TECHNICAL REPORT

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Information technology — Data centres — Practices for resource-efficient data centres

Technologies de l'information — Centres de données — Pratiques pour les centres de données économes en ressources





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Contents			Page
Fore	word		iv
Introduction			v
1		De	
_	-		
2		mative references	
3		ns, definitions and abbreviated terms	
	3.1	Terms and definitions	
	3.2	Abbreviated terms	3
4	Principles		
	4.1	General	
	4.2	Data centre utilization, management and planning	
	4.3	Data centre ICT equipment and services	
	4.4	Data centre cooling equipment	
	4.5	Data centre power equipment	
	4.6	Other data centre equipment	
	4.7 4.8	Data centre building	
	4.9	Summary	
_	, and the second		
5		equipment and services	
	5.1 5.2	IT systemServer and storage	
	5.2	5.2.1 IT system integration and virtualization	
		5.2.2 Energy efficiency of the storage system	
		5.2.3 IT system power control	
		5.2.4 Periodic preventive maintenance	
		5.2.5 Management of idle equipment	
		5.2.6 IT system arrangement	
	5.3	Network equipment	
		5.3.1 Network virtualization	
		5.3.2 Cable management	15
6	Data centre infrastructure management (DCIM)		15
	6.1	General	15
	6.2	Monitoring	
		6.2.1 Energy use and environmental monitoring	16
		6.2.2 Temperature/humidity monitoring of computer room	
		6.2.3 Data centre facility monitoring	
		6.2.4 IT equipment monitoring	
	6.3	Events and alarms	
	6.4	Improvement of energy efficiency	
		6.4.1 Capacity management 6.4.2 Automatic control	
		6.4.3 Control loops	
	6.5	Other systems	
	0.5	6.5.1 Fire protection	
		6.5.2 Security	
Diri	lognari		
וועום	iograp.	hy	18

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Introduction

Data centres are essential to the provision of information technology (IT) services and can play an important role in the conservation of resources. However, they can also consume a considerable amount of resources if mis-managed and thus, it is critical to utilize these resources efficiently.

Resource efficiency in a data centre begins with the location (taking advantage of the external environment) and the building design to minimize energy consumption. The facilities can then implement modular extension or easily extensible space, cooling, and power according to the IT services provided and co-location situation.

Once data centres are constructed and equipped with all the necessary facilities, it is important to collect and monitor operational data. Based on the information obtained, it is possible to determine which elements utilize resources least efficiently and assess how to improve the performance.

The performance of existing facilities can be periodically measured to determine if the original design objectives for resource efficiency are being achieved and allowing performance to be improved by replacement of equipment with better resource-efficiency characteristics.

This document provides information on available options for improving resource efficiency in data centres, with particular emphasis on operational procedures.