

The goal of the project was to consolidate and relocate all IT infrastructures to the newly built state-of-the-art data center on the new campus with minimum service interruption and zero IT functionality and data loss. This was a major undertaking that spanned every aspect of IT and business.

During the migration, it was very important to understand and manage the interrelationships between the IT infrastructure and the university business that it supports, to minimize the impact to the University business.

It took our team months of planning and preparation. A comprehensive review of the Islamic Institute data center, including a comprehensive inventory of software, hardware, servers, storage and network equipment was undertaken. We defined what equipment and data will be moved, where it

will be moved, how it will be moved, when it will be moved, and approximately how long the move will take.

We analyzed the information that we collected to prioritize University services, establish downtime if necessary and determine the hardware, application, and technology requirements for a non-disruptive move. We used a combination of checklists and what-if analysis to identify the threats and risks and prepare contingency plans to mitigate possible problems.

As of September 1st, 2011 all central computing systems and large file systems on the Islamic Institute campus have been relocated to the new data center on the new campus with zero IT functions data loss and are all running smoothly. This move was the largest data center relocation in UAEU history and the seamless transition of resources in

less than 4 weekends is a testament to UAEU's strength in information technology. The relocation was a huge success as all systems were available and functioning when the new academic classes started.

The new facility has been built on today's technology and provides high speed network connectivity of 10g. It also provides a secure, professionally managed data center to meet the growing information technology needs of academic and administrative units and it houses enterprise-wide academic and administrative services critical to students, faculty, and staff.

Building on this and previous experience, UITS will continuously work to introduce and enhance our IT services to the next level.

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