DATA CENTER ASSIGNMENTS & CONSOLIDATION, IT Policy Letter 10-14

Additional Frequently Asked Questions

IT Policy Letter (ITPL) 10-14 released on October 29, 2010, established an initiative to reduce the total state data center square footage and close existing state data centers or server rooms. In accordance with Chapter 404, Statutes of 2010 (Assembly Bill 2408), Government Code (GC) Section 11546.3 specifies that mission critical and public facing applications transition to Tier III data centers designated by the California Technology Agency, and that all other existing server rooms are to be closed by June 2013. In addition, Chapter 404 has specified data center square footage reductions of 25 percent by July 2010 and 50 percent by July 2011.

Please review the following FAQs and answers related to specialized servers and their need to remain locally within a department.

1. Q: There are file and print servers within our data center. Are these subject to consolidation at one of the Tier III data centers?

A: No. Due to the specialized nature of file/print servers and their performance over the WAN, these servers may remain locally within a department and their respective field offices.

2. Q: Must Active Directory (AD) domain controllers be consolidated to a designated Tier III facility?

A: No. Depending on the department's selected email platform, California Email Services (CES) or Ca.Mail (hosted at OTech), the physical location of a department's domain controllers may be affected. Consideration of placement by the department should be based on performance, bandwidth requirements, and other advantages of maintaining this environment locally. As such, these remain exempt from consolidation to a designated Tier III facility.

3. Q: How does the Level III consolidation information relate to on-boarding and placing servers in a designated Tier III facility?

A: The reporting requirements established in ITPL 10-14 are designed with two purposes—ensuring that planning is proceeding in order to shut down server rooms by the June 2013 date, and to gain high level information that will facilitate the more detailed planning required for on-boarding that (as one example) is under development by OTech for server relocation to the FDC.

As another example, Natural Resources agency as a designated Tier III facility will have its own on-boarding and processes.