



Modern elegance and technical finesse:
the Godswill Akpabio International Stadium in Uyo,
Nigeria, designed by Julius Berger International

In your projects do you also take new technologies such as 5G or Edge Computing into consideration?

Naturally we deal with these data centre issues, but to be honest our focus is more on the building. Datwyler is the equipment partner and so forms an important interface. We use AI and Augmented Reality in pilot projects. In our network we see good prospects for this, but the sector is still a long way from the consistent market penetration of these technologies.

How relevant is sustainability to your clientele?

In 2022 the issue of sustainability is very important in our dialogue with clients: we discuss EU taxonomy, ESG criteria and energy-efficient improvements. Existing clients and owners of large property holdings in particular ask for sustainable solutions. In response we are currently developing a new product for these client groups in collaboration with two partners.

Today sustainability is no longer a slogan, but must become living reality.

What can exert a positive influence on the CO₂ footprint of new or existing buildings?

Constructing new buildings is the wrong approach today! We need to focus much more on converting existing property and, for example, trying to continue using a building's components. We must view a building project much more in terms of the value creation chain and a better circular economy – from planning through construction to subsequent re-processing or reuse. The whole cycle is important.

Thank you very much for talking to us.
(mac)



A Datwyler Micro Data Centre

Datwyler Micro Data Centres (MDCs) provide numerous benefits, particularly to companies with branches in multiple locations – from a low space requirement through to energy efficiency as expressed in low Power Usage Effectiveness (PUE).

Because of these benefits MDCs have led to a change in perspective as to how an IT infrastructure should be set up and used nowadays. The provision of IT networks – particularly in densely populated cities – no longer depends on the type of cabling or the IT equipment used, but must also take into consideration other services such as all the mechanical and electrical engineering (M&E). This convergence of IT and building management services has led to the development of MDCs, which are used in both Cloud and Edge Computing applications.

Since 2021 Datwyler has been supplying a Micro Data Centre with a power rating of 10 kVA and integrated cooling in the Asia-Pacific region. It is setting new standards to the extent that it was designed for a higher energy requirement. This MDC has aroused great interest in the IT sector, especially from service providers offering environmental monitoring or security services. They can now install their application servers in optimally cooled racks in the immediate vicinity of the data sources without having to worry about overheating during operation. With the MDC Datwyler has realised the concept of set-

Micro data centres:

MORE THAN A PRODUCT INNOVATION

When considering the cost benefit of a Datwyler Micro Data Centre users should also take account of the intangible benefits and opportunity costs.

ting up a complete data centre in a pre-assembled rack which integrates environmental monitoring and security systems in addition to key elements such as power supply and cooling.

Particularly during the Corona pandemic it became apparent that an MDC can solve numerous problems in the provision and operation of IT infrastructures. Thus a Datwyler Micro Data Centre can flexibly and easily be adapted to changing working conditions and environments. A good example of this is the remote monitoring function: this allows the remote detection and even rectification of any defects which might occur, without the service team having to visit the company premises.

More a business innovation

But what is the financial benefit? Capital expenditure (CapEx) and operational expenditure (OpEx) are the key figures used to calculate the overall value of an investment over its entire life cycle. While the concrete benefits of a product innovation like the Datwyler MDC are easy to see, the intangible benefits only become apparent after a closer look. Yet it is precisely these which are becoming the key factors in all business activities and sustainability strategies.

Datwyler is the only system provider which has designed its Micro Data Centre to take account of both IT and M&E services – for every kind of IT infrastructure solution. If someone orders the MDC pre-assembled, the quality of the components is already assured in the factory, i.e. prior to delivery. Hence fewer coordination measures are necessary between individual service providers. These one-stop services can reduce project planning time by 30 percent. Furthermore, the work involved in commissioning is cut by 80 percent.

Keeping an eye on overall operating costs

Even after commissioning Datwyler supports its customers with maintenance and repair as a single point of contact – with Service Level Agreements (SLAs) adapted to differing requirements. System down times can be reduced and the apportioning of responsibility between different service providers in rectifying faults can be avoided by comprehensively documenting all IT and M&E services.

The cost of warehousing by the supplier is one of the greatest variables in overall operating costs. Which is why Datwyler maintains a worldwide network of specialist service partners who ensure quick

access to spares for maintenance. This produces other intangible benefits for business continuity: cutting the cost for spares storage and logistics, and considerably shorter response times with SLAs.

One aspect of overall operating costs which is frequently overlooked are the opportunity costs. For example: the team responsible for operating the data centre normally has to be trained in a wide variety of technical areas in order to understand the various services provided in the IT and M&E field. But if Datwyler takes over the system maintenance of the Micro Data Centre as an expert partner, the operating team has more time to concentrate on its core competences.

This is also an intangible benefit, because it reduces the need for large training budgets.

So Datwyler IT Infra has not only developed a product which meets the demand and requirements of tomorrow; an MDC is also always a sustainable business solution which allows Datwyler customers to occupy a top position in a challenging market environment over the long term. *(gaa)*