Power/Cooling Trends and Data Center Best Practices

Identify opportunities for IT system and infrastructure improvements

Increasing stress on infrastructure
In the last five years, the performance of servers and storage has increased significantly. With this performance growth has come an increase in the power dissipated by server and storage hardware. This results in a significant strain on the data centers that were built for hardware power levels that are much lower than those of current models. For example, customers have spread out their server products to cool them in the current facilities, using up valuable and expensive raised floor space.

Offering description and value
This offering helps our clients understand the current and future power, cooling and energy demands that IT equipment will place on their existing or planned data center infrastructure. This knowledge can help you make smarter power and cooling decisions for the future of your data center, your business and the planet, contributing to energy efficiency for a Smarter Planet™.

The overall approach is to work with our clients to understand the impacts of their data center IT systems and infrastructure pain points. Companies are having power and cooling issues in their data centers. Increasing operating and energy costs are driving a need for improved efficiency. Environmental stewardship also has highlighted the importance to improve energy usage. The use of best practices to address these interrelated issues produces common benefits. Virtualization and consolidation, along with monitoring and controlling operations, can be important parts of an efficiency strategy. This offering helps to identify issues and opportunities for improvement in these areas.
IBM Systems Lab Services and Training
Solution Brief

IBM experts provide you with best practices knowledge to architect a unique and balanced plan to keep power levels of your IT within the power constraints of your data center. This plan can also help you optimize IT resources and reach business goals with less risk, greater efficiency and the potential for a lower total cost of ownership.

The project
This engagement is performed at client sites as a single-day workshop and discussion. An IBM expert educates you about the industry power and cooling trends of IT systems and then shows how best practices can help handle the power and efficiency challenges in the data center.

Typical project tasks
• Discussion of client IT and data center issues and objectives for the challenges of power, cooling and energy efficiency
• Walk through of the client's data center raised floor and support areas, for non-disruptive observations
• Presentation and discussion of trends and best practice information
• A site visit report will be provided, which identifies observations and recommendations for improvements and next steps for IT systems and data center infrastructure.

For more information
To find out more about the IBM Power/Cooling Trends and Data Center Best Practices evaluation and other related products and services, contact IBM at datacntr@us.ibm.com, call 1-813-412-1079 or visit:

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Route 100
Somers, NY 10589
U.S.A.

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4-2010
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