



Case Study - Compass Datacenters

Compass Datacenters uses Romonet Software to evaluate and optimize their sites and offers Romonet's Portal to its clients to use to enhance their on-going operations and strategic data center planning.



Compass Datacenters uses Romonet Software to evaluate and optimize their sites, enabling them to tailor their designs to their customers' needs while providing a solution that is thoroughly tested against real-world scenarios. This case study looks at how the software was used to provide more accurate testing of the data center design as well as providing on-going tracking of predicted performance versus actual.

Profile:

“Compass Datacenters builds and operates standalone data centers using its patent pending Truly Modular™ Architecture.”



Challenge

Compass customers require data centers that are optimized to their particular requirements and geography. When accepting the build they want to ensure that they are getting the best possible solution and be assured how the data center will perform over its entire lifecycle.

Solution

Compass use Romonet Software Suite to select and validate the technical choices made. The software is used throughout commissioning to ensure that the data center performs as it should. The software rapidly models energy, capacity and cost across the entire data center lifecycle, combining engineering and operations data with local information such as climate data and electricity rates to provide full PUE, energy and cost information on a market by market basis.

Benefits

Compass is now able to ensure that the data center is built and configured to fully match the requirements of their customers and produce a solution that is neither over-configured for their needs, (so adding cost) nor under-configured (so restricting capacity and performance). Following handover, Compass customers are given the option to use Romonet Portal to monitor and predict the

performance of their facility, and so wring every dollar of return possible from their investment.

Outcome

Compass uses Romonet Software Suite to provide the most accurately tailored design of a facility possible. The competing demands of location, reliability, capital cost and operational expenditure are all carefully calibrated by the software to create a facility that meets the customers' requirements while providing the assurance that it has been thoroughly tested to provide class-leading reliability for many years to come .

Validating Performance

In June 2013, Compass used Romonet software to commission and handover a facility for use by a customer. A Compass data center is only delivered after a fully integrated systems test (Level 5) commissioning to ensure that every system is concurrently maintainable and ready to support critical business applications.

Like other data center providers, Compass uses this Integrated Systems Test (IST) stress test to carry out this check of redundancy mechanisms. This test uses worst case scenarios to see if the data center performs as expected. Compass



“Romonet Software has allowed us to more accurately tailor our facilities to our customers’ unique needs. Also, it has strengthened our testing regime so providing even greater peace of mind for them that they are receiving the best level of reliability at the lowest Total Cost of Ownership ”

Chris Crosby, CEO, Compass Datacenters

then used Romonet software to further run a Performance Validation Test which uses more complex, real world situations (i.e. not unrealistic or ‘laboratory like’ scenarios, a description which can be levelled at some of the worst-case examples).

This gives the customer the added assurance that the data center will perform as expected and that its underlying systems are designed to cope with all situations expected during its lifetime. Furthermore, the software enabled Compass to model the performance of the data center following an external event and predict its performance thereafter, something which has previously not been possible, so providing customers with a further level of protection and reliability. After a data center goes live, physical testing of options tends to be unavailable as it may impact customers. Compass use Romonet’s software to continue testing changes in a virtual model of the facility, so enabling them to maintain the fine-tuning of performance and running scenarios without the likelihood of customer-impacting events.

Following commissioning, Romonet Portal is also available to the customer to allow continual monitoring of predicted versus actual performance, further unlocking capacity and lowering costs.

Building a Better Business Case

Romonet Software is used by Compass in the following ways:

- To create a truly accurate TCO model of the data center so that it is clear from the very beginning that the design is the most cost-effective it can be.
- Validate the design and construction of the data center before handover to the customer and predict its performance thereafter.
- Operate the data center to continually maximize ROI.
- Give their customers the ability to use Romonet Portal to further enhance their financial efficiency.





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