

Paris Region data centers: allies of the territory's ecological transition and attractiveness

In conjunction with an official visit to Equinix's latest data center in Saint Denis, Choose Paris Region - the Paris Region's attractiveness agency - examines the role of data centers in Paris Region's ecological transition strategy.

Data centers play an important role in Paris Region's influence and attractiveness

Data center setting up projects contribute to the region's vitality: indeed, these digital ecosystems provide companies and individuals with quality digital services, which allow for the hosting, storage and processing of data. By pooling resources in a single location, they help to reduce energy consumption and the carbon footprint of digital technology.

Welcoming a new data center thus ensures the digital sovereignty of the region, which has become a stakeholder in the European digital economy, and guarantees the continuity of public service missions. By associating world-renowned companies with the Region, these setting-ups help to strengthen and develop innovation within Paris Region.

This assessment is part of the regional economic strategy called "Impact 2028" which reflects an ambition to accelerate Paris Region's ecological and digital transformation over the next five years. Indeed, Paris Region offers an environment that is favorable to development opportunities in the digital sector. Among its assets, it has an excellent energy transmission network, which can accommodate data centers of all sizes, including high-powered ones, as well as excellent digital ecosystems and quality training in these fields. As electricity consumption is the main expense of a data center, operators are striving to reduce it and aim for carbon neutrality. For example, over 50 data centers¹ based in Paris Region favor resource-saving technologies, such as the use of cold air, wastewater and renewable energy.

To ensure that newly established companies in the Region comply with this sustainable development policy, Choose Paris Region supports operators and works with all stakeholders involved in the setting up of responsible data centers in Paris Region.

As a key partner for both international and local project developers, the agency facilitates and accelerates the process for investors, and helps them to better understand local authorities' requirements and to contribute to the Region's ecological transition strategy.

The setting up of Equinix's latest PA10 data center is a concrete example of this initiative. The operator's teams worked in collaboration with Choose Paris Region to find the best site for this setting up. To align with the region's ecological transition strategy, Equinix's data center recovers the waste heat produced and redistributes it to heat the Saint-Denis Aquatic Center for the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

"Setting up data centers in Paris Region contributes to our sovereignty in terms of digital data. Located in France, they allow for the development of efficient digital ecosystems and are an asset for the development of innovation in Paris Region. This Equinix project is also very environmentally friendly because it uses waste heat to heat an Olympic center. This symbolizes the Region's ambitions in terms of data centers and our strong expectations on the environmental aspects, especially during the current energy crisis," said **Alexandra Dublanche, Vice-President of Paris Region and Chairwoman of Choose Paris Region.**

Equinix: for more responsible digital

Equinix has invested heavily in recent years to reduce the environmental impact of its data centers by optimizing energy consumption through sustainable development mechanisms and also by using renewable energy. As a result, 95% of the supplier's global energy consumption is covered by carbon-neutral energy.

The new Equinix campus in Saint-Denis is the 10th data center opened by the supplier in Paris Region in 20 years. It will offer companies and partners the ability to connect directly and securely to a rich, global digital ecosystem. This data center is an example of the many technological advances in sustainable development in the sector:

- The waste heat emitted by the site will be redistributed to the heating network of the city of Saint Denis and will be able to heat the Olympic Aquatic Center as well as the buildings in the immediate vicinity of the ZAC Plaine Saulnier in 2024. All of the recovered waste heat will allow for the recovery of 6.6MW (the equivalent of heating 1,600 645 sq. ft. homes)
- and the production of an additional 10,800 MWh of heat. This heat will also be used to heat the 4,628 sq. ft. greenhouse located on the roof of the data center. Their vegetable garden will allow for the retention of rainwater and reduce

"Equinix is pleased that Choose Paris Region is supporting the data center industry. This close collaboration has allowed us to set up our latest site, PA10, which is a model for the data center of the future through its sustainable development mechanisms. " said Régis Castagné, Managing Director of Equinix France. *"With its top-notch electrical and telecommunications networks, Paris Region is ideal for companies that want to expand into Europe and connect to the rest of the world. Furthermore, the use of digital technology keeps growing. That's why we are continuing to invest in the Region to support the digital economy and make Paris Region a global digital hub. "*

About Choose Paris Region

As the Paris Region's attraction agency, Choose Paris Region develops the Region's influence globally, attracts and supports companies and international talents that contribute to the Region's transformation by leaving a positive impact on the territory. By participating in the development of strategic sectors for the region, Choose Paris Region relies on innovation to meet the major challenges of the future: decarbonization of the economy and industry, resilience and sovereignty.

The agency brings together local stakeholders and forges public-private partnerships with the aim of providing its expertise to the companies and talents it supports, as a one-stop shop. By reconciling economic development with positive social and environmental impact, Choose Paris Region is helping to build the future of a dynamic, innovative and sustainable

Thanks to its cultural heritage and the concentration of professionals and specialized companies, Paris Region is one of the leading regions in Europe in the film and audiovisual industry. Through Film Paris Region, the agency also contributes to the excellence of the Paris Region film and audiovisual industry and supports French and international productions in their projects in order to promote Paris Region.

About Equinix

Equinix (Nasdaq: EQIX) is the world's largest digital infrastructure company. The leaders in digital technology leverage Equinix's trusted platform to bring together and interconnect the infrastructures their company needs. Equinix allows companies to access the markets, partners, and opportunities they need to operate with agility, accelerate the commercialization of their digital services, deliver world-class experiences, and generate more value, while supporting their sustainability goals.

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