Data Centre Jobs in Information Technology and Communications Networks

The information and communications technology (ICT) within data centres represents the core activity. The ICT is really like the brains of the data centre where all the important work is done. The physical data centre building with all its fancy engineering and security systems is only there to protect the thousands of computer servers that do all this work, often for hundreds of different businesses. We've also bundled a lot of different jobs and careers together within this section, so look out for further updates because really the IT and the communications networks each deserve at least one section. Communications networks within data centres are critical – they connect servers to each other and to the internet and may also provide interconnection services, so that customers can connect with each other.

Now for the IT, the actual computing activity done by the servers – processing, storing, managing data, servicing applications, crunching big datasets for weather forecasting or medical research. The IT staff looking after servers in data centres are usually employed by whoever owns those servers – often that means the organisations that are customers of the data centre, but not always. Sometimes, even if the customer owns the servers, the data centre operator may help to look after the servers so they don't have to come in physically. Generally though, most IT functions are done remotely! Data centre operators also have their own IT roles too – just like every other business.

Sample roles

- Network technician: there are lots of technical roles in data centre network infrastructure.
- Network engineer, principal network engineer, communications infrastructure engineer:
- Network architect: data centre communications infrastructure is carefully designed.
- Service engineer – IT and Telecoms – these people ensure the smooth running of network infrastructure and solve problems on site for customers and operators.

Who is working in data centre IT and Networks?

Hi there – I'm Neel! I'm a Senior Network Engineer working in a data centre and ISP (Internet Service Provider). My job makes sure that all our customers can keep their servers connected to the internet, office or even your school!

Day to day I will be designing and configuring the network equipment in the data centre to deliver the vital services that we all use. The internet is critical for lots of people now including the emergency services, NHS and others businesses. As well as that, we make sure that everything is working for the web sites we enjoy looking at – things like YouTube, Netflix or BBC iPlayer.

I started out in the Technical Support team learning more general technical concepts and providing support to our customers nearly 10 years ago. In the last 5 years I have specialized in internetworks and really enjoy it!

Before I started working, I did a Degree in Computer Networks and then my Masters Degree in Computer Network Security.