



CORNING

Pier DC, Perth, Australia

Future-ready connectivity primes Pier DC for business growth

Superior reliability and 100 percent uptime are core requirements for a data centre, underpinning everything from the speed of operations to availability and energy efficiency.

Pier DC, one of the newest players in Australia's data centre market, is the only Tier III-certified facility located within Canning Vale, 20 kilometres south of the Perth CBD, Western Australia. The company recently secured a partnership access agreement with all three signatories to GovNext, enabling Pier DC to offer strategic data centre services to all Western Australian state and local government agencies over the next five years.

Building a future-ready facility fast

GovNext specifies Tier III accreditation as the minimum standard for state government agencies as this tier includes rigorous uptime requirements. This tier also requires redundant components and multiple distribution paths to allow for no shutdowns for maintenance, repair, or replacement of equipment.

Pier DC's Tier III certification validates that the organisation provides an additional dimension of trust and security, and offers lower environmental risks compared to its city-based

competitors. This certification also means the facility meets the stringent requirements for colocation and wholesale data centre service providers for GovNext.

With 2,500 m² ICT whitespace, Pier DC needed the right infrastructure to take on the next generation of cloud services and to ensure the rapid and seamless transmission of data, voice, and video to an increasing number of its customers' end users.

“We had bold design objectives: a flexible data centre infrastructure we could scale, as and when needed, to our changing business, application and customer needs. EDGE8™ has proven itself a highly flexible Base-8 solution, enabling us to meet customer demand today, and we're ready for tomorrow too.”

James Young
General Manager, Pier DC

Pier DC commenced its active market strategy, focussed on connecting its first customers from the first quarter of 2017. Target industries include government, mining and resources, oil and gas, transport and logistics, engineering, marine, defence services, fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG), and the financial and professional services sectors.

The facility was designed and constructed within 12 months, and launched operations in 2016.

From an infrastructure perspective, the design had to meet a number of objectives:

- **High density** – Enable the fibre optic connectivity to scale thousands of ports, and allow for on-site polarity change, supporting future expansion.
- **Resilience** – At Pier DC, there's no compromising on quality. The facility deployed 'top of range' equipment from reputable vendors based on reliable, proven technology.
- **Flexibility** – Easy to manage and accommodate expanding business requirements.
- **Scalability** – Support extensive equipment to meet future bandwidth and transmission demand faced by their customers.

“We were looking for optical fibre that would enable 100 percent uptime and maintain our Tier III operational standards. Corning has enabled us to do just that. Not only will customers benefit from high-speed connectivity, but the Corning Network of Preferred Installers (NPI) 25-year warranty guarantees repair or replacement of any of the Corning data centre products. This provides our end users with a reliable connection at all times, whether it's tomorrow or in 25 years.”

James Young
General Manager, Pier DC

Pier DC speeds up deployment

The new data centre required a highly reliable solution with flexibility to meet future growth. Pier DC investigated the fibre optic space with several vendors. However, Corning's design flexibility, expertise, and ease of installation were unrivalled, clearly aligning with Pier DC's go-to-market strategy and values.

Pier DC deployed Corning's EDGE™ data centre solution in its first point-of-presence (POP) room as the cross-connect for incoming carriers and customers. With high-density MTP® adapters, the EDGE solution enabled the fibre optic connectivity to scale thousands of ports, and allowed for on-site polarity change, supporting future expansion.

With a shared vision for innovation, Corning journeyed alongside Pier DC with a collaborative design process, providing technical and field support before, during, and after the installation.

Back in its first POP room, Pier DC switched its original deployment to EDGE8™ to extend the benefits of the Base-8 solution across its facility. The ability to leverage the original EDGE solution-enhanced management frames which were already in place sealed the decision, saving Pier DC a time-consuming and costly upgrade to adopt the new solution set.

Base-8 innovation

Pier DC turned to Corning again for its second POP room. The timing coincided with the release of Corning's EDGE8 data centre solution, the first true Base-8 optical solution which offers increased network scalability and improved link performance.

Installing the Base-8 fibre solution in its second POP room, Pier DC was able to strengthen technology adoption due to 100 percent fibre utilisation, without the need for conversion modules. EDGE8 meets all of Pier DC's requirements, including:

- **Future-ready infrastructure** – Ability to migrate to 40, 100, and/or 400G, supporting the colocation vendor's future growth as it's required.

- **Speedy deployments** – EDGE8 solutions can be installed up to 35 percent faster than traditional cabling systems.
- **Reduced total cost of ownership** – EDGE8 uses 33 percent less fibre, with 100 percent fibre utilisation.

While the colocation facility takes a vendor-neutral approach to telecommunications providers, Pier DC has locked in EDGE8 data centre solutions for all new installations, ensuring a flexible platform to meet all their customers' technology requirements today and in the future.

Engineering excellence and simplicity

The benefits of the EDGE8 deployment were evident immediately:

- **Seamless deployment** – One of the telecommunications providers involved in building out Pier DC's data centre also installs Corning products and worked with Corning to bring Corning® SMF-28e+® fibre, the industry leader in comprehensive single-mode fibre performance for metro and access networks, into the data centre.
- **Reduced latency** – Fully backward compatible with legacy standard single-mode fibres.
- **High quality** – The consistency of the solution throughout the entire connection, from interconnection through to rack deployment, ensures customers won't experience an outage if there is an external issue.
- **Superior reliability** – The use of Corning® ClearCurve® bend-insensitive fibre helped mitigate the risks of bend-induced loss that can impact the performance and reliability of systems over time. Such bending of cables becomes commonplace as moves, adds, and changes (MACs) are made during the lifetime of a data centre.

Value beyond infrastructure

In addition to the successful deployment, Corning's reliable service has added value to Pier DC beyond its infrastructure.

Today, Pier DC leverages Corning's superior product reliability as a key selling point, and highlights Corning's high-density preterminated optical solution to all prospective clients.

“We're only at the beginning of our deployment, and we want it known that we're using Corning. With a scalable, end-to-end optical solution, we've got the right foundations in place, so the future is looking extremely promising.”

James Young
General Manager, Pier DC

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