

Microsoft's \$1bn Data Centre

Written by Marco Attard
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Microsoft expands further on its already massive Boydton, Virginia data centre-- the company will add two additional facilities to the campus, with a combination of regular data centres and custom-designed modules.



Kicked off in 2010 before a 2011 expansion, the data centre cost Microsoft around \$1 billion in total.

According to Microsoft the expanded facilities will power its growing cloud operations and "showcase state-of-the-art designs developed from our latest technology and infrastructure research that continues to minimize water, energy use, and building costs, while increasing computing capacity, software capabilities, and server utilization."

Powering a fair chunk of operations at the site are ITPACs-- a Microsoft-designed modular energy efficient data centre design consisting of up to 2500 servers and a mister-based cooling system. According to Microsoft such data centres-in-a-box cut down in building costs and take just 4 days to put together.

Microsoft is so proud of the design it was shared with the UN for use in an energy efficient Nairobi, Kenya office.

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