

Brussels University Hospital achieves a data center digital twin and single pane of glass with Sunbird DCIM



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The Situation

The Brussels University Hospital (H.U.B) is a grouping of 3 major academic hospitals based in Brussels, Belgium. Their infrastructure team manages 60 racks across four data center rooms in two sites.

Before deploying Sunbird DCIM, H.U.B did not leverage modern software to manage their data center infrastructure.

"We did not have a solution. Not even spreadsheets," said David Vekemans, Head of IT Infrastructure Team for H.U.B. "It was, 'We need to add a server. Let's go to the room and check where we can put it.'"

The lack of a software solution became a challenge when H.U.B relocated one of its data centers to a new facility. Without a tool to centrally track their data center infrastructure and virtually model their new environment, they lacked the ability to accurately plan the migration and provide detailed specifications in their public tender documents.

The Solution

H.U.B deployed Sunbird DCIM as their complete solution for asset, power, and environment management.

They began by creating a virtual model of their new data center 6-9 months before its construction.

"The goal was to simulate the move," said Vekemans. "We wanted to know what are the servers to move from the old location and where we will put them."

"Before, we were in the data center at least once a week. Now, it is more like once a month."

David Vekemans
Head of IT Infrastructure Team
Brussels University Hospital (H.U.B)

Customer

The Brussels University Hospital (H.U.B) is a grouping of 3 major academic hospitals based in Brussels, Belgium. Their infrastructure team manages 60 racks across four data center rooms in two sites.

Situation

Before deploying Sunbird DCIM, H.U.B did not leverage modern software to manage their data center infrastructure.

Solution

H.U.B deployed Sunbird DCIM as their complete solution for asset, power, and environment management. Using dcTrack's integration with Dell OME to automatically synchronize asset information and reduce manual data entry.

Results

With dcTrack as their single pane of glass and digital twin for their data center infrastructure, H.U.B now physically visits their data centers 75% less and has more complete information to support better decision-making for deployments.

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dcTrack provides H.U.B with a single intuitive GUI for all users and a single enterprise-class relational database with integrations to other systems such as Dell OpenManage Enterprise (OME) to track, manage, and visualize all their assets in one system.

H.U.B integrated dcTrack with Dell OME to automatically pull key server configuration and management data from Dell OME directly into dcTrack, eliminating the need to search across multiple systems for up-to-date information.

With dcTrack as their single pane of glass, H.U.B has direct, one-click access to each server's virtual console. Instead of relying on DNS resolution or manually looking up IP addresses in an IPAM system, users simply open the device in dcTrack and have a link to launch the console.

"When we are in dcTrack, we have a direct link—one button click—to the management of the servers," said Vekemans.

Sunbird DCIM also enables H.U.B to remotely monitor power and environmental conditions across their sites. Thermal maps provide near real-time visibility into temperature and humidity, while patented ASHRAE psychrometric cooling charts help them easily identify any cabinets operating outside their standard temperature and humidity ranges. Outlet-metered intelligent rack PDUs allow them to balance power across redundant feeds and remotely power on or off individual PDU outlets.

H.U.B values Sunbird's support and training.

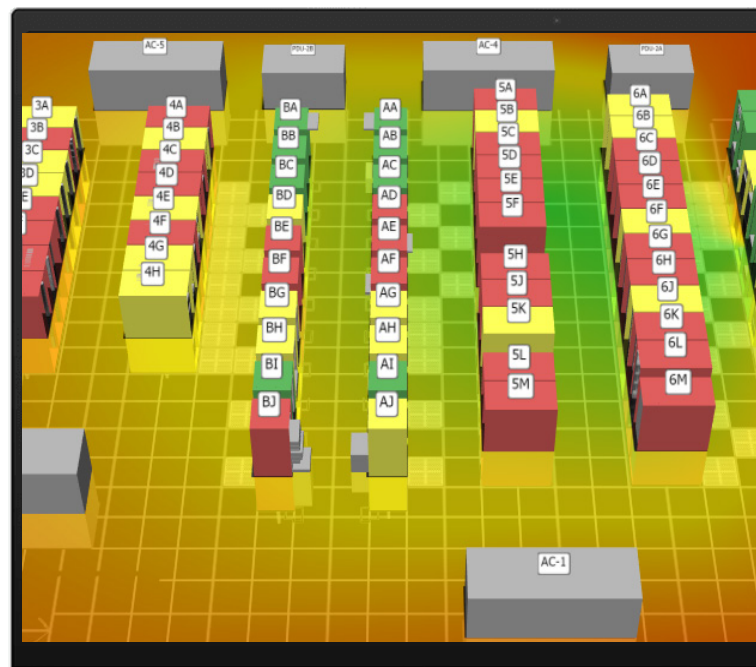
"The support is great," said Vekemans. "The weekly Free Training webinars are really nice. They allow us to learn a lot. The fact that they are published on the website after is the best way to learn."

Finally, they appreciate Sunbird's customer-driven approach to product development.

"Sunbird listens to customer requests. That's a key feature of our partnership," said Vekemans. "They listen to their customers and choose what to implement based on their feedback."

"With everything available in one place, we don't have to switch through different applications to get all the information."

David Vekemans
Head of IT Infrastructure Team
Brussels University Hospital (H.U.B)



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The Results



Single Pane of Glass

With dcTrack as H.U.B's single pane of glass, they have eliminated the pain of having scattered data across many different tools. "One of the benefits is having all the information in one location. With everything available in one place, we don't have to switch through different applications to get all the information," said Vekemans.



75% Fewer Data Center Visits

By leveraging a digital twin of their environment that allows them to manage their data centers remotely, H.U.B dramatically reduced the number of times they have to physically visit their sites. "Before, we were in the data center at least once a week. Now, it is more like once a month," said Vekemans.



More Informed Planning

With a real-time, accurate model of their data center, H.U.B can make informed decisions when planning their deployments. "We always have a view of the status of the racks, what's in use, and where we have space to add servers," said Vekemans.

Call 732.993.4476 or visit SunbirdDCIM.com

Sunbird Software is changing the way data centers are being managed. With a focus on real user scenarios for real customer problems, we help data center operators manage tasks and processes faster and more efficient than ever before, while saving costs and improving availability. We strive to eliminate the complexity they have been forced to accept from point tools and home grown applications, removing the dependency on emails and spreadsheets to transform the delivery of data center services. Sunbird delivers on this commitment with unexpected simplicity through products that are easy to find, buy, deploy, use, and maintain. Our solutions are rooted in our deep connections with our customers who share best practices and participate in our user groups and product development process.

Based in Piscataway, NJ, Sunbird serves over 2,000 DCIM customers worldwide. For more information, please visit SunbirdDCIM.com.

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