

Australia’s DownUnder GeoSolutions Selects Skybox Datacenters and Houston, Texas for Global Expansion of Revolutionary Oil & Gas Exploration Technology

October 11, 2018



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HOUSTON--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Oct 11, 2018--Australia-based [DownUnder GeoSolutions](#) (DUG) announced today it has selected [Skybox Datacenters](#) and Houston, Texas for its global expansion of a revolutionary oil and gas exploration technology. The deal, represented by Bennett Data Center Solutions, marks the largest colocation transaction in Houston’s history with a 15 megawatt data center that will be housed at the Skybox Houston campus, located in Houston’s Energy Corridor.

“This was an exhaustive world-wide search for a data center location,” said Dr. Matthew Lamont, co-founder of DUG. “Houston was a natural choice given the low cost of power and the fact that Skybox had the available infrastructure ready to go. This facility will allow us to install the fastest supercomputer in the world at this time to meet the ever-increasing demand for energy. We are excited to expand our presence in Houston and expect to be operational by February 2019.”

Construction and installation is underway on building the exascale compute facility. DUG’s planned installation of more than 40,000 servers will create the fastest supercomputer in the world with over 250 single precision petaflops of computing speed. A petaflop is equal to one thousand million million floating-point operations per second. Space and power is available to take the data center to over an exaflop, or a billion billion calculations per second.

“We are honored DUG chose Skybox for this revolutionary data center,” said Rob Morris, Managing Partner of Skybox Datacenters. “Our proximity to one of the largest substations in Houston and the ability to ramp up quickly were major factors in the decision. There are so many unique aspects about this project, from the sheer size and ultra-low cost of power to the innovative immersion cooling technology.”

Using DUG’s own patent-pending design, DUG Cool, the cooling system fully submerges all of the servers in custom-designed tanks filled with a special, environmentally-friendly dielectric fluid to cool the servers. The thermal qualities of the fluid mean that condensed water-cooling chillers can be used rather than refrigeration and server fans. This reduces energy usage by 45 percent over traditional air-cooled systems and enables the data center to run at a Power Usage Effectiveness (PUE) metric of less than 1.05, significantly lower than the PUE of recognized green data centers around the world.

[Bennett Data Center Solutions](#) represented and consulted DUG on the project to select the optimum data center solution.



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“This is the largest data center transaction in Houston history and a significant win for the city as it triumphed over several major global cities during the year-long selection process,” said Bryan Bennett, principal, Bennett Data Center Solutions. “Skybox Houston was selected after an evaluation of pricing models for data center services, power cost and availability, corporate tax structure and speed to market among other site selection criteria.”

Skybox Houston’s 20-acre campus and LEED Gold data center supports Fortune 500, Fortune 1000, and other small to medium enterprises. It is designed to cater to enterprise users in the region who require 100 percent uptime, high-performance and ultra-low latency computing needs. Skybox Houston utilizes a Miami-Dade rated design, built with a six-inch thick concrete roof deck that can sustain hurricane-force winds up to 190+ MPH.

About DUG:

DownUnder GeoSolutions (DUG) is a leading global geosciences company providing essential processing and computational modelling services to energy companies to enable them to accurately locate new and productive sites for hydrocarbon extraction. Follow DUG on Twitter @DownUnderGeo or visit www.dug.com.

About Skybox Datacenters:

Skybox Datacenters is a leading data center owner, operator and developer with a focus on wholesale enterprise data centers and disaster recovery operations with locations in Dallas and Houston. Our team’s experience comprises 50 million square feet of real estate development throughout North America. Connect with Skybox Datacenters on LinkedIn, follow us on Twitter @SkyboxDCS or visit www.skyboxdatacenters.com.

About Bennett Data Center Solutions:

Bennett Data Center Solutions, a Mission Critical Data Center Consulting Firm, is singularly focused on one objective and one outcome: providing the best consulting and representation to our clients to maximize their requirements for primary colocation and disaster recovery space. With over ten years of data center experience, we have an in-depth knowledge of the data center markets, the providers and products offered. In addition, we have met with the owners and senior management of the data center providers from around the state and country, and are therefore, uniquely qualified to serve the data center needs of companies large and small. Follow Bennett Data Center Solutions @Bennett_Data or visit www.bennettdatacentersolutions.com.

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KEYWORD: UNITED STATES NORTH AMERICA TEXAS

INDUSTRY KEYWORD: ENERGY OIL/GAS TECHNOLOGY DATA MANAGEMENT HARDWARE NETWORKS

SOURCE: Skybox Datacenters

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PUB: 10/11/2018 09:43 AM/DISC: 10/11/2018 09:43 AM

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