Case Study

1623 Farnam: Providing Mission Critical Infrastructure That Powers the State of Nebraska

Complimentary Missions Make the Cornhusker State Stronger and More Competitive

1623 FARNAM

Overview

The State of Nebraska combines competitive advantages such as central location, affordability and a world-class highly educated labor force with welcoming communities, a pro-growth business climate and always-approachable leaders and teammates laser-focused on helping companies make a home there and succeed. Tech, healthcare, manufacturing and other high-growth firms benefit from low utility costs, robust telecommunications and transportation networks, competitive business incentives and a highly-educated talent base. For those reasons, it's no coincidence that tech giants Facebook and Google have invested over a billion dollars in Nebraska over the past two years, or that Fortune 500 companies and top manufacturers the likes of Berkshire Hathaway and Valmont Industries continue to headquarter and thrive in the Cornhusker state.

1623 Farnam owns and operates a state-of-the-art edge interconnection facility in Omaha, Nebraska. This strategic location in the heart of the United States is at the nexus of the nation's North to South and East to West fiber routes, allowing customers to securely connect to anywhere in the U.S. The facility also hosts the most geographically centered Internet Exchange in the U.S., Omaha IX, which allows customers to gain access to their own private connections in addition to the many cloud and service providers that have access points in the facility.

Challenge

As the economic and technological landscape in Nebraska surged there was an increased demand for more connectivity and bandwidth capacity to support all of the growth. Governor Pete Rickett's vision is to "Grow Nebraska '', and that also includes advancing the state's presence in the tech industry. Major tech companies like Facebook and Google in turn increased the demand for fast, reliable and secure network connections from a variety of service providers and carriers. The State of Nebraska at the time was lacking diversity of providers, presenting a challenge to their mission of growth. The office of the CIO began seeking a data center provider that could offer access to a multitude of carriers to help fuel the IT infrastructure needs of burgeonin Nebraska businesses, with an emphasis on capacity and scalability.

Solution

1623 Farnam's carrier-neutral approach to connectivity made them the perfect partner for the State of Nebraska. This edge interconnection data center provides customers and partners access to a wide variety of carriers and providers, and even offers a secure, low latency on-ramp to Google Cloud's largest North American node, which is located just miles from their facility. By partnering with 1623 Farnam, the State of Nebraska gained access to a vast ecosystem of providers; allowing the state to create more carrier diversity - an issue the state had been struggling with. An added bonus is that 1623 Farnam is also undergoing a $40 million expansion project with an emphasis on providing its customers with the tools they need to scale effectively – the expansion includes increasing their facility's footprint and installing advanced cooling technology, among other highly efficient technologies. The expansion is another example of how 1623 Farnam aims to grow their data center and their business, much like Governor Rickett would like to "Grow Nebraska". This alignment in mission makes them excellent partners.



"The State of Nebraska, Office of the CIO has worked with 1623 Farnam for six years. It's expert and hands-on team consistently displays a fast response when we require customer service, and their expansive offering of cloud and service providers has greatly increased the diversity of offerings that we have in Nebraska. We are proud to call 1623 Farnam a partner."

Ed Toner,
State CIO