

SOUTHEAST ASIAN DATA CENTRE HUB PUSHED

By Networks Asia Staff

Cooperation and collaboration between data centre operators in Singapore and Malaysia will help drive growth for both markets and see a 'win-win' situation for both said Adrian Yong CEO of CSF Group, a regional data centre space provider with operations in multiple countries across the region.

Rather than compete with each other countries should work together and offer colocation solutions that would allow companies to base IT operations in multiple countries, effectively reducing risk." Countries in this region need to abandon the drive to be "THE" data centre hub of region. Instead they should leverage on the growing connectivity between Southeast Asian countries and position themselves as a united hub, "the Southeast Asian data centre hub," Yong said, while on the sidelines at CommunicAsia 2013 in Singapore.

Yong said that there would always be some measure of national interest, but by presenting a united front, both countries can work on attracting large corporations together rather than negating each other and seeing them move to markets like Hong Kong.

Regionally, both countries are sheltered from most natural disasters. Stable governments, good regulatory and legal framework and skilled personnel also add to the attractiveness for multi-national corporations over Hong Kong.

An example of who this would work would be a business using a small data center in Singapore with connectivity to a larger data center in Malaysia where processing and storage could take place. This would be one delivery on the promise of cloud services Yong added.

While acknowledging that this action would raise concerns about compliance and governance, especially from financial institutions, Yong said that it was time for monetary authorities to realize that technology had changed things. "Authorities may want to keep things within the country," he said, "But data is now borderless, and it's time that this was recognized."

For this to work, data centers would have to meet internationally recognized guidelines and standards in design and deployment laid out by standards bodies and the authorities