

## Case study

# Malaysia's Leading State University Chooses Vertiv Micro Data Centre for IT Upgrade



## Background

Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris (UPSI), also known as Sultan Idris Education University, is one of Malaysia's leading public universities. Located in Tanjung Malim, Perak, it is one of the country's oldest higher learning institutions.

UPSI operates across two campuses: Sultan Abdul Jalil Shah (KSAJS) and Sultan Azlan Shah (KSAS). The university is dedicated to providing quality education through teaching, research, and community service, equipping students to excel in both local and international fields.

## Challenges

With a student population exceeding 24,000, UPSI depends heavily on its data centre to manage student records, research activities, financial transactions, and administrative processes.

The university's traditional data centre was struggling to cope with the increasing volume of data. Additionally, the legacy system lacked remote monitoring capabilities, making IT asset management inefficient.

"The growing reliance on digital transactions has led to challenges such as overheating, outages, and water leakage. The old data centre also lacked a control room for monitoring. We needed to expand and modernise our data centre, but limited space in the server room required us to adopt a new design and approach," said Tuan Shahrul Azlan bin Mohamed Nor, Head of the Infrastructure Division, ICT Centre at UPSI.

To address these challenges, UPSI collaborated with Vertiv's partner, GTE Solutions Sdn Bhd, to design a new data centre that meets its evolving needs. The solution had to be Uptime Institute Tier IV-compliant and include an advanced monitoring system for enhanced reliability and efficiency.

## Solution

After assessing UPSI's requirements, Vertiv proposed the Vertiv™ SmartAisle 2, an integrated, pre-engineered solution designed for rapid deployment and operational efficiency. The SmartAisle 2 system includes integrated cooling, an uninterruptible power supply (UPS), power distribution, fire suppression, security features, and remote management tools.



### Company profile:

Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris (UPSI) is a public university in Tanjung Malim, Perak, Malaysia, established in 1997. Tracing its roots back to 1922 as Sultan Idris Training College (SITC), UPSI focuses on education, research, and community service to develop skilled professionals.

**Industry:** Education Management.

**Region:** Tanjung Malim, Perak, Malaysia

### Project milestones

- Assessment & Planning.
- Implementation of Vertiv™ SmartAisle 2.
- Enhanced IT Capabilities & Future Opportunities.



**Vertiv™ SmartAisle 2**

## Key Features of SmartAisle 2:

- **Efficient Power Management:** Equipped with the Liebert® RDU510, SmartAisle 2 provides real-time monitoring and calculation of power usage, optimising energy consumption.
- **Advanced Monitoring and Security:** A built-in 24/7 monitoring system offers proactive alerts to minimise downtime risks. Enhanced security features provide alarms and performance analytics.
- **Reliable and Scalable Power Supply:** The Liebert® APM UPS ensures energy efficiency of up to 96.5% and supports various battery configurations, allowing flexible power management.
- **Optimised Cooling System:** The Liebert® CRV4 cooling system maintains ideal temperatures for IT equipment, ensuring stable performance.
- **Space-Saving Design:** The modular, integrated setup enables quick on-site deployment, with provisions for future expansion.



## Results

Vertiv, in collaboration with GTE Solutions Sdn Bhd, successfully designed, deployed, and commissioned the SmartAisle 2 at UPSI. The system was operational within a few months, significantly reducing project timelines and overall deployment costs.

The integrated monitoring capabilities provided UPSI with real-time insights into its IT infrastructure, ensuring continuous operation even without on-site IT personnel. The Uptime Tier IV-compliant system also met UPSI's expectations for reliability and efficiency.

By upgrading to a modular infrastructure, UPSI enhanced its IT capabilities, benefiting from rapid deployment, improved efficiency, and remote monitoring. The modernised system even allowed UPSI to explore opportunities for renting out data centre space, creating potential revenue streams.

“Vertiv SmartAisle is the right choice for UPSI’s digital transformation plan. This solution supports our commitment to advancing digitalisation, enhancing technological facilities, and fostering a productive learning environment for students and staff,” said Ts. Dr. Megat Azrin Bin Ahmad, Chief Digital Officer, ICT Centre at UPSI.



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