CONFERENCE PROGRAMME 2026

DAY 1

DAY 1: 18 NOVEMBER
Strategy Stream - Room 1

09:30 – ROOM 1
KEYNOTE ADDRESS:
Data Centres - A New Era or the Endgame
Presenter: *Mark Foley, CEO, Mark Foley Strategic Solutions*

10:00 – ROOM 1
KEYNOTE PANEL SESSION:
How can the data centre industry move forward and cement its future in Ireland
Moderator: *Dave McAuley, MD, Bitpower*
Panellists: *Errol Close, Chief Corporate Services Officer, Eirgrid • Ronan Kelly, CEO, Digital Infrastructure Ireland • Brain Doherty, MD, GreenScale Ireland • Damien Gaynor, CMO, Echelon Data Centres*

10:35 – ROOM 1
Session Sponsor: ARTHUR COX
Panel session: Policy update - What's new (Large Energy Action Plan)
Moderator: *Mark Thuillier, Partner, Arthur Cox*
Panellists: *Mark Foley, CEO, Mark Foley Strategic Solutions • Paul O'Donnell, Partner, Schroders Greencoat • Seamus Dunne, MD UK & Ireland, Digital Realty*

11:10
Panel session: Growing the national energy supply chain for data centres in Ireland
Moderator: *Dave McAuley, MD, Bitpower*
Panellists: *Ronan Power, CEO, Solar Ireland • John Curley, General Manager, Clarke Energy (Ireland) - a Rehlko Company • Graham Scandrett, Electric Power Head of Projects Sales, Finning*

11:50
Fireside chat: The resilience dividend: Why grid stability is Europe's new competitive currency
Speakers: *Joe Walsh, MD, Siemens Ireland & Steve Busette, Data Centres Lead, Siemens UK & Ireland*

12:15
Panel session: How Regionalisation is influencing new data centre projects
Moderator: *Mark Foley, CEO, Mark Foley Strategic Solutions*
Panellists: *Christian Carpenter, Vice President, Associate Division Manager Energy & Infrastructure Consulting, Leidos • Will Synnott, Sales Director Major Projects, OpenSpace • Giles Vidgeon, Senior Sales Manager, 2G Energy*

12:45 – ROOM 2
Panel session: Building sustainable data centres to support the AI agenda
Moderator: *John Booth, MD, Carbon3IT*
Panellists: *James Geoghegan, Deputy Vice Chair of the AI Committee, Oireachtas • Rosalind Griffin, Director Europe, LiquidCool Solutions • James Downey, Senior Associate, Energy and Infrastructure Group, Arthur Cox •Jo-Ann Garbutt, Sustainability and Government Engagement Director, Digital Realty*

13:20 – NETWORKING LUNCH

14:00
Panel session: Are private ecosystems a genuine solution for Ireland's grid?
Moderator: *Patrick Liddy, CEO, Demand Response Association Ireland (DRAI)*
Panellists: *Brian Doherty, MD, GreenScale Ireland • JP Wallace, Head of Ireland, VIOTAS • Vince Colby, Utilities & Energy Consultant, Pure Data Centres • Ainsley Heffernan, Partner, Co-Head of Projects, Infrastructure and Energy Group, Beauchamps*

14:40
Session Sponsor: ON-SITE ENERGY
Presentation: PPA's
Presenter: *David Kipling, CEO, On-Site Energy*

15:05
Panel session: How to maximise PPA's and avoid red tape
Moderator: *David Kipling, CEO, On-Site Energy*
Panellists: *Joseph Gibbons, Advisory & Analytics Lead, Natural Power • Keith Newman, Partner, Construction, Infrastructure & Utilities, Mason Hayes & Curran • James Temple, Renewables Manager, Flogas*

15:40
Session Sponsor: rehlko
Panel session: Powering the AI transition: End-to-end power orchestration for next-generation growth
Speakers: *Craig O'Shaughnessy, Sales Director, Rehlko • John Curley, General Manager, Clarke Energy (Ireland) - a Rehlko Company • Kristian Weatherley-Kaye, Business Development Manager Data Centres, Rehlko*

DAY 1: 18 NOVEMBER
Operational Stream - Room 2

09:30 – ROOM 1
KEYNOTE ADDRESS:
Data Centres - A New Era or the Endgame
Presenter: *Mark Foley, CEO, Mark Foley Strategic Solutions*

10:00 – ROOM 1
KEYNOTE PANEL SESSION:
How can the data centre industry move forward and cement its future in Ireland
Moderator: *Dave McAuley, MD, Bitpower*
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10:35 – ROOM 1
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Panel session: Policy update - what's new (Large Energy Action Plan)
Moderator: *Mark Thuillier, Partner, Arthur Cox*
Panellists: *Mark Foley, CEO, Mark Foley Strategic Solutions • Paul O'Donnell, Partner, Schroders Greencoat • Seamus Dunne, MD UK & Ireland, Digital Realty*

11:10
Presentation: Cooling advancements in an AI era
Presenter: *Jon Cleaver, Global Solutions Architect, Cloud & Service Provider (C&SP) Segment, Schneider Electric*

11:50
Presentation: Driving the green agenda for next generation data centres – Opportunities and considerations
Presenter: *Chris Kavanagh, Energy Transition Strategy Manager, Baringa*

12:15
1:1 Session: Who would "win" between water and air-based cooling
Speakers: *Chris Behan, Mechanical Design Principal, Equinix & Matt Butler, Associate, Arup*

12:45 – ROOM 2
Panel session: Building sustainable data centres to support the AI agenda
Moderator: *John Booth, MD, Carbon3IT*
Panellists: *James Geoghegan, Deputy Vice Chair of the AI Committee, Oireachtas • Rosalind Griffin, Director Europe, LiquidCool Systems • James Downey, Senior Associate, Energy and Infrastructure Group, Arthur Cox •Jo-Ann Garbutt, Sustainability and Government Engagement Director, Digital Realty*

13:20 – NETWORKING LUNCH

14:00
Presentation: Future challenges for data centres
Presenter: *Professor Jon Summers, Scientific Lead Data Centres, RISE*

14:25
Panel session: Heat recapture - A viable solution for Ireland's data centres?
Moderator: *Professor Jon Summers, Scientific Lead Data Centres, RISE*
Panellists: *John O'Shea, Senior Energy Systems Analyst, Codema • Pauline O'Reilly, CEO, Irish District Energy Association • Katie Davies, Head of Energy & Infrastructure Policy, techUK • Rosalind Griffin, Director Europe, LiquidCool Solutions*

15:05
Session Sponsor: CRANE WORLDWIDE LOGISTICS
Presentation: Data centre boom: The ultimate test of supply chains
Presenters: *Andrew Baker, Regional Strategic Client Director EMEIA, Crane Worldwide Logistics & Rena Piercy, Senior VP, Strategic Client Development, Crane Worldwide Logistics*

15:30
1:1 Session: A new direction in edge cloud networking: From research to real-world impact
Speakers: *Professor Dan Kilper, Trinity College Dublin • Professor Paolo Monti, Chalmers University*

ROOM 1
Session Sponsor: dca The data centre trade association
Critical National Infrastructure (CNI)
Series of quickfire update presentations
Session Sponsor: TEKSAN & EIRGENCO

16:10 **Weclome and intro -** *Steve Hone, CEO, The Data Centre Alliance*
16:15 **Power resilience for critical infrastructure -** *Tony Byrne, Sales Manager, Eirgenco - Teksan*
16:30 **Trends in the data centre supply chain in 2026 -** *Chris Rothwell, Associate Director, KPMG Ireland*
16:45 **The importance of using cable cleats to effectively secure cables in data centres -** *Neelkanth Sreekumar, BD Manager, CMP Products*
17:00 **Why little things matter -** *Paul Flanagan, Manager Director, Camfil Ireland*

17:15 - 18:30 - NETWORKING DRINKS RECEPTION MAIN HALL Open to Visitors, Delegates, Speakers & Exhibitors

DAY 2

DAY 2: 19 NOVEMBER
Strategy Stream - Room 1

09:30 – ROOM 1
Opening Remarks

09:40 – ROOM 1
Panel session: The emergence of AI data centres and why they are changing traditional design approaches
Moderator: *Mark Acton, Principal Consultant and Executive Director, Acton Consulting and The Data Centre Alliance*
Panellists: *Michael Martin, Head of Design, Echelon Data Centres • Eamonn Kelly, Senior Principal Architect – Global Standards, Equinix • Gavin Jones, Key Client Manager - Data Centres, Schneider Electric • Stefanos Gkougkoustamos, Director & Data Centre Lead, Bryden Wood*

10:30
Presentation: Empowering the local community through hyperscale investment
Presenter: *Michael Blake, Community Development Manager EMEA, Google*

10:55
Panel session: Are our workforces trained and skilled for AI demands?
Moderator: *Venessa Moffat, MD, The Data Centre Alliance*
Panellists: *Mike Meyer, CEO & Owner, Portman Partners • Sophie Parker, Head of People Development and Talent Acquisition, Pure Data Centres • Matt Hawkins, VP Education, The Uptime Institute*

11:40
Panel session: The role of energy storage and standby generation in next generation data centres
Moderator: *Katie Davies, Head of Energy & Infrastructure Policy, techUK*
Panellists: *Fergal Downes, Manager Energy Storage & Flexible Technologies, ESB • David Rossiter, Senior Communications and PR, Energy Storage Ireland • Marius Zasche, Vice President Global Business Development Highspeed, Everllence*

12:15 – ROOM 2
Panel session: Private Wire – A real-life solution for Ireland's energy status
Moderator: *Feargus Wheatley, Engineering Director, Smart Power*
Panellists: *Marcos Byrne, Policy Manager, Wind Energy Ireland • Gavin Blake, Partner, Addleshaw Goddard • Patrick Liddy, CEO, DRAI (Demand Response Association Ireland) • Barry Heneghan T.D., Committee on Climate, Environment and Energy, Oireachtas • Darren Kinsella, BD Manager New Energy Landscapes, Schneider Electric*

13:30
Case Study: Beyond time and materials; Rethinking O&M for AI data centre power plants
Presenter: *Mike Byrnes, VP North America, Veolia*

13:55
Panel session: How AI is influencing the data centre industry's approach to physical and cyber security
Moderator: *Andrew Barnes, Senior Security, Compliance and Risk Manager, Pure Data Centres Group*
Panellists: *Representative National Cyber Security Centre Ireland • Tom Nolan, Sales & Operations, Sharp Group • Jake Tucker, Head of Security Projects, Equinix*

14:40 – ROOM 1
Panel session: Data centres as investors - Are they giving back to their communities or could they be doing more?
Moderator: *John Booth, MD, Carbon3IT*
Panellists: *Mike Meyer, CEO & Owner, Portman Partners • Venessa Moffat, MD, The Data Centre Alliance • Clare Colleran Molloy, Member of the European Committee of the Regions (ENVE & CIVEX) & Member of Clare County Council*

15:20 – END OF CONFERENCE
16:00 – DATACENTRES IRELAND CLOSED

DAY 2: 19 NOVEMBER
Operational Stream - Room 2

09:30 – ROOM 1
Opening Remarks

09:40 – ROOM 1
Panel session: The emergence of AI data centres and why they are changing traditional design approaches
Moderator: *Mark Acton, Principal Consultant and Executive Director, Acton Consulting and The Data Centre Alliance*
Panellists: *Michael Martin, Head of Design, Echelon Data Centres • Eamonn Kelly, Senior Principal Architect – Global Standards, Equinix • Gavin Jones, Key Client Manager - Data Centres, Schneider Electric • Stefanos Gkougkoustamos, Director & Data Centre Lead, Bryden Wood*

10:30
Session Sponsor: SIEMENS
Presentation: How to protect a modern data centre from fire
Presenter: *Harry Wright, Regional Sales Manager, Siemens UK & Ireland*

10:55
Presentation: How to accelerate time to power for data centre connection
Presenter: *Eamonn Lannoye, Director of Research & Development, EPRI*

11:20
Panel session: Beyond efficiency – The data centre metrics that Ireland now demands
Moderator: *Mark Acton, Principal Consultant and Executive Director, Acton Consulting and The Data Centre Alliance*
Panellists: *Matthias Haymoz, Executive Director, Swiss Datacenter Efficiency Association (SDEA) • Mike Byrnes, VP North America, Veolia • John Booth, MD, Carbon3IT • Dr Tomas Rahkonen, Research Director, Uptime Intelligence*

12:15 – ROOM 2
Panel session: Private Wire – A real-life solution for Ireland's energy status
Moderator: *Feargus Wheatley, Engineering Director, Smart Power*
Panellists: *Marcos Byrne, Policy Manager, Wind Energy Ireland • Gavin Blake, Partner, Addleshaw Goddard • Patrick Liddy, CEO, Demand Response Association Ireland (DRAI) • Barry Heneghan T.D, Committee on Climate, Environment and Energy • Darren Kinsella, BD Manager New Energy Landscapes, Schneider Electric*

13:00 – NETWORKING LUNCH

13:30
Presentation: The critical role of water in sustaining Ireland's data centres
Presenters: *James Piggott, Partner, Water Sector Lead, Baringa & Bridget Teirney, Water Strategy Management, Baringa*

13:55
Panel session: Ireland's strategic role in transatlantic connectivity and subsea cables
Moderator: *Fergus Innes, CCO, Crosslake Fibre*
Panellists: *Laura Brien, CEO, Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA) • Jim McMahon,Director/Founder, MDM Engineering • Sinead Martyn, Partner Planning & Environment, McCann Fitzgerald*

14:40 – ROOM 1
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15:20 – END OF CONFERENCE
16:00 – DATACENTRES IRELAND CLOSED