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# DATA CENTER REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

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## 1. MISSION:

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To complete a discovery process leading to crucial information that will improve on scalability, modularity, efficiency, and visibility/manageability while maintaining minimal upfront investment.

## 2. REQUIREMENTS

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- Identify Stakeholders.
- Goals.
- Requirements collection. Reqs. Facility team and IT team
- Load profile.
- Design/Implementation.

## 3. STAKEHOLDERS

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- Determine key players on both IT and Facility Teams.
- Discover goals and direction each wants to pursue.

## 4. GOALS

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- Have strong overview of vision and mission moving forward.
- Determine detailed requirements from IT and Facility Teams.
- Identify future requirements and how much growth is expected.
- Review requirements with both provider and customer. Customer knows best what capacity they will need.
- Find disconnect between all parties involved and correct.
- Minimize risk and unnecessary additional costs through detailed discovery process.

## 5. REQUIREMENTS

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- Create inventory or building equipment list of existing DC. Clearly define what is needed.
- Identify what load in Watts that corresponds to each piece of equipment- Actual load, not the nameplate.
- Number of power supply needs.
- What type of cord set requirements- PDU, UPS, etc....Make sure each piece of equipment is compatible.

- Racking requirements with specific equipment sets- Telecom, switch, storage, etc....
- Unique infrastructure requirements- Anything that may need to be customized.
- Power and cooling needs- Example: May have a blade enclosure that has its own power supply and has to be hardwired.
- Containment cooling- Hot/cold aisle, open vs. closed concept... etc...
- Miscellaneous space requirements (extra real estate needs for NOC etc...)

## 6. CAPACITY SPECS

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- Is there enough electricity to power the facility.
- Mechanical: Will chill water cooling be sufficient?
- Telecom needs?
- Backup power supply and redundancy?
- Fire suppression? What type of regulations are in place?
- Security- Both physical and virtual?
- Construction space? Very overlooked and needs to be addressed up front. What will the impact of the build out team within the existing facility? What will the cost be associated with construction requirements?
- Risk and dependencies? - Building has a 200KW chiller that the facility team wants to continue using while the IT team needs a solution with more capacity. Identify the risks up front for future growth.

## 7. LOAD PROFILE

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- Equipment load per rack?
- Identify irregularities in the rack layout.
- Find disparity, hot spots, and how better to balance the layout.

## 8. DESIGN

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- Use a holistic approach and never make assumptions. Agile vs. Waterfall methodologies.

## 9. NOTES/QUESTIONS

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