

Kolos To Build World's Largest Data Center in Northern Norway

Cool, connected, secure: surrounded by a moat and powered by hydropower

Press Conference in Ballangen, Norway, on August 18, 2017

Ballangen, Norway, Aug. 18th -- Kolos, a U.S.-Norwegian company, is building the largest data center in the world in Ballangen, Norway, 225 kilometers (140 miles) north of the Arctic Circle.

The Kolos facility -- slated to open 2018 -- is a brand-new class of hyper-scale data center, with sustainability, cost-effectiveness and security at the core of its design, construction and operations.

The massive climate-cooled facility, powered by Norway's abundant hydropower, will scale beyond 1,000 megawatts of computing power, servicing the rapidly growing global data market. High-speed traffic to continental Europe and as far off as the United States' East Coast will be routed from the Kolos node through high-performance fiber in neighboring Sweden.

Kolos' announced "green" facility in northwest Norway is the latest iteration in a boom of Nordic data centers servicing major network-centric Internet companies. These include a big Facebook facility in Sweden with a second Facebook center in Denmark, a large Google facility in Finland, two Apple data centers in Denmark, and a recently opened center in a former mine in Norway used by IBM. Typically, the world's largest data centers to date -- including major facilities in China - have ranged from 100MW to 200MW in terms of total power consumed to power the extensive servers contained within these mega centers.

Havard Lillebo, co-CEO of Kolos, said: "We analyzed locations around the world and identified Ballangen as unique, due to Norway's competitive green energy, the country's cool climate and its large technical workforce, as well as access to international high-performance fiber and the site's secure moated property."

The planned Kolos facility will stretch over some 600,000 square meters and is designed as a four-story structure integrated into the natural environment.

Mark Robinson, Co-CEO of Kolos, added, "The team understood the importance of building the world's most powerful data center with respect for the community and natural beauty."

Within 25 kilometers of the planned site is access to a huge amount of excess clean hydropower, far more than any data center location in the world. "We can scale up to two gigawatts of consumable renewable power. That's a massive size that our competitors can't touch," Robinson noted.

Numerous transformative technological waves – from mobile to cloud to the Internet of Things, all generating massive amounts of electronic data – are driving the growth in global demand for data centers and the climate-controlled housing of heat-producing high-volume servers. The government of Norway, the town of Ballangen and many of the country's top business leaders have identified data centers as an area of green growth for the local economy with its power surplus.



An artist's illustration of what the new Kolos data center in Ballangen, Norway, will look like when it is completed. (Source HDR)

Kevin LeMans, Principal at HDR Inc., the Omaha-based design and engineering firm contracted for the project, said the Kolos plant represents a new and exciting era in data-center design. "Our objective was to integrate the community, surrounding natural beauty, sustainability, performance, security and scalability into the design." Kolos' unique location allows for precise temperature-control inside the facility -- with its massive stacks of computers -- via water from the fjords and from chilled ambient air.

Kolos is working with Headwaters MB, a leading investment banking firm in the U.S., one with deep market knowledge and a strong track record of successfully sourcing capital in the technology, telecom and infrastructure space.

Paul Janson, President and COO of Denver-based Headwaters, observed: “The Kolos management team is developing the most innovative, cost-effective and environmentally friendly data center in the world. We are excited to be partnering with a firm that is a true pioneer in the industry and poised for long-term growth.”



Rendering of Kolos' Data Center. Source HDR

The Climate Minister, Vidar Helgesen will be speaking at the Kolos launch “Celebrating the Green Economy” in Ballangen on August 18.

About Kolos

Kolos is a Norwegian and American company with offices in Norway, the United States and Europe. Our goal is to create the most innovative, energy-efficient and secure data center in the world -- powered by 100% renewable energy -- in Norway. Designed with inputs from the community and beautifully integrated into the natural landscape, the Kolos Data Center will be the largest green data center across the globe, bringing jobs and industry to the community of Ballangen in northwest Norway. Kolos is changing the paradigm in hosting infrastructure, moving away from dense high-cost fossil-fuel driven areas to a region abundant in clean renewable energy. For more information, visit www.kolos.com

Press Contacts

Warren Getler
[e: getler15@gmail.com](mailto:e:getler15@gmail.com)
m: 202.531.6035

Daniel Hodges
e: dan@kolos.com
m: 908.432.3299

About HDR

For more than a century, HDR has partnered with clients to shape communities and push the boundaries of what's possible. Our expertise spans 10,000 employees, in more than 225 locations around the world—and counting. Our engineering, architecture, environmental and construction services bring an impressive breadth of knowledge to every project. Our optimistic approach to finding innovative solutions defined our past and drives our future. For more information <https://www.hdrinc.com>.

About Headwaters MB

Headwaters MB is an independent, middle market investment banking firm providing strategic merger and acquisition advice, capital raising and special situations advisory. Named “Investment Bank of the Year” by major industry organizations for its third year in a row, Headwaters MB is headquartered in Denver, CO, with six regional offices across the United States and partnerships with 18 firms covering 30 countries. For more information, visit www.headwatersmb.com