

How PS Lightwave Can Help Oil, Gas, and Energy Companies Establish a Houston Data Center



When most people think about the driving force behind oil, gas, and energy, the first thing that comes to mind is natural resources. To operate at scale and deliver solutions to clients across Texas and throughout the rest of the world, oil, gas, and energy companies need to leverage an incredible amount of data.

Establishing great data handling protocols and connectivity solutions is essential for any natural resource company looking to offer its products to customers. Without this infrastructure, companies can't keep up with energy demand, navigate through global energy instability, maintain their services in the event of a natural disaster, or even expand their businesses to keep up with market growth.

To handle this volume of data and provide employees with the tools they need to serve customers effectively, businesses must ensure that they establish a solid network of IT infrastructure and connectivity. Without these resources, growing your business, meeting customer demand, and protecting your systems from compromise is challenging.

One of the best ways to make this happen is with a data center in Houston. This centralized system can host all your data and necessary line-of-business software and apps, making it easy for your employees and customers to connect and collaborate.

Why Natural Resource Businesses Should Establish a Houston Data Center

Supporting the unique data handling and management requirements of companies in the natural resources sector begins with a robust data center. This is a facility that can easily handle necessary traffic while keeping data and files both physically and digitally secure.

More and more companies in the United States are starting to entrust their data to these facilities. Recent research has shown that there are at least 2,600 data centers located in the USA,¹ with the total global market value of this industry expected to top \$65.55 billion by 2027.

There are lots of reasons for this precipitous increase in data centers worldwide. The first is that not every business has the budget or the expertise to establish a private data center. Additionally, increasing cyber crime due to the rise

in remote work has rightfully made many companies much more cautious about protecting their data. As many as 67% of recent cyber attacks have been aimed at remote workers,² a worrying statistic that shows just how vulnerable these out-of-office access points can be.

Why Outsource Your Houston Data Center to PS Lightwave

While there are many benefits for natural resource companies looking to establish a data center, navigating and administering these systems can be tricky if you don't have the necessary expertise on your team. Additionally, recent supply chain issues, changes in hiring practices, and the movement for increased options and resources for workers have made this task even more complex. That's why many oil, gas, and energy companies have turned to established network service providers like PS Lightwave to help guide them through the process of establishing a secure and responsive data center.

Here are some of the ways that working with a network service provider like PS Lightwave to outsource your Houston data center solutions can help your business face these challenges.

Navigate supply chain issues

A myriad of supply chain issues have shaken our markets in both 2021 and 2022. These are due to a combination of factors, including changing customer demand and ongoing COVID restrictions that have kept many factories, producers, and suppliers from operating with enough personnel or resources to fulfill demand.

This had led to regional and global shortages in everything from baby food to lumber, computer chips, and much more. Unfortunately, these supply chain issues have not left the IT industry unscathed. Procuring switches, computer parts, and other integral pieces of network hardware has become

increasingly complex, and costs have risen accordingly.

To alleviate this financial and logistical strain, many companies have chosen to partner with network service providers. Instead of trying to search out these parts alone, you can rely on a team of experts who regularly work with suppliers who can secure the required resources.

Keep your data protected from cyber criminals

Another common issue for natural resource companies looking to establish a Houston data center is cyber security. Maintaining excellent cyber security standards is critical for any business, but it becomes even more vital for companies in the natural resource sector whose services are essential to the community.

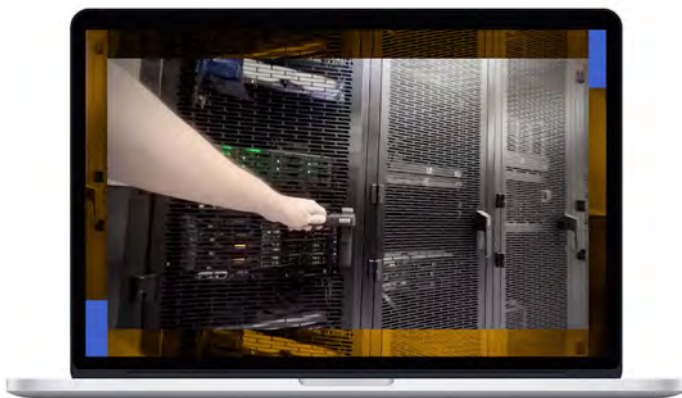
According to a recent report released by the Natural Gas Council and the Oil and Natural Gas Sector Coordinating Council, cyber attacks in this sector are on the rise,³ and protecting critical infrastructure is a significant priority. Unfortunately, many companies in this sector lack the funding, the expertise, and the infrastructure to effectively defend themselves, with 3 out of 4 small businesses unable to hire the personnel to manage this risk.⁴

Don't try to protect your vulnerable data and network on your own. The PS Lightwave team offers secure data center space including private rack and cage space with all the necessary security practices to keep your data protected. We'll go in to perform reboots as needed and help maintain a secure environment.

Protect your data from natural disasters

Natural resource companies know better than most that the sheer variety and intensity of both the weather and the natural disasters in Texas can be dangerous.⁵ Even something as simple as a period of heavy rainfall can disrupt your operations, putting your business at risk of being unable to deliver on your promises to customers. If your building is compromised, failure to secure your data or invest in secure, offsite backups can result in significant financial costs as well as reputational damage. No one wants to be the only business on hold as you watch your competitors continue to serve customers.

Don't rely on luck. Working with a professional network service provider to establish a secure and weather-resistant data center in Houston can help alleviate many of these risks.



Stop worrying about personnel

Hiring has taken on a particular salience in 2022. Many workers took time during the pandemic to re-evaluate their priorities, and as a result, companies across the natural resource sector are having a hard time hiring personnel with the required expertise. This has left them increasingly vulnerable to cyber criminals since a lack of trained personnel can jeopardize the ongoing efficacy of your network.

Instead of spending the time and money to recruit dedicated experts for your in-house team, outsource this job to us.

The Benefits PS Lightwave Can Offer Your Company

PS Lightwave doesn't just offer connectivity and data center expertise. We have been working with organizations throughout the Greater Houston Area for over 12 years and are very familiar with the unique needs of our friends and neighbors.

One of the main benefits we can offer our clients is lightning fast and direct connectivity to AWS, Google, Azure, and other popular carriers. This allows us to support our clients in the natural resource and renewable energy sectors as they are challenged by high-density data demand and the need to grow and expand to serve an ever-widening network of customers. We also offer additional services to support your ongoing connectivity like Internet, Ethernet, dark fiber, and VoIP over a massive 5,500 route mile network.

We provide:

- A secure environment that's manned 24/7/365
- Carrier neutral with other providers
- Full, half, and quarter cabinets with A/B power options
- Data center Internet port
- Scalable, affordable pricing options
- Multiple cloud transport connect options, including AWS, Azure, Google, Oracle, and others
- Telecommunication carriers interconnection agreements

With our help, it's easier to maintain your energy production and distribution standards, scaling up or down to meet customer demand. Plus, you'll always have the reassurance of knowing your data is accessible – no matter what natural disaster or weather event occurs.

Ultimately, your data should work for you. However, maintaining your data's security and ensuring ongoing accessibility, regardless of where your staff are working, can be complex. Let us help you leverage a data center solution that is reliable, scalable, cost-effective, and flexible to your needs. Our 12,000 square-foot LightHouse data center is located in a highly secure purpose-built facility right here in Houston, and this well-equipped and staffed center allows us to offer a wide variety of services to our clients, including:

- Colocation
- Cabinets
- Smart Hands
- Hosted PBX
- Managed bandwidth services

Want to learn more about how our team can tailor our services to support your oil, gas, or energy company? **Get in touch with us today** to speak to one of our experts.

Sources:

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