

Data Centre Management

Capacity and Operations Solutions from Avocent®

Infrastructure Management & Monitoring Solutions



Quick Pitch:

The Avocent data centre solutions increase management efficiency and provide relevant data to all levels of the administrative chain, from the IT administrator to the CIO. Complexity is reduced through consolidation and abstraction of many user interfaces under a single management umbrella. Moving from a reactive to a proactive IT management practice is also made simpler. The Avocent solutions include solutions for keyboard, video and mouse access; serial console access; client systems, security and business process management; power management; computer and display extension; and embedded technology including intelligent platform management interface (IPMI). Businesses depend on their IT infrastructure and rely on Avocent to help them manage and maintain it—regardless of location.

Avocent solutions enable 85% of the Fortune 1000 companies to simplify data centre management and administration. Data centre administrators are being asked to do more with less. High availability must be maintained, and operational costs must be kept in check.

Challenges include:

- Dramatic increases in energy costs, coupled with growing environmental concerns
- The entry of virtualisation into the mainstream
- Heterogeneous computing environments consisting of an ever growing number of device types and operating systems from different vendors, each with its own unique set of management interfaces
- Inability to access and manage IT resources remotely, increasing mean time to repair and operational costs
- Taking a look at total cost of ownership holistically versus many individual point solutions.

Ask your customer...	Tell your customer...
Does your organisation have a widespread IT department, thinly spread IT staff resources and the most demanding service-level expectations?	Avocent can provide remote, BIOS-level access to and control over nearly every networked device in your remote offices.
Do you need strict control of all your assets, the foresight to see "what if" and enough insight to reduce the risk of operational, financial and contractual aspects of each IT asset?	Avocent Data Center Planner™ software gives you the power of actually seeing IT through visual modeling that delivers real-time insight so you can simply plan and manage your data center.
In these times of strict carbon compliance, do you need to get a better understanding of your energy capacity and usage?	Avocent Power Distribution Units include metered and switched models, allowing tight control and measurement of power usage.
Are you faced with management challenges for partially virtualised data centres?	Avocent continues to deliver the out-of-band remote management capabilities IT organisations need to maintain the health of their underlying physical server infrastructure regardless of whether or not that physical infrastructure is hosting multiple virtual servers.
Do you need to offer greater flexibility in multiple processor access, get tighter control over various IT components or simply need to centralise all your hardware in one place?	The Avocent Control Room Solution is designed for desktop administrators who need to physically separate the computer from the user without adversely affecting worker productivity. Deployed over your LAN, it offers point-to-point, IP-routable extension at gigabit Ethernet rates. It also supports a comprehensive range of peripherals including DVI-1 video, CD audio, USB mass storage, keyboard and mouse and other USB devices.

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Summary of customer issues and the benefits of deploying an avocent solution

Your customers issues	Impact on their business	Benefits of deploying remotely managed infrastructure
Under pressure to do more with less and produce tight reporting on power and capacity usage?	Power is an increasingly expensive cost to the business which directly impacts the P&L. And now the business will come under increasing legislative and "social" pressure to control this.	The Avocent data centre solutions increase management efficiency and provide relevant data to all levels of the administrative chain.
Is IT becoming a business driver rather than a business support function?	Pressure on IT to deliver, with IT requirements continually outpacing facility capacity.	Avocent allows IT to move from a reactive to a proactive approach. Improved use of the existing computing assets also helps customers achieve a better return on those assets.
Day-to-day operations of the data centre taking up more and more staff time and resources?	IT becomes greener and more compliant but requires even more resources to operate.	Avocent solutions can help you with capacity management, risk analysis, change management, problem management and service delivery.
Are you faced with management challenges for partially virtualised data centres?	The need to understand more about space, power and cooling capabilities on a remote basis.	Avocent continues to deliver the out-of-band remote management capabilities IT organisations need to maintain the health of their underlying physical server infrastructure regardless of whether or not that physical infrastructure is hosting multiple virtual servers. DSView™ 3 management software integrates with VMware management tools so that IT staff can access virtual and non-virtual resources in a unified way.
Is compliance an issue, and as a result, does your business require more robust and auditable compliance capabilities?	Compliance is increasing in importance for businesses of all sizes. Achieving compliance with the multitude of technologies in the data centre is increasingly challenging.	Our switches are compliant to UL, FCC, cUL, ICES-003, CE, VCCI, C-Tick standards.

Avocent Product Portfolio:

Avocent remote management products provide secure, centralised access and control to all connected devices:

- KVM – Keyboard, video and mouse to all connected devices
- Console Servers – Our ACS advanced console server is designed for remotely managing UNIX®, Linux®, firewalls, routers and other devices that include serial console/management ports.
- Service Processor Management – Single and secure point to access to IPMI, iLO, DRAC, RSA, ALOM, etc.
- Power Devices – Remote monitoring, auditing and control of the power to data centres, cabinets and servers.
- Virtualisation – VMWare/Citrix Xen Server virtual infrastructure allows you to link virtual servers to your management tier.
- Capacity Planning – With the Avocent Data Center Planner software.
- Blade Servers – Secure and controlled access from the same "pane of glass".

Avocent is a supplier and partner to Apple®, Acer®, Dell®, Fujitsu®, HP®, IBM®, Intel®, Lenovo®, Microsoft®, NEC® and Novell®.

Avocent solutions are appropriate for companies:

- With data centres, main and DR sites
- With mixed server and serial environments
- Who want to run "lights-out" data centres
- With remote offices which require infrastructure management

"The Avocent tool allows us to effectively manage our entire data centre. It is thanks to Avocent that we can truly automate our processes and operation. With its functions for resource management, optimisation and planning, [Data Center Planner software] has allowed us to map the future MTC."

– Bertrand Audras, MTC Architect, Microsoft Paris