

Going Green

Healthcare Provider Saves Nearly \$1 million in Power

Challenges in Triplicate

Problems often come in threes.

Fortunately, so do solutions.

Recently, a national healthcare company took a good, hard look at its three data centers. After some number crunching and internal debating, the company came to the conclusion that its facilities could not sustain the company's current pace of growth for very long.

So, problem number one: the healthcare system was running out of power. Problem number two: the company was in the midst of a national push to commit to green practices and it would have to adapt in a cost-effective manner. Problem number three: the company's current power rates were off the charts.

Something had to be done.

Running three data centers to power its customer database and related transactions, the company quickly looked at future power needs and realized it would soon run out of resources. Also, with the company launching a national marketing campaign to reduce

Executive Summary:

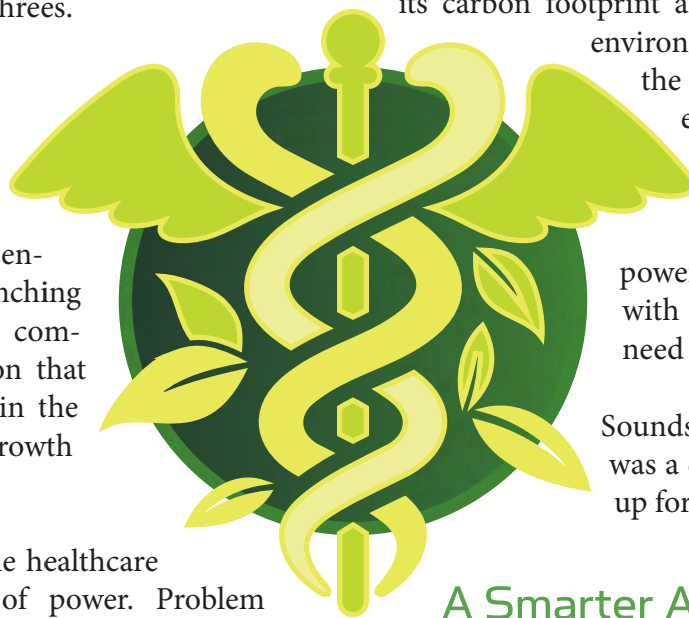
- Healthcare client was running out of power, needed to conform to greener standards.
- Power rates were off the charts.
- Instor helped contain cold aisle and reduce overall PUE.
- Innovative solutions worked around several existing challenges.
- Client saved \$800,000 in power and won energy efficiency awards.

its carbon footprint and move toward a paperless environment, it became critical that the data centers operate more efficiently and be able to scale to imminent business needs. Finally, the company sought a way to reduce its power costs all while complying with the green policies and the need for more power.

Sounds almost like a Catch-22, but it was a challenge the Instor team was up for.

A Smarter Approach to Power Consumption

The first step the client took was to bring together its IT and facilities teams to devise a plan to rein in the energy consumption at all three of its data centers. Realizing the importance of reducing the PUE at its northern California facility, the client got in touch the containment pros at Instor to help it reduce power consumption and eventually qualify for an energy savings rebate.



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Surveying the northern California facility, the Instor team quickly realized not all the equipment was flush, with several rows being offset, contributing to the power issues. The Instor team custom engineered several 80-inch steel gap panels to accommodate the discrepancies in the rows. Then, Instor developed nearly two dozen cold aisle containment pods featuring solid polycarbonate sliding doors on the front of each pod.

One hitch: the design was constrained by a need to access the power system through remote power panels (RPPs). To further complicate matters, the doors could not be blocked by hard containment. To work around the issue, Instor installed vinyl strip curtains on the end of the rows with RPPs, a solution that helped contain the rear of each aisle with clear, SealTech Seiden Crystal fire-rated curtains. As the project neared completion, Instor sealed the tops of the pods with Ceilume's Environmental Institute certified ceiling tiles, supported by a standard T-Bar ceiling grid.

Awards, Savings and Green-Friendliness

Thanks to the project, the company saved so much it won the award for Computerworld's Top Green IT Organizations. Not only that, but within a year, the client had turned around its power problems to the point that it slashed a staggering 7.2 million kilowatt-hours of power from overall data center operations across its three locations.

The best part? The company saved nearly \$800,000 on its power budget in that time, making for one satisfied customer.

Awarded one of
Computerworld's
**Top Green IT
Organizations**

\$800,000 Annual
Energy Savings

7.2 Million
kilowatt-hour
energy reduction

Containment for All

You may not operate three facilities with millions of dollars in power bills, but regardless of your business' size, Instor can help with your containment needs in three easy steps:

1. Get in touch for an assessment.
2. Consider a variety of options to suit your business needs and efficiency goals.
3. Let Instor do the heavy lifting on your next containment project.