

# Data Centres & Data Hosting in Ireland

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# Data Centres & Ireland

Some of the world's major IT companies have established data centres and operational bases in Ireland including international giants Google, Amazon, Vodafone and BT.

## **Many factors attracting investment to Ireland include:**

- Ideal climate for data centre cooling
- Experience and expertise in building physically and technologically secure data centres
- Competitive construction costs
- Availability of land close to cities
- Excellent infrastructure network
- Highly educated and skilled workforce
- Proactive Government support for R&D (e.g. new technology centres in cloud computing and data analytics)

# Data Centre Operators in Ireland

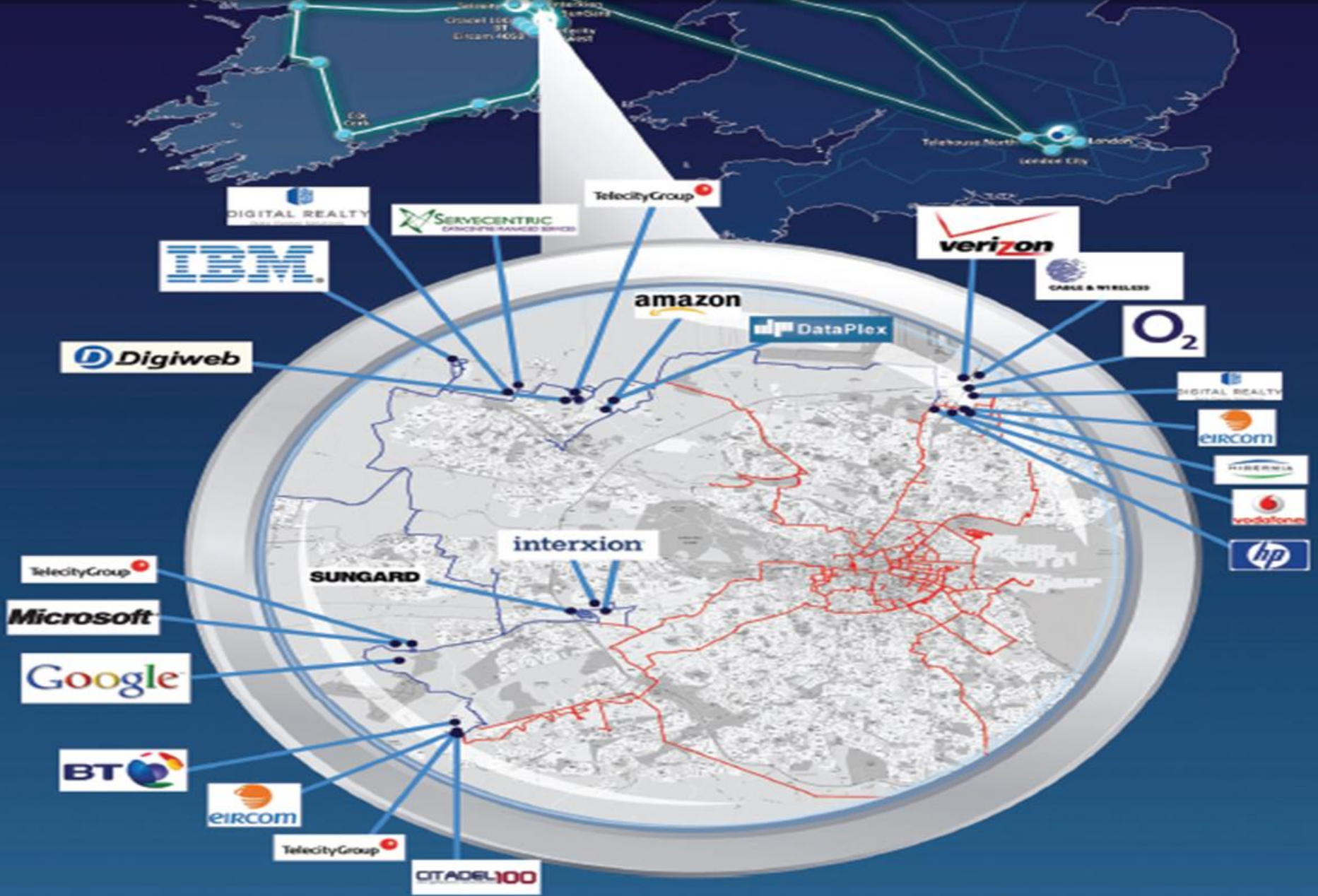
Companies providing 3<sup>rd</sup> party hosting capability in Ireland



Companies with significant online infrastructure in Ireland



# Dublin Area Business Parks and T50 Fibre Ring



# Data Hosting in Ireland

## Hosting ▾

US-based content companies must host EU customer data within Europe

Net data centre floor space

60,000 sq.m



Ireland's data hosting market will grow by 18% a year between now and 2016

18%

Microsoft  
€900 million

MICROSOFT has spent €900 million on building Irish data centres

## Connectivity ▾

Direct connectivity to US, UK & Europe

NO €  
COST €

INEX, Ireland's Internet Neutral Exchange allows networks to interconnect directly at no cost

200%

average yearly growth of internet traffic in Ireland



## Green Energy ▾

40%

Ireland is aiming for 40% renewable energy by 2020

The Irish power grid currently accepts up to 50% wind energy



6°-20°

moderate climate perfect for free air cooling - lower energy costs

and

# Data Hosting: Company Profiles



- In September 2012, Google opened a new energy-efficient, air-cooled data centre in Profile Park, Dublin, a €75 million investment.
- In April 2014, Google was granted planning permission for a new €150m centre, to build beside the existing facility.
- Ranks amongst the most energy-efficient data centres in the world.
- Centre takes advantage of Ireland's climate to cool its computers, helping Google remain carbon neutral.
- Over 1,000 individuals working for over 90 companies contributed to the construction of the facility.



- Set up its European hosting and infrastructure management operation in Dublin in 2005.
- Dublin also houses a NOC and systems engineering team.
- Amazon also has a large data centre footprint in Dublin offering Amazon Web Services via a cloud computing infrastructure.

# Data Hosting: Company Profiles



DIGITAL REALTY  
Data Center Solutions

- Digital Realty Trust has invested almost €120m in Ireland since 2006 and employs 30 full-time staff across European marketing, IT, corporate accounting, portfolio management and technical operations.
- In February 2012, the company acquired a 10-acre site in West Dublin, capable of supporting 193,000 square foot data centre, requiring 11.5 megawatts of electricity.
- The site is located at Profile Park, 24 kilometres southwest of Dublin International Airport.
- *“Dublin remains an important data centre market for both local and multinational corporations, including large technology and internet companies, as well as IT service providers.”* (Michael F Foust, CEO of Digital Realty)



- Provides premium data centre and colocation services in key connectivity hubs across Europe.
- The company operates three carrier-neutral data centres in Dublin, all of which are conveniently located close to the centre of Dublin and all approximately 3km from the M50, the main motorway connecting Dublin Airport with Dublin City.



# Data Hosting: Company Profiles



- Microsoft opened its \$500m mega Data Centre in South West Dublin in September 2009.
- The facility has a gross area of over 300,000 sq ft, using low energy consumption techniques such as free air cooling. The total capital investment once full will be over \$1billion.
- In February 2012, Microsoft announced that it was investing an additional US\$130 million to expand its data centre in Dublin.
- The expanded facility will be 50% more efficient than traditional data centres and will be using renewable wind energy.



- Irish Government announced an €850m Data Centre investment in Athenry, County Galway in February 2015.
- The new centre will be the company's largest data centre project in Europe, providing 300 jobs during its multiple phases.
- This significant new investment in Ireland will happen alongside one in Viborg, Denmark, and represents Apple's biggest project in Europe to date.



# Summary – Data Centre Landscape in Ireland

- **Significant base** for the majority of the world's leading IT & Technology firms - for many Ireland is a base for their cloud computing activity.
- Over **25 leading multinational companies** (including Microsoft, IBM, Google, Amazon, Yahoo!, EMC2, BT, HP and Vodafone) have data centre operations in Ireland.
- Strong **data privacy / data protection** legislation in place.
- Supportive **regime** for the development and management of intellectual property.
- Ireland's **geographic location**, as well as its EU and Eurozone membership, provide a gateway to a European market of more than 500 million people.
- **Temperate Climate** - Ireland is a favoured location for free air cooling, which is helpful in **attaining low Power Usage Effectiveness** (PUE - measures energy efficiency in facilities).
- Ireland has committed to securing 40% of its energy from **renewable** sources by 2020 (EU target 20%). While Irish grid can accept up to 50% wind energy (this is likely to grow to 75% by 2017).
- **Circa 15 multi-tenant data centres** in and around Dublin - circa 60,000 sq.mt. in total net floor space.
- '451 Research' estimates that **market for hosting in Ireland will grow at a CAGR of 18%** through to 2016 (outpacing UK, France, Benelux, Nordics and Iceland).

## SKILLS AVAILABILITY

- Good **supply of talent** including data technicians, facilities and network/systems engineers.
- Ireland has a **strong track record** in this area and is home to a substantial number of NOC and international systems management operations.

For more information, log onto:

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