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**Subject:** Trusting Your Data Center Operations to the Experts

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LEAVE YOUR IT  
INFRASTRUCTURE TO THE  
EXPERTS

March 2015

**MainOne**



## 5 REASONS TO TRUST YOUR DATA CENTER OPERATIONS TO EXPERTS

For every contemporary CIO or IT Manager, the classic question of building or buying a data center is of major priority. Gone are the days when Data center was a back office decision with little or no impact on the business bottomline. In today's world where it is imperative for organisation to have a 24/7 online presence so they can interact with customers, Data Center decisions are considered more strategic with significant impact to a business bottomline.

In a 2014 survey carried out by the Uptime Institute, the global authority for Data Centers, it was noted that Enterprise companies are investing less in their own data centers. Instead, they are deploying their IT in off-premise data center environments. The IT budgets for data center operations of Enterprise customers continue to decline (50% reduction recorded in 2014), while third party data centers continue to note massive increases. This trend has been consistent for the past 4 years and does not show signs of abating.

Here, we highlight the 5 important considerations that sway a decision towards incorporating the use of third party data centers in organizations' IT Strategy.

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## 1. COST EFFECTIVENESS

Reducing IT infrastructure costs is one of the leading challenges IT experts are faced with year on year. Companies have discovered that outsourcing Data Center operations provide a high degree of cost efficiency. This cost benefit remains the most obvious and major benefit to organizations – some estimating reductions as much as 20-50% savings in their IT budget.



Commercial Data Centers are able to guarantee better cost efficiencies as a result of the economies of scale achieved when deploying large scale data center operations. For the Enterprise adopting third party data center operations, expenses are shifted to a predictable, monthly operating expense and there is no requirement for a huge capital outlay required upfront.

## 2. SECURITY

Commercial Data Centers, especially those that are focused on global standards, invest and imbibe in proven best practices for all data center standards with security being a priority. As a result, they are subject to continuous auditing of their security measures to ensure standards are fully operationalised and met. It is not uncommon to find third party data centers boasting of 4-5 levels of security checks before access to customer data can be attained.



One of the biggest risks faced by Enterprises who manage their data centers inhouse is insider threats – an employee who gains access to sensitive company data and uses it for malicious purposes. This risk is further reduced at third party data centers where stricter and more restricted security policies are often implemented.

In addition, hosting at a Commercial Data Center Facility makes it easier and often times, quicker to comply with policies and compliance issues, at a fraction of the cost

## 3. FOCUS ON YOUR CORE BUSINESS

Grow applications, adopt new technology and new business models while containing capital and operational expenditure associated with such growth. Building a data center or worrying about the 24x7 staffing and operations of hardware, which requires upgrades year to year, are distractions from the core mission of your Business organization.



Data center outsourcing shifts the burden of operating the facility to the provider and helps keep your focus on your core competencies and business priorities to maximize the success of your business.

#### **4. SCALABILITY**

Expanding data center space/capability is often a nightmare for Enterprises that manage their own data center operations. As a result, most IT managers are unable to meet up with the demands of the business who often need new services up and running in no time. Most times, by the time IT is able to deliver, the business has changed its focus onto a new thing making IT a bottleneck rather than an enabler of the business.



Scalability is an essential requirement as your business needs grow or your services expand into new horizons. Outsourcing operations to a data center ensures that the growth or otherwise required to support the business can be done rapidly with little or no upfront investments.

#### **5. HIGH AVAILABILITY**

The impact of unplanned outages can cost businesses thousands of dollars within minutes of the outage. According to a 2013 Ponemon study of U.S.-based data centers sponsored by Emerson Network Power, a global leader in maximizing availability, capacity and efficiency of critical infrastructure, it was established that the cost of an unplanned data center outage is slightly more than \$7,900 per minute.



Outsourced data centers are often built with multiple levels of resilience and redundancy guaranteeing higher levels of availability when compared with in house data centers. Multiple network connectivity providers, redundant infrastructure with no single point of failure in addition to robust business continuity and disaster recovery policies are measures adopted which when compared with inhouse data center is not as extensive as one would find in an outsourced data center. All these lend to minimizing the incidence of outages.

## Speak to MDX-I today about your colocation needs

MDX-I, a subsidiary of MainOne, is West Africa's premier Tier III carrier neutral Data Center. It has been designed and built to TIA 942 and Uptime Institute's standards to provide highly-available and highly-redundant world class infrastructure for Colocation, Managed Hosting and Cloud Services.

Visit The MDX-i Data Center [here](#).

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