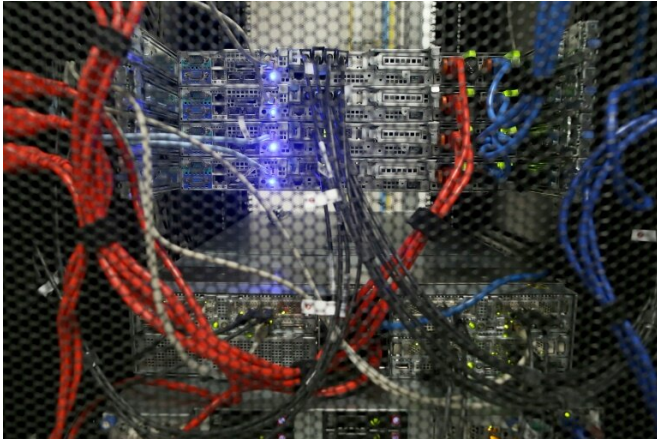


'The new oil': Dublin strikes it rich as Europe's data hub

24 January 2019, by Joseph Stenson



The centres provide 24/7/365 access to the massive data, processing power and storage that digital services around Europe require

A new industrial revolution is under way on the outskirts of Dublin.

Fortunes are being made in clusters of anonymous warehouses housing vast [data centres](#).

"Data is the new oil, definitely," said Brian Roe, commercial director of Servecentric, a data centre company.

Roe is a new breed of prospector, presiding over one node in a network of 48 data centres in Ireland.

Put simply, these powerhouse developments provide 24/7/365 access to the massive data, processing power and storage that [digital services](#) around Europe require.

"People are saying, 'Well everything is going to come from the cloud'," Roe said.

"Well where's the cloud? The cloud is data

centres."

A fortune in the making

According to industry lobby group Host in Ireland, the country has become the unlikely engine room for everything from video streaming to phone apps and social media.

Government incentives, a skilled workforce and high connectivity to Europe and America are helping attract data centre construction investment which is expected to reach nine billion euros (\$10 billion) by 2021.

The sector employs 5,700 people in full-time equivalent roles including 1,800 as data centre operators, according to a report produced for Ireland's investment agency.

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