

# Competitive Data Center Options for Texas Companies



Proximity impacts access, and colocation data-center performance. So be sure to consider these things when you evaluate Texas data centers.

# **Competitive Data-Center Options for Texas Companies**

Digital transformation across all types of businesses continues to accelerate. Nearly 75% of companies say they expect to be mostly or all cloud-based within the next 18 months. The dramatic increase in the number of employees working remotely will only expedite this trend.

Greater mobility requirements lessen the need for on-premises solutions. At the same time, today's environment requires a relentless focus on cost-effectiveness and reliability. That is why so many businesses have moved away from costly on-premises data centers. Opting to use a colocation data center enables them to manage expenses and build optimal redundancy to avoid costly downtime.

When looking for competitive Texas data-center options, here are some of the key things you need to know.

### The Benefits of Using Colocation Data Centers

The benefits of using colocation data centers include cost savings and having the peace of mind that your business can continue to function in case of a disaster. Colocating business data to an outsourced data center offers these additional benefits:

- Lower initial infrastructure costs.
- Lower maintenance costs.
- Redundancy and reduced downtime.
- 24/7 year-round monitoring and information technology (IT) support.
- Enhanced security.
- Flexibility and scalability.



## **Evaluating Texas Data Centers**

The No. 1 thing you need from Texas data centers is reliability. When you need to access your data, you need to know that it is available. The best Texas data centers offer 100% uptime based on their robust infrastructure and redundancy. Look for the following features at any data center you're evaluating.

#### **Redundant Power**

- Redundant power sources such as backup uninterrupted power-supply systems, diesel generators and automatic transfers to minimize downtime.
- A/B power to the facility and A/B power to individual racks, with transfer switches.
- A fault-tolerant infrastructure.

#### **Diverse and Redundant Connectivity**

- Multiple carriers available in the event of service disruptions.
- Carrier-neutral, so that you can use your preferred carrier.
- Proximity to internet exchanges for peering.

#### **Redundant Infrastructure**

- A redundant core and edge network infrastructure.
- The ability to store and replicate data across multiple servers.
- Backup data at geographically diverse locations.

#### **Redundant Environment**

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#### **Managed Security**

- Biometric and card reader access controls.
- Dedicated cabinets, cages and private suites.
- 24/7 year-round monitoring.

When you are evaluating Texas data centers, another competitive option you should explore is customer service and support. The best colocation data centers have Texas-based customer service. You want to work with a company that uses a Texasbased network operations center that is monitored 24/7 year-round by IT technicians.

# **Data-Center RFP Template**

The best way to compare Texas data centers is to use a request for proposal (RFP) that encompasses everything you require. The design of the RFP is crucial to ensure that you choose a colocation data center that fits your needs. A poorly written RFP can miss mission-critical elements and result in reduced functionality or higher costs.

<u>Download this free data-center RFP template</u> to help guide you as you develop your RFP. It is a collection of best practices from industry experts and several of the largest enterprise data-center providers.





# **MSAs and SLAs**

Some of the competitive data-center options you should consider include master service agreements (MSAs), service-level agreements (SLAs), compliance and recovery.

An MSA acts as a contract that lays out the terms governing future agreements, including basic requirements. It details specific services being provided and expectations. For example, an SLA might require that a data center provide 100% uptime. The SLA may also include penalties for failure to deliver. The MSA would include limitations of liability and venues in case of a dispute. Be as specific as possible in the SLA, because its details will govern your relationship.

# Compliance

Your business may have specific compliance regulations. Thus, your Texas data center should be a Statement on Standards for Attestation Engagements No. 18-audited facility that is system and organization control (SOC) 1 and SOC 2 certified. This enables Payment Card Industry compliance and also applies to other regulations, such as the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

## **RPO and RTO**

Two additional items to include in your RFP are recovery point objectives (RPOs) and recovery time objectives (RTOs).

Evaluate how often you need your data backed up and what you can afford to lose in case of a disaster. An RPO dictates how often backups occur. Some businesses can handle losing a day's worth of data. For others, it may constitute a crisis.

An RTO measures the amount of downtime your business can tolerate before it suffers significant damage. You need to know these numbers so you can make informed decisions about the level of service you need.



# **LOGIX Colocation Data Centers**

LOGIX Fiber Networks is a Texas company built for business with data centers throughout Texas. With 280,000 fiber miles connecting 105 data centers and 3,000 enterprise buildings, LOGIX serves more than 10,000 demanding businesses.

LOGIX colocation data centers are built on highly reliable and fully redundant infrastructures. With diverse power and carrier-neutral connectivity, LOGIX colocation data centers are an enterprise-class solution, whether your organization needs a data hall, private cage, multiple racks or flexible power configurations.

#### **Request a Quote**

for more information about Texas colocation data centers.

