

CenturyLink turns to Flexenclosure for new state-of-the-art data centres in Ecuador and Chile



Century**Link**

Background

CenturyLink is the second largest communications provider in the United States to the global corporate market. With customers in more than 60 countries and an intense focus on customer experience, CenturyLink strives to be the best networking company in the world by addressing increasing demand for reliable, secure connections.

CenturyLink's business in Latin America has been rapidly growing, with nationally and internationally operating customers demanding new and enhanced B2B communications services. In order to keep ahead of demand and enhance its position as one of the region's leading service providers, CenturyLink needed to expand its data centre capacity in the key markets of Chile and Ecuador.



eCentre data centre for CenturyLink in Quito, Ecuador

The Challenge

CenturyLink's existing Premier Elite data centre in Santiago, Chile, was fast approaching capacity and urgently needed to be expanded. Meanwhile, in Ecuador, an entirely new data centre was required in the country's capital, Quito.

In order to provide both the breadth of services and peace of mind CenturyLink's customers required – as well as to satisfy its own commitment to deploying only the best technology in its global network – the data centres would need to be state-of-the-art.

They would also need to be future proof, with the facilities capable of growing in line with the business. And

due to the relatively small site footprints in both locations, it would be vital to maximise the facilities' design efficiency if CenturyLink's future expansion goals were to be possible.

The challenges didn't end there though. The ever-present risk of earthquakes in the region would require the data centres to comply with the local seismic regulations. Further, with the Chilean facility fully operational, it would be critically important that any new construction work be done with absolutely no disruption to ongoing service provision.

And both projects needed to be completed very fast.

The Solution

Flexenclosure's prefabricated modular eCentre data centre was selected as the ideal solution.

The facilities were designed, built and fully tested at Flexenclosure's manufacturing plant in Sweden, before being shipped to Latin America for installation and final commissioning. The first phase of each project consists of a single-storey 300kW data centre, with the earthquake-resistant facilities capable of vertical expansion up to two additional floors, providing white space for more than 100 racks on each floor. In this way the site footprints are optimised for maximum use while also allowing uninterrupted expansion of the data centres in parallel with customer demands. And in line with CenturyLink's

commitment to the highest industry standards, both were designed to achieve Uptime Institute Tier III certification.

With both data centres now fully operational and directly connected to CenturyLink's local, regional and global data centre network. CenturyLink has been able to expand its data and cloud services portfolio with new solutions for colocation, hosting, cloud computing, security, collaboration, optic fibre and managed services to its national and international corporate, government and carrier clients.

The result is two world class data centres that have provided CenturyLink with the critical infrastructure required to deliver next generation services to its customers for the foreseeable future.

"We are committed to deploying the highest quality infrastructure and providing the most innovative solutions and services to our customers. Building our new data centres with prefabricated modules allowed for a more efficient construction, faster implementation time and significantly improved operational efficiency. Located close to our customers, with 24x7 availability and the latest security systems, these state-of-the-art facilities are built to optimize power and space efficiencies, and to enable us to bring new managed services to market very fast."



Gabriel del Campo
Vice President of Data Centre, Security and Cloud
CenturyLink Latin America

The Flexenclosure Advantage

From day one, a close and collaborative working relationship was established between CenturyLink and Flexenclosure, ensuring that the new data centres would conform exactly to CenturyLink's requirements.

Flexenclosure actively collaborated with the CenturyLink engineering and supply chain teams, with a dedicated Sweden- and Latin America-based team supporting every aspect of the undertaking including custom design, factory manufacturing, system testing, transport, logistics, site construction, final commissioning and customer training.

By working with Flexenclosure, CenturyLink was also able to capitalise some significant eCentre differentiators:

- Maximum preparation, configuration and testing of the eCentre modules in Flexenclosure's factory in Sweden ensured the extreme level of quality and reliability required of these mission critical facilities before their final delivery on site, while at the same time significantly reducing overall project risk.
- The teams that built the eCentres in Sweden travelled to Chile and Ecuador for their installation and commissioning, ensuring the seamless project management and precise

attention to detail found in all eCentre facilities.

- eCentre is the solution of choice for data centres requiring almost unlimited configuration flexibility without compromising future expansion options, so they can quickly and easily grow in line with business needs.
- eCentre's modular construction allows for the expansion of any existing eCentre site without interrupting on-going data centre operations.
- eCentre is technically agnostic, allowing the customer to select their preferred vendors' equipment – BMS, HVAC, power, fire suppression, etc. – as appropriate for the country in which the data centre is to be built.
- On-site commissioning and training secure a seamless transition from Flexenclosure's project team to the customer's operations team, ensuring maximum knowledge transfer prior to the facility going live.
- And with extensive experience deploying award-winning prefabricated modular data centre and technical facilities in the most challenging environments worldwide, Flexenclosure is always able to bring creative ideas, fully tested solutions and total peace of mind.