Why Preferring a Server Colocation Over a Server Room Is a Good Idea

Your server location is only one of a multitude of tightly related issues that can affect whether you should be thinking about a move to server colocation. It doesn't matter whether it's a closet in your business or a full-fledged data center, space, power, cooling capacity, limited footprint, and most of all IT support costs and maintenance, are all factors in this decision.

The point where a business must think about making a new or additional server purchase(s) is often the point where they consider transitioning to a colocation facility. 50 percent of businesses surveyed say company growth prompts a new server purchase while 38 percent cite performance degradation and maintenance costs according to the 2019 Spiceworks State of Servers survey.

It is usually a combination of server age, upkeep, and capacity/footprint limitations that prompts a business to consider the greater possibilities and move to a **colocation data center**. Security and control are the pre-eminent factors in the decision regarding a server move. These factors will guide the right choice among leading colocation data center providers. We can see this in the following benefits that an ideal colocation provider can deliver versus the limits of an in-house server location:

1. Providing backup and disaster recovery services and support that are cost prohibitive in-house
2. Shared colocation facilities can reduce cooling and power costs as they spread it across many data center occupants
3. Redundant internet and power connections help maximize uptime
4. Mirrored data centers for disaster recovery purposes minimize the operational impact from a local outage or disaster
5. High-end physical security features ensure that access and data security are assured, which could be too expensive at an in-house data center.
6. Broad cloud provider connectivity options
7. Data center specific certifications including ISO 27001, SOC2, PCI & HIPAA compliance for guaranteed performance, uptime, and regulatory auditing
8. Managed Colocation offer expert migration and planning, consultation and managed services support for monitoring, remote hands, disaster recovery and more

Scalability for data growth, access, and digital transformation

According to the Forbes Insight survey of executives and engineers across sectors, just 11% of C-suite executives and 1% of engineers think their data centers are ahead of the curve and primed for higher data volumes. If your server location footprint is maxed out, future on-site growth may not be an option without significant Capex investment.

A growth in server need and capacity is tied directly to data growth and business growth. If you don't have accurate projections of the limits of your server capacity and how it matches with expected business and data growth projections over the next several years, then it's time to look at a colocation data center.

Most businesses are dealing with an increasing mobile workforce (especially in the wake of COVID-19), which should prompt several questions:

1. Are your servers and network capable of providing remote employees with the secure remote access they need to application and workloads?
2. Can your on-site servers and network connection accommodate the needs across different business locations sharing and exchanging data and application access?

The cloud is probably already a factor in how you do business with cost, scalability, and operational opportunities coming from software as a service like Office 365. But you should be considering if it's time to look at colocation **data center providers** as the source for bringing your cloud services, backup, and offsite server strategies under a single, holistic approach.

There are several phased planning and migration strategies with additional benefits to consider when moving from a server room to server colocation. It does not matter whether you have in-house IT or if you are handling your servers on your own. Finding the right IT support partner can ensure that the decision to move servers to colocation is made at the right time to maximize the benefits to your business today and for the future.

Original Source Link:

https://www.storeboard.com/blogs/business/why-preferring-a-server-colocation-over-a-server-room-is-a-good-idea/2724000