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ENHANCING BUSINESS EFFICIENCY

"Artificial Intelligence is at the centre of any future Data Centre by not only lending itself to design and efficiency, but also in driving down operational costs," - Yasser Zeineldin, CEO, eHosting Datafort

? What are the trends impacting managed data centre services?

Data Centre Service Providers will see an increase in customers using Multicloud /Hybrid Cloud environments /deployments along with witnessing a significant growth in terms of Automation of IT environments.

In addition, IoT as well as mobile usage is paving the way for higher usage of Data Centre services. A trend that is gaining ground which allows for lower latency and higher speed of data transfer is the concept of edge computing. While this additional platform is created, we visualize a synergetic working process between the Cloud, edge computing and Data Centres. According to an IDC report, 45 percent of data created by IoT will be stored, processed and analyzed by edge computing. And by 2020, more than 5 billion devices will be connected to the edge network. This will change the way businesses operate.

Data Centre providers will also focus on implementing and expanding on their Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) capabilities to stay ahead of the game. This is even more relevant at a time when there is an evident scarcity of a skilled workforce. The adoption of AI and ML will help simplify Data Centre operations while enabling greater efficiency and creating a predictive environment for both service and maintenance.

Needless to say, with the frequency and enormity of security attacks, and the additional burden of the shortage of cybersecurity skills, Data Centres will continue their mission in remaining focused on implementing advanced security solutions and processes over the coming years.

YASSER ZEINELDIN,
CEO, EHOSTING DATAFORT

? With the increase in malwares and cyber-attacks, how can colocation services improve business security?

Leading Colocation providers in addition to providing Data Centre Space, Power, Network Connectivity also have an option to provide cyber security as an additional service which is outside the scope of a typical Colocation Service. With higher threat levels, there must be consistency in monitoring every aspect of network as well as being proactive in their approach to monitoring data traffic patterns and performing security scans. In fact, predictive analysis used in cybersecurity helps in circumventing problems and lowers the business impact of cyber threats for customers.

Governmental regulations are now calling for additional security requirements. While these requirements are expensive, working with colocation providers who already have various certifications in place, can help save costs, but customers are assured of being able to meet the compliance requirements and abiding by industry standards, if they choose to avail the Managed Security Services offerings from the Colocation Provider.

? How is AI helping data centres become energy efficient?

AI is at the centre of any future Data Centre by not only lending itself to design and efficiency, but also in driving down operational costs. As workloads, size and the complexity of Data Centres increases, energy usage will be high and overheating of systems will be certain. AI is now being put into action to help cool the systems and is vital for any Data Centre to keep the power consumption lower. This is possible due to AI's capability to analyze and evaluate the temperature and controlling it with smart sensors. Simultaneously it can identify any inefficiencies and solve the problem independently thereby reducing energy usage.