

IT IS CRUCIAL TO HAVE A COMPREHENSIVE SECURITY PROVISION ACROSS THE ENTIRE LIFE CYCLE OF A DATA CENTRE

ICTS UK & Ireland's Strategic Client Director, Peter McGowan discusses the importance of a robust physical security system in place throughout the life cycle of a data centre.

In recent years, there has been a remarkable surge in land purchases for data centres. This trend reflects the growing importance of data management in our increasingly digital world. The demand for secure and efficient data storage and processing facilities has rocketed and data centres play a pivotal role in this landscape, serving as the backbone of the digital economy.

By acquiring land for expansion and development, data centres are not only addressing the need for increased capacity but also strategically positioning themselves to meet the evolving demands of the tech industry.

It is crucial that physical security measures are introduced at the construction phase of data centres and adapted through the **entire life cycle of a data centre site.**

The ICTS Europe Group has been a trusted security partner to data centre providers for over a decade. Our security teams operate in over 100 data centre sites across seven countries, many of which began as construction sites.

ICTS security solutions tailored to data centre construction sites include:

Fencing and Perimeter Control:

- Erect sturdy perimeter fencing to restrict unauthorized access.
- Use high-quality locks and access control systems on gates.
- Deploy early detection warning systems utilising technology such as LI-DAR, Guardwire, thermal imaging and motion detection to detect breaches at their earliest point.

Surveillance Cameras:

- Make use of AI functionality within Intelligent surveillance cameras to monitor both your security, and operational needs such as classified object detection, unusual activity detection, and thermal temperature monitoring of equipment.
- Utilise the latest IP camera technologies for complete situational awareness of your site, such as 360 and multi-directional panoramic cameras.
- Implement remote monitoring for real-time access to video feeds and a remote healthcare check to identify any potential faults or security risks in real time.

Access Control Systems:

- Integrate your security/building management systems to streamline your security operation. Use a single pane of glass to manage multiple systems, increasing effectiveness of incident investigations by aligning video feeds from surveillance cameras to access control events.
- Ensure your Security Governance policies are regularly reviewed, and access is restricted based on roles and permissions. Consider Integrating with systems such as Active Directory to automate the deletion and removal of user credentials in the event a user leaves the business.
- Use access control systems with dual authentication such as with keycards + PINs, or biometric including fingerprint or facial recognition for user authentication.
- Maintain an access log and audit trail for accountability.

Security Lighting:

- Install motion-activated lighting to deter intruders during the night.
- Ensure adequate illumination in all areas to enhance safety and visibility.

Security Guards:

- Provide trained security personnel to patrol the site.
- Employ guards for both scheduled shifts and random inspections.
- Security guards who can also assist with emergency response.

Canine Security:

- Introduce General-Purpose Patrol Dog Teams, which provide an excellent deterrent.

Intrusion Detection Systems:

- Implement intrusion detection alarms and sensors on doors, windows, and sensitive areas.
- Connect these systems to a central monitoring station for immediate response.

Asset Tracking and Tagging:

- Attach GPS or RFID tags to equipment and materials for tracking.
- Monitor the location and movement of assets to prevent theft.

Visitor Management:

- Require all visitors to check in and provide identification.
- Issue visitor badges with expiration times.
- Escort visitors to ensure they stay in authorized areas.

Safety Training and Awareness:

- Educate workers about security protocols and reporting suspicious activities.
- Promote a culture of security consciousness among the workforce.

Remote Monitoring and Control:

- Use remote security management software to control and monitor security systems from anywhere.
- Receive instant alerts and notifications for any security breaches.





Emergency Response Plan:

- Develop a comprehensive emergency response plan for multiple scenarios.
- Conduct regular drills to ensure that all workers know how to respond to emergencies.

Secure Storage and Lockup:

- Store valuable equipment and materials in secure containers or lockable storage units.
- Ensure these storage areas are well-lit and monitored.

Environmental Monitoring:

- Implement sensors to monitor environmental conditions, such as temperature and humidity, to protect sensitive materials.

Regular Security Audits:

- Conduct periodic security audits to assess vulnerabilities and update security measures accordingly.

“Remember that security needs may vary depending on the location, project size, and specific risks associated with the construction site. Hence, it is essential to tailor your security solutions to address the unique challenges of each project to ensure the safety and protection of your site, personnel, and assets.”

The ICTS Europe Group has been a trusted security partner to numerous data centres for over a decade. Our security teams operate in over 100 data centre sites across 7 countries. Our emerging technologies and strategy shape the global security landscape and make a difference in the environments in which we operate.

Contact us to find out how we can support and enhance your security provision.



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