equipment are needed which will be really hard to get in the current situation.

How are Data Centres coping?

Enterprises who have sophisticated IT Asset Management Software installed in their servers are able to cope relatively better as they have a complete IT Inventory which facilitates Asset Tracking, thus lending more control over the IT environment. Advanced AMS also detect faults proactively and send warnings.

Firms are also adopting modern technology and increasing the use of AI and other Automation technologies.

Remote automation and the power of Artificial Intelligence is being used to ensure uninterrupted operations, through automated and proactive fault detection and instant resolving of the problems.

AI tools are very effective at recognizing and acting upon patterns and also predicting events before they happen, which leads to proactive troubleshooting of many IT issues.

Due to the pandemic, call centres and their staff are also very overwhelmed due to a high number of disruptions. Therefore, effective IT customer service portals are being set up to help monitor and resolve issues faster.

Energy Saving in Data Centers

Energy consumption of Data Centers is a huge issue. Data Centers require a lot of energy to keep the servers running and run other complex components.

To reduce their energy footprint, Data Centres can adopt features like being on "stand-by" mode when not in use, monitor operations efficiently, install sophisticated cooling software.

Optimization of Cooling Operations is the primary step to reduce energy consumption along with making efforts to synchronize server capacity and load and identifying and eliminating not-in-use or "zombie" servers which use up a lot of resources without contributing in return.

All these relatively in-house solutions massively help in reducing the energy footprint of a Data Centre.

ICICI Lombard Savings with IPM+

Established in 2001, ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company is a joint venture between ICICI Bank (India's 2nd largest bank) and Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited - a financial services company based in Toronto. ICICI Bank had 64% stake in the venture while Fairfax had 36%. ICICI Lombard General Insurance is the largest private sector general insurance company in India with turnover: FY 2018-19, Rs. 147.89 billion with 265 branches and 910 virtual offices employing over 8000 employees.

ICICI Lombard General Insurance used the IPM+ Energy Assistant and Smart Optimizer for Endpoints Module to decrease their energy footprint and increase the overall sustainability of the organization.

7500 PCs Licenses were deployed Pan India with 37% Energy Savings being documented which amounted to a net value of INR 2.24 Cr. 2313 Metric Ton of Carbon Emission was reduced along with 261816 m^3 Litres volume of water being saved.

59309 trees were planted as part of the project and 2.76 GWh worth energy was saved.

IPM+ NEWS & VIEWS

- "CtrlS bags world's first Golden Peacock Eco Innovation Award for Data Centers"
- "Hiranandani group to invest Rs 8,500 cr in 3 yrs to build data centres, industrial parks"
- "GPX India adds NIXI to the GPX Interconnection Ecosystem"
- "Birla-Furukawa prepares the Data Centers for the evolution to 400G"
- "HDFC Bank suffers downtime on payments stack; cites outage at data centre"
- "Data centre operators plan edge expansion, say India could be a regional hub"
- "Rise in digital adoption set to fuel explosive growth for data centre market in India"
- "Hyderabad data center capacity to triple during next five and half years ending 2025: JLL"
- "Mumbai home to highest number of data centres: Report"
- "Microsoft tests hydrogen fuel cells to backup its Azure Cloud"

Source: CIO.com

www.ipmplus.com   info@ipmplus.com