



N° and issue date : 70301 - 07/03/2007

Circulation : 12500

Frequency : Monthly

NCN_NetworkCabl_70301_10_301.pdf

Web Site: <http://www.network-cabling-news.co.uk>

Page : 10

Size : 100 %

industry news

New survey reveals that data centres are poorly run

Aperture Technologies has established the Aperture Research Institute to share market intelligence about data centre management. This is the first organisation dedicated to researching data centres, their challenges and best practice management. The Institute's first report entitled 'Organisations Struggle with Data Centre Capacity Management' is available now from www.aperture.com.

Aperture Research Institute conducted a survey of over 100 enterprise data centres, spread across a spectrum of company sizes and industries, including banking, insurance, healthcare, data services, retail, and telecommunications. The study demonstrates that managing data centre capacity is a significant challenge, with many companies unable to predict their capacity needs accurately.

37 per cent of those surveyed admitted they had run out of space, power or cooling capacity without sufficient notice in the last two years. Only six per cent considered they were 'excellent' at predicting when additional space or power infrastructure will be needed, with 10 per cent describing their abilities as 'poor' and 27 per cent as merely 'fair'.

The challenge of assessing future infrastructure needs was named by 90 per cent of respondents as being a medium or high priority.

The top five challenges, chosen by respondents as high priorities in managing the data centre's capacity, are limitations on cooling capacity, limitations of the power distribution system, achieving sufficient airflow through racks, assessing future infrastructure needs and the amount of total power delivered from the utility.

William T Clifford, CEO, Aperture Research Institute, said, 'The management of the applications layer of the data centre is already mature, but our research shows that many data centres still struggle to manage the physical constraints of the environment. It's shocking that so many data centres have run out of space and consider their ability to plan future capacity needs to be inadequate. The only thing you know for certain is that businesses and demands on the data centre change, and successful data centres are those that can handle that change.'

He added, '10 years ago, we might have expected space to be the major limitation, but the introduction of power hungry technologies like blade servers is changing that. The next generation of data centres will have to accommodate far greater cooling and power distribution requirements than many of today's legacy data centres were designed to handle.'