

ANSI/TIA-942

THE GLOBAL DATA CENTER STANDARD



The globally adopted ANSI/TIA-942 Telecommunications Infrastructure Standard for Data Centers specifies minimum requirements and guidelines for the design and installation of a data center or computer room. It is intended for use by data center designers, owners, and operators who need a comprehensive understanding of the data center design, including power systems, mechanical systems, architecture, security, cabling systems, and network design.

ANSI/TIA-942 is developed and maintained by the TIA Engineering Committee TR-42 Telecommunications Cabling Systems and is reviewed regularly. TR-42.1 Engineering Committee is currently working on an addendum to the ANSI/TIA-942 standard that will cover the specific requirements of edge data centers which are often pre-fabricated, modular, unstaffed, and remotely monitored and controlled.

TIA-942 offers several advantages over other data center standards, including:

- Accredited by ANSI and maintained by industry representatives from TIA member companies with expertise across various aspects of a data center
- Publicly available and developed via consensus-based, objective and industry-driven specifications for greater transparency
- Continually and pro-actively updated to support evolving data center design principles and technologies
- Utilizes standard nomenclature applicable to any size or type of data center, from the edge to the hyperscale, as well as enterprise, telco, cloud and co-location
- Offers a more extensive scope with international specifications needed to design and build any data center

TIA-942 OVERVIEW

The TIA-942 standard covers all aspects of data center physical infrastructure, including architecture and topology, environmental design, power systems and distribution, cooling systems and distribution, cabling systems, redundancy, pathways, safety, and physical security. A key objective of the TIA-942 standard is to define how a data center should be built and configured to provide the level of reliability and resiliency required by end users. There are four ratings that provide an impartial way for data center owners and users to define their expectations depending on the applications and data stored in their specific data center.

The TIA-942 standard is also the foundation of the [TIA-942 Certification Program](#) that enables data center facilities to be independently reviewed and certified for conformity to the standard based on the four ratings for resiliency, providing greater assurance to customers and stakeholders.

TIA-942 DATA CENTER RATINGS

Rated-1: *Basic Site Infrastructure*

The data center has single-capacity components; a single, nonredundant distribution path for all equipment; and limited protection against physical events.

Rated-2: *Redundant Component Site Infrastructure*

The data center has redundant capacity components, but nonredundant distribution path that serves the computer equipment.

Rated-3: *Concurrently Maintainable Site Infrastructure*

The data center has redundant capacity components and redundant distribution paths that serve the computer equipment and protect against most physical events.

Rated-4: *Fault Tolerant Site Infrastructure*

The data center has redundant capacity components, active redundant distribution paths to serve the equipment, and protection against almost all physical events.

If you are interested in contributing to the future of data centers, please contact Jacques Fluet, at jfluet@tiaonline.org.

For more information about TIA or the TIA-942 Certification Program, visit www.tiaonline.org.

CLICK [HERE](#) TO PURCHASE THE TIA-942 STANDARD.