

KPI FACTSHEET

SWISS DATACENTER EFFICIENCY ASSOCIATION

DATACENTERS & THE DIGITAL ECONOMY

Datacenters (DCs) are a digital economy’s physical core infrastructure, providing IT services centered around data, and built with commodity components to benefit from the economies of scale. The ongoing global digital transformation and the slowdown in conventional growth in silicon-based digital platform capacity and capability will not only boost the number and size of datacenters, but also their energy consumption, carbon footprint, and water usage.

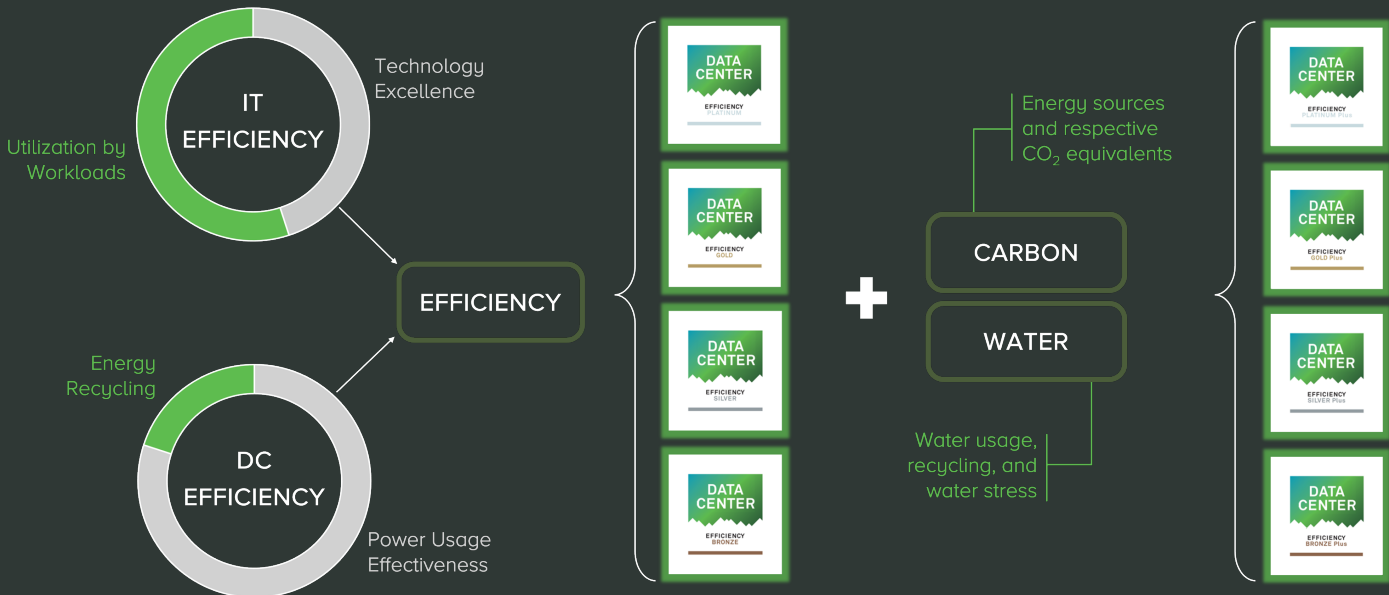
SDEA LABEL

This label creates transparency about energy efficiency and the end-to-end environmental impact of datacenter operations. With indices that assess the best in class in datacenter efficiency, emissions, and water usage, this label promotes sustainability for the backbone of the digital economy.

KPIs INVOLVED

The label awards applicants on the following four KPIs:

- DC INFRASTRUCTURE EFFICIENCY
- IT INFRASTRUCTURE EFFICIENCY
- CARBON FOOTPRINT
- WATER USAGE



IT INFRASTRUCTURE

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IT INFRASTRUCTURE EFFICIENCY

This KPI primarily captures the efficiency of the primary IT components including servers, storage, network and their utilization. We break down contributions from storage into per-server local storage, captured in the server efficiency index, and DC-level shared storage measured separately.

The KPI also includes quality ratings for server power supplies and rack PDUs, as well as operating temperature classification for the various components. Utilization refers to busy cycles in execution resources including CPUs and discrete accelerators, fraction of capacity populated in memory and storage components, storage compaction, network load and occupancy in network components.

IT INFRASTRUCTURE EFFICIENCY INDEX

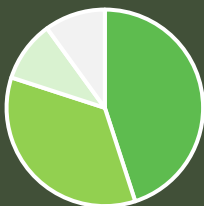


A BREAKDOWN OF EFFICIENCY INDICES

Server, shared storage and network efficiency indices are further broken down into contributions from subcomponents:

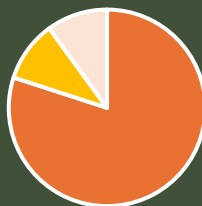
Server Efficiency Index

- Compute Utilization
- Direct Attached Storage
- Power Supply Ratings
- Operating Temperature Classification



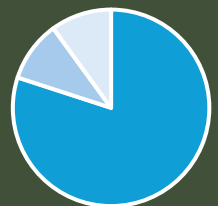
Shared Storage Efficiency Index

- Usage and Optimization
- Power Supply Ratings
- Operating Temperature Classification



Network Efficiency Index

- Usage and Optimization
- Power Supply Ratings
- Operating Temperature Classification



DATA
CENTER

EFFICIENCY

DC INFRASTRUCTURE

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DC INFRASTRUCTURE EFFICIENCY

This KPI captures the efficiency of all equipment (referred to as DC infrastructure) used to host IT infrastructure that consume energy. This equipment includes but is not limited to the electrical, cooling and heat recycling components, and equipment for physical security.

POWER USAGE
EFFECTIVENESS

ENERGY
RECYCLING

PREMIUM VARIANTS | CO₂ & WATER

To minimize the impact on the environment and indicate higher levels of sustainability, the premium labels add two resource indices: CUE⁺ captures the lifecycle carbon emissions of the DC's energy sources, and WUE⁺ captures water usage adjusted for recycling and regional water stress.

Together, these indices show whether efficiency gains are accompanied by low carbon intensity and responsible water use.



LOW-CARBON
ENERGY

EFFICIENT
WATER USE

VALIDITY & COST

The label expires after three years. Certified organizations will be invited to renew their certification no later than six months before expiration.

The label fees vary based on the size of infrastructure certified. SDEA operates as a non-profit organization. All fees are allocated to cover operational costs, label development, and initiatives that further our mission.