

Data Centers Heading North

Written by Marco Attard
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The Wall Street Journal reports Google opening a €200M server hall in Hamina, Finland, inside what was once a paper mill.



Why Finland? The combination of cold climate and low electricity prices.

Being close to the Baltic coast, the Hamina data centre also has a seawater cooling system, while cold weather cools down servers instead of refrigerators.

Finland is not the only choice for international data centers, either-- an undisclosed "major US internet company" (rumoured to be Facebook) is planning a data center worth 3-5BN Swedish kronor in Luleå, Sweden.

The Swedish government lists 50 sites suitable for data center use, including what was once Sweden's largest photo laboratory, an underground air-raid shelter and a former printing factory.

Another reason for the Nordic nations' potential as data center locations? Geographical proximity to the Russian market.

Go [For Data Center, Google Goes for the Cold \(WSJ, subscription required\)](#)

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