The Companies Behind
China's Data Center Buildout

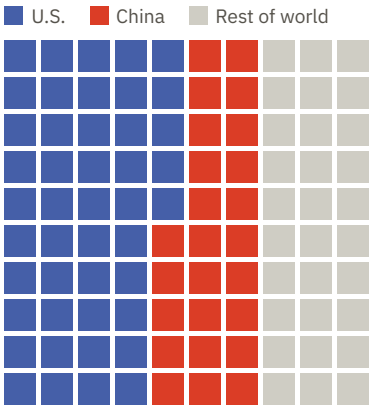
WIRESCREEN BRIEFING · UPDATED NOVEMBER 5, 2026

China's data center buildout involves an intricate network of technology companies, state-owned telecom carriers, specialist operators, local governments and energy suppliers. Alibaba, Tencent and ByteDance generate demand; companies such as GDS, VNET, Chindata and ZData build and operate large campuses; and government money enters through several channels. Using WireScreen's corporate records, this briefing traces who finances, builds and owns the infrastructure, and compares China's expansion with that of American companies.

What we measure. Four different things: capital spending, physical data center capacity, computing capacity, and cloud or compute access. They cannot be added together. A company may own a building, lease computing from someone else, buy servers for another operator's campus, or sell cloud services from many sites.

China is the second-largest user of data center electricity ...

Share of global data center electricity use, 2024. Each square is 1%.



Global data center electricity demand, terawatt-hours

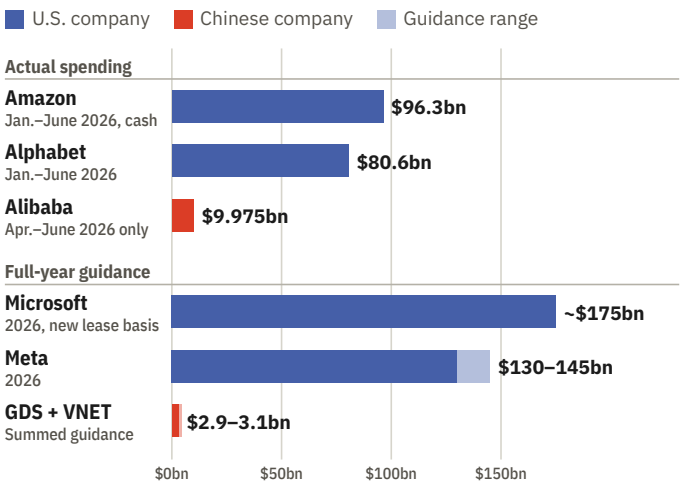
485 TWh · 2025

950 TWh · 2030 (IEA estimate)

IEA, Energy and AI (2025) [1] for the 2024 shares; Key Questions on Energy and AI (2026) [2] for 2025 and 2030 demand. Electricity is a measure of scale, not of AI capability.

... but U.S. hyperscalers spend on a different scale

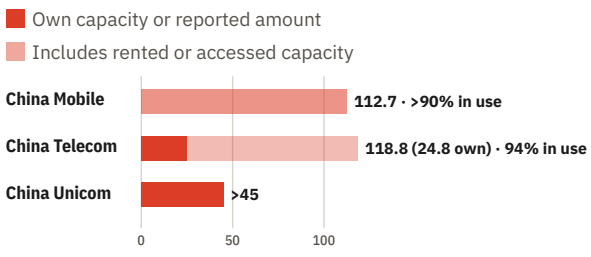
Latest disclosed capital spending, US$ billions. Periods differ, so the bars are not a ratio. Company totals are global and include assets other than data centers. These are infrastructure owners; compute customers such as OpenAI are not shown.



Company filings and guidance [4, 7, 8, 30–33]. Microsoft's ~$175bn is its latest calendar-2026 guidance, lowered from ~$190bn after more future data center leases were classed as operating rather than finance leases [32]. Alibaba's dollar figure is its own; GDS + VNET converted at an illustrative RMB7 per dollar.

State carriers are shifting capital into computing

Reported AI computing resources, EFLOPS (FP16), mid-2026. Company definitions differ: own, rented and accessed capacity are mixed. Computing took 48% of China Telecom's and 37% of China Unicom's first-half capital spending; China Mobile budgets about 28% of its 2026 capex for computing networks [93].

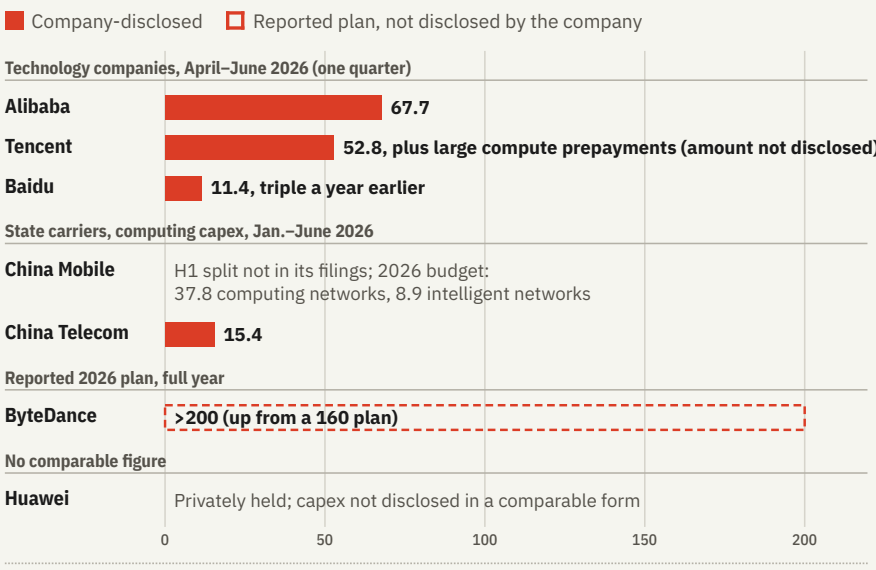


Company interim results, Aug. 2026 [49–51]. China Mobile includes rented capacity; China Telecom includes 'accessed' capacity, of which 24.8 EFLOPS is its own. Computing capex: China Telecom 48% of first-half capex; China Unicom 37%; China Mobile 2026 budget RMB37.8bn of RMB136.6bn [93].

Who is financing China's buildout

Technology companies and state carriers both invest; government money enters through programs and project stakes. No public source divides the total among them.

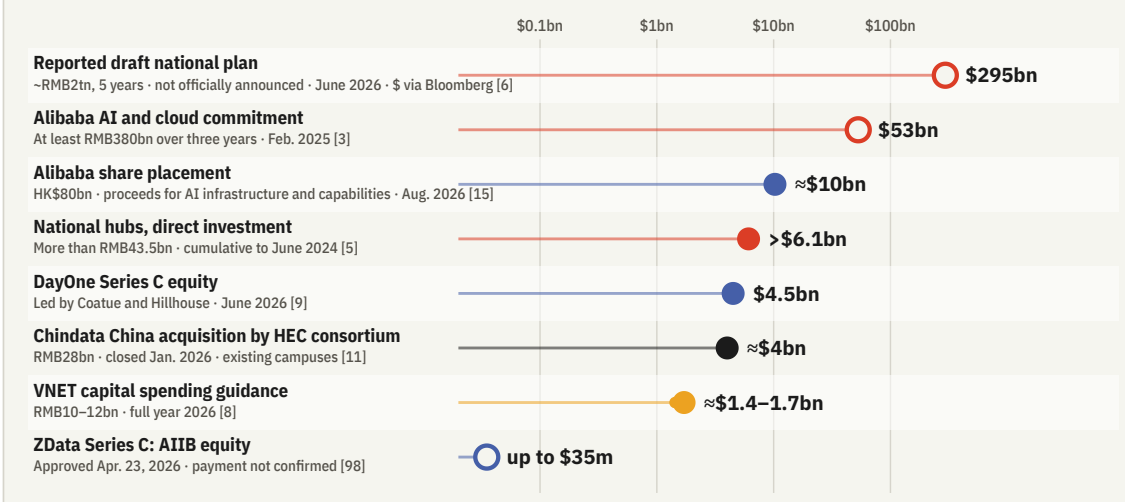
Disclosed capital spending, RMB billions



Alibaba [4]; Tencent [52]; Baidu [53]; China Mobile and China Telecom [49, 50]; China Mobile 2026 budget [93]; ByteDance, as reported by the South China Morning Post [54]. Periods differ by group. Company capex covers servers, chips and other assets, not only buildings, and includes spending abroad. State-owned company capex is corporate investment, not government budget spending. Do not add these: a tenant's servers and its landlord's building can be two budgets for one campus.

The scale of China's data center investment: plans, spending and financing

Selected disclosures, 2024–2026, US$ billions (log scale: each step multiplies). Figures overlap and are not additive.



Sources in brackets. Renminbi figures are shown in dollars at an illustrative RMB7 per dollar, and Hong Kong dollars at HK$7.8, except where the issuer or the cited report gave its own dollar amount; the $295bn is Bloomberg's conversion (≈$286bn at RMB7). The hubs' RMB43.5bn is direct investment through June 2024; the same release reports more than RMB200bn of investment driven by hub construction, and the two overlap [5]. The HK$80bn placement is financing that may fund the RMB380bn commitment, so the two Alibaba figures should not be added. These disclosures show the scale of selected investments and transactions; they are not an estimate of total Chinese data center investment. The AIIB approved a potential equity investment of up to $35 million in ZData Intelligent valley Limited as part of ZData's Series C; it is an approved maximum, not a disbursement. The precise ownership chain connecting that vehicle to ZData's Chinese operating companies has not been independently verified [98]. A financing facility is money available, not money spent; an acquisition buys existing campuses rather than new ones.

Where China is building

Eight national computing hubs and ten official clusters, with the disclosed sites of companies in this briefing

Disclosed data center sites and company locations

All | Developers and operators: Chindata | ZData | AtHub | Range | Aofei | Baosight | Sinnet | NWCD | Hotwon | Compute infrastructure: Xiyun | CapitalOnline | Hyperscalers: Baidu | Tencent | Energy: Envision



Official national cluster | Major demand center | Company site, operating | Under construction | Planned or announced | Disclosed location, stage unverified | Province hosting a national hub

Zhongwei cluster

Ningxia hub

Established inland hosting location. AWS China's Ningxia region is operated by NWCD; Hotwon and Xiyun Computing Power, a GPU compute company, are also here.

Official national cluster. Representative location, not campus coordinates.

NDRC (2022) [13]; National Data Administration (2024) [14]; company disclosures [23–27, 38–40, 42, 74]; AtHub project companies from the WireScreen record [46]; Chindata's campus regions from its website [55]; Envision [62, 65]; ZData locations from the company description in the WireScreen record and from AIIB [98, 100]. Site status [78–88]. Site lists are selected examples, not complete; status describes the company's facility in that city. ZData locations are drawn from company descriptions: campus ownership, operating status and exact coordinates have not been verified for each location.

The eight hubs

Four are centered on China's largest computing-demand regions. Four western hubs are meant to use cheaper land, energy and a cooler climate.

Metropolitan hubs, near customers

Beijing–Tianjin–Hebei	Zhangjiakou
Yangtze River Delta	Demonstration zone; Wuhu
Greater Bay Area	Shaoguan
Chengdu–Chongqing	Tianfu; Chongqing

Inland hubs, near power and land

Inner Mongolia	Horinger
Guizhou	Gui'an
Gansu	Qingyang
Ningxia	Zhongwei

Official investment in the hubs through June 2024: more than RMB43.5 billion direct and more than RMB200 billion in construction-driven investment. The categories overlap. [5]

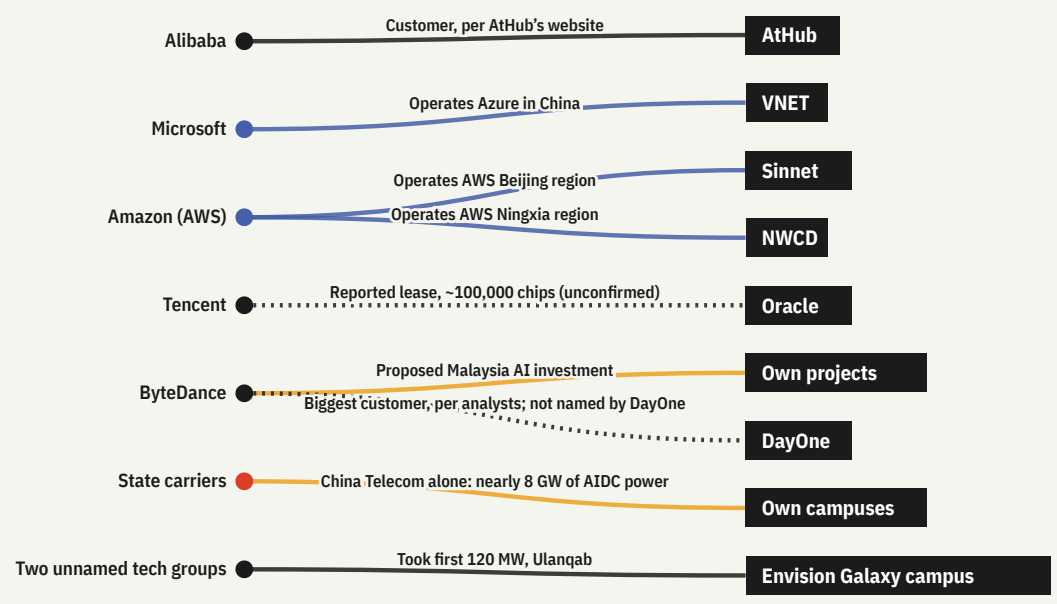
Who pays, who builds, who owns

A campus's owner, its builder and its main compute customer can be three different companies

Documented relationships

Customers | Financing | Ownership

Customer or lease | Operates the buyer's cloud region | Builds or invests directly | Reported, unconfirmed



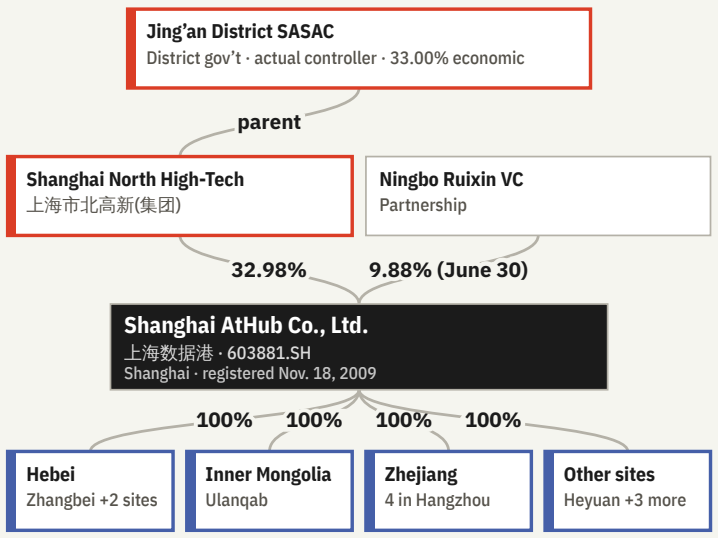
AtHub [46–47]; VNET [37, 43]; AWS China operators [40]; Tencent–Oracle, reported and unconfirmed [28]; ByteDance [21]; ByteDance and DayOne, per analysts cited by The New York Times [102]; China Telecom [50]; Envision [62]. AtHub's annual report does not name the internet group behind 98.3% of its 2025 main-business revenue; its website names Alibaba as a customer. A link shows that a relationship is documented, not its size.

Shanghai AtHub (数据港)

▼ WireScreen network-risk flags (2)

Government enterprise involvement | Xinjiang supply chain exposure

Exposure labels; they can arise through related entities or customers.



98.3%
of 2025 main-business revenue from one unnamed internet group and its affiliates

12
wholly owned project companies, most named for their site

33.0%
ultimate economic ownership by Shanghai's Jing'an District government, which is also the actual controller

A district government is the largest ultimate owner; one internet group supplies nearly all the revenue. AtHub's website names Alibaba as a customer, but the annual report does not name the 98.3% customer. The registry maps the campuses through their project companies, from Zhangbei and Ulanqab to Heyuan.

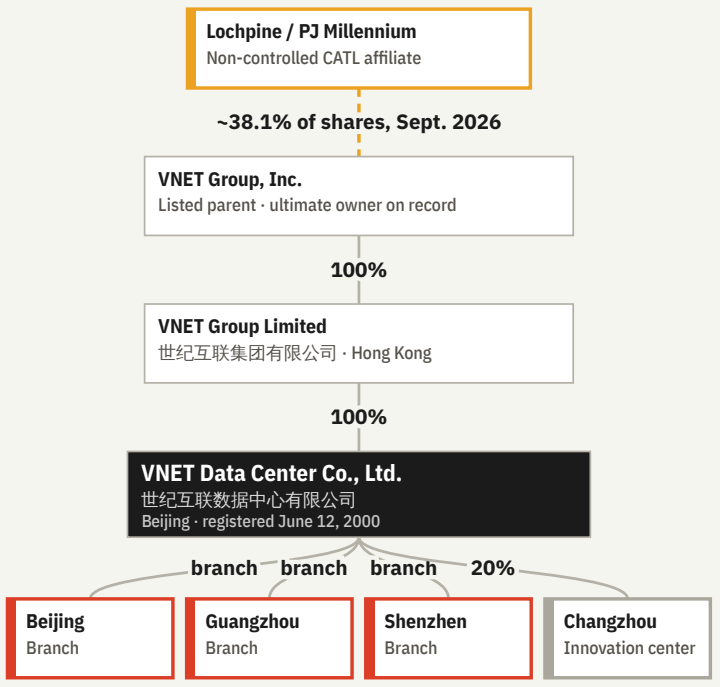
WireScreen record, updated Oct. 2026 [46]; AtHub 2025 annual report [47]; AtHub website [48]. Customer concentration is the company's own disclosure.

VNET Data Center Co., Ltd.

▼ WireScreen network-risk flags (1)

Xinjiang supply chain exposure

Exposure labels; they can arise through related entities or customers.



1,007 MW
wholesale capacity in service in China, group figure

Microsoft
Azure and other Microsoft cloud services in China are operated by VNET (21Vianet)

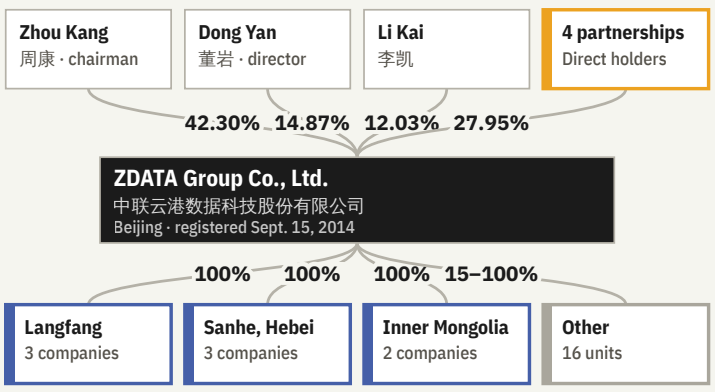
~38.1%
of the listed parent's shares, bought by CATL-affiliated vehicles; a voting and consortium agreement with founder Josh Chen took effect at closing

The registry chain ends at the listed parent, so the September 2026 CATL-affiliated stake sits one level above anything the registry shows for the operating company.

WireScreen record, updated Sept. 2026: registered capital $129.67M, legal representative Lin Nan, three branches. VNET [8, 16]; Microsoft [37]. Dashed gold line comes from company disclosure, not the registry.

ZDATA Group Co., Ltd. (中联云港数据科技股份有限公司)

Known in Chinese as Zhonglian Data (中联数据) and in English as ZDATA: one company. Independent data center operator, Beijing, with a mostly private shareholder base and minority state-linked interests



~1.0 GW
IT capacity in service, Dec. 2025, per AIIB

4
hyperscale parks, each exceeding 500 MW in park scale, per AIIB

3.1%
government ownership, WireScreen calculation

One of China's major independent data center operators, ZData names leading Chinese technology companies as clients and is expanding into Southeast Asia. WireScreen's record shows a largely privately owned company, led by chairman Zhou Kang (周康), with minority government-linked investment that does not amount to state control.

▼ Shareholders, subsidiaries and financing in detail

Zhou Kang, Dong Yan (董岩) and Li Kai (李凯) directly hold 42.30%, 14.87% and 12.03%, and four limited partnerships together hold an additional 27.95% directly. These are registered shareholdings. WireScreen's ultimate-ownership calculation also traces indirect interests, and puts the three individuals at 50.90%, 18.90% and 13.00%. The largest state-linked ultimate holders are the State Council and the Suzhou Industrial Park Administrative Committee, at 0.90% each. WireScreen calculates government ownership at 3.1% and government-enterprise ownership at 1.3%; the two should not be added together until it is confirmed that they do not overlap.

The record lists 24 investments and branches, including 19 entries shown at 100%, among them Langfang Yunchu, Yundao and Yunyong Data Technology (廊坊耘储, 廊坊云岛, 廊坊市云涌), three companies in Sanhe, Hebei, and Inner Mongolia Asia Info Intelligent Computing Data Technology (内蒙古亚信智算数据科技). A subsidiary registered in a city is not proof that it owns a campus there. The company says it operates or plans more than 30 data centers and names JD.com, ByteDance, Kuaishou, Alibaba Cloud, Tencent and Huawei as clients; none is tied to a particular site.

The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank locates the four parks in Inner Mongolia, Shanxi, Hebei and Ningxia. On April 23, 2026, it approved a potential equity investment of up to $35 million in ZData Intelligent valley Limited as part of ZData's Series C, to fund expansion in China and Southeast Asia. The precise ownership chain connecting that vehicle to ZData's Chinese operating companies has not been independently verified [98].

WireScreen record, updated Oct. 2026 [100]; AIIB [98]; short name 中联数据 from China Securities Journal [101], and the record lists Zhonglian Data Group as an alias. Ownership categories follow WireScreen's methodology; ultimate ownership combines all paths and differs from direct holdings. Clients are company-reported. The 1.0 GW is operating IT capacity across the company; the 500 MW describes park scale, and the two are different measures. The project companies behind the four parks are not yet resolved.

China and overseas assets no longer have the same owners

Both large independent operators split their China and overseas businesses. The brands no longer tell you who owns the campuses.

Chindata's new lead owner is HEC (Shenzhen Dongyangguang Industry, 东阳光), a materials and renewable-energy group; insurers and local government funds joined its consortium [10]. It says it will pair Chindata with its own power sourcing, materials and computing services [10, 11]. The sources reviewed describe intended integration, not completed integration.



Bain Capital (2025) [10]; Chindata (2026) [11, 55]; Bridge Data Centres [12]; DayOne and GDS [9]; GDS's stake of about 19.9% as of its 2025 annual report, down from 35.6% at end-2024 and 30.1% at end-2025 [106]; DayOne's planned listing, customer concentration (from its securities filing) and board, as reported by The New York Times [102]; WireScreen record on Chindata, Aug. 2023 [45].

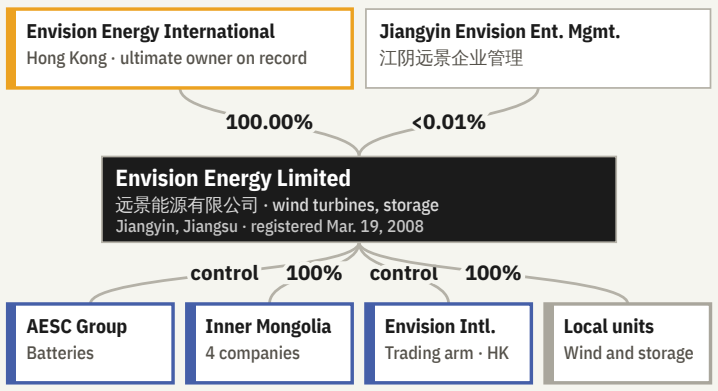
Envision Energy Limited (远景能源有限公司)

Envision Group's principal wind-energy company

▼ **WireScreen network-risk flags (4)**

DoD battery procurement ban | Central state-owned enterprise involvement | Government guidance funds involvement | Xinjiang supply chain exposure

Exposure labels; they can arise through related entities or customers.



Not shown
which company owns the Galaxy campus; this record does not link to it

32 of 71
procurement records list CGN units, 18 list China Huaneng units; counts do not measure sales concentration

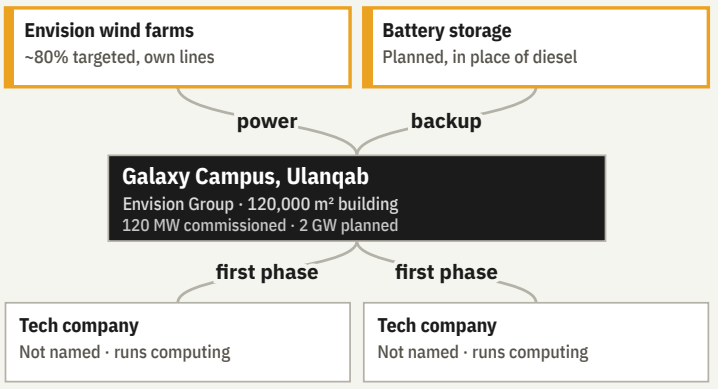
100.00%
held by a Hong Kong affiliate, where the registry chain ends

Envision Group announced the Galaxy campus (远景乌兰察布星河基地), but this record covers the group's wind-turbine company and does not show who owns the campus. Chinese coverage names only an AI computing unit as operator [73]. From Oct. 1, 2027, U.S. law bars the Defense Department from buying "Envision Energy" batteries [67, 69]; this record links the company to battery maker AESC through "significant control." The record also shows a 472.12M contract, dated Dec. 30, 2025, to sell green power in Ulanqab to Inner Mongolia Fengdian Energy Power Generation (内蒙古丰电能源发电). That is a power sale, not the data center.

WireScreen record, updated Oct. 2026 [68]. Procurement figures are record counts, not contract values. Flags can arise through related entities or customers.

Envision Group's Galaxy campus, Ulanqab: an energy group becomes a data center developer

A wind-energy group is developing the campus and supplying most of its power; technology companies run the computing.



120 MW
commissioned in August 2026 and allocated to tenants

2 GW
planned, which would place it among China's largest campuses

~80%
of power targeted from Envision's own wind farms, by dedicated line

Envision does not run the computing, and it has not named the two technology companies that took the first phase [62]. Its Chifeng data center, built with Tencent Cloud, is of undisclosed size [72]; the 2 GW reported there is the park's power system, not data center load [65, 66]. Bloomberg reported that DeepSeek plans about 1 GW in Ulanqab [62].

Bloomberg via Energy Connects [62]; China Daily [63]; DCD [64]; Remio analysis of Envision's 2026 action report [66]; Tencent Cloud [72]; Yicai [73]. The 80% green-power share is a company target. Capacity and density claims are Envision's own and not independently verified.

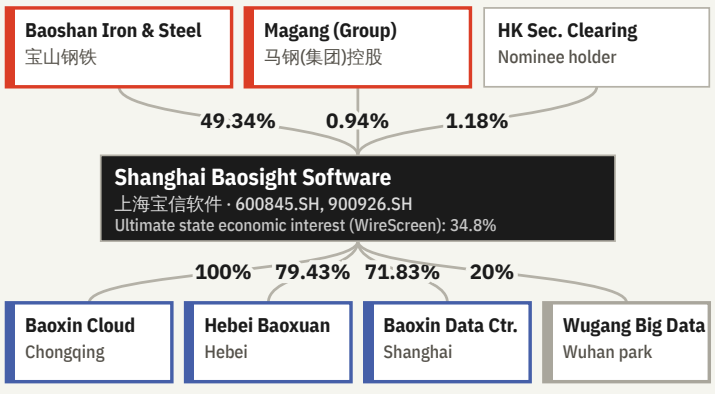
▼ **Another WireScreen record: Shanghai Baosight Software, a steel group's data center arm**

Shanghai Baosight Software

▼ **WireScreen network-risk flags (4)**

Military affiliated | Defense contractor | State security contractor | Public security agency customer

Exposure labels; they can arise through related entities or customers.



50.28%
held directly by Baoshan Iron & Steel and Magang, acting in concert

24
procurement records with the Shanghai Big Data Center

5
with the Minhang branch of the Shanghai Public Security Bureau

A steel group's software arm controls data center companies in Shanghai, Hebei and Chongqing. Its customers in WireScreen's procurement records include the Shanghai Big Data Center, a Shanghai police bureau and the Ministry of Science and Technology's information center.

WireScreen record, updated Oct. 2026 [44]; Baosight 2026 interim report [71] for direct holdings; 34.8% is WireScreen's calculation of ultimate state economic interest across all ownership paths; it differs from direct holdings and from control. Procurement figures are record counts, not contract values.

China’s global data center footprint

Where Chinese technology companies operate cloud services, Chinese-origin operators develop data centers, and Chinese financing supports overseas infrastructure. A marker does not by itself mean a Chinese-owned building.

By our count, Alibaba, Huawei and Tencent operate about 43 commercial cloud regions outside mainland China and Hong Kong. These are service areas, not necessarily company-owned data centers.

DayOne and Bridge Data Centres are Chinese in origin but no longer Chinese-controlled: GDS keeps a minority stake of about 19.9% in DayOne, and Bain Capital controls Bridge. ZData’s Johor project is reportedly owned through a subsidiary of the Chinese operator, which is not independently verified [9, 12, 99, 106].

Chinese state loans also paid for government data centers that Huawei built in Mozambique and Kenya, part of Beijing’s Digital Silk Road. The commercial cloud regions are not Belt and Road projects in themselves [56, 60, 61].

Overseas cloud regions, campuses and government projects

All | Chinese companies: Alibaba Cloud | Huawei Cloud | Tencent Cloud | ByteDance | ZData | China-financed: Huawei (government project) | Chinese-origin, not Chinese-controlled: DayOne | Bridge Data Centres



Chinese group | Chinese-origin, not Chinese-controlled | China-financed government data center, built 2015–2020 | Planned or proposed | Operating or development; stage unverified

Split markers carry more than one group

Malaysia (country-level) · Chinese companies, Chinese-origin platforms and China-financed projects

ByteDance (planned): Proposed RM10bn AI investment plus RM1.5bn Johor facility expansion (2024)

ZData (phased; first phase reportedly complete, operation unconfirmed): Hyperscale campus in Gelang Patah, Johor, developed in phases by Computility Technology Sdn Bhd, which Bernama describes as a wholly owned ZData subsidiary. Reported project investment of about RM8bn, which is not money already spent [99]. ZData said phase one was completed on Feb. 4, 2026, with phase two partly complete [103]; a water treatment plant for the campus opened in March 2026 [104]. No source reviewed confirms that the data center is serving customers, and The New York Times found construction continuing in late October 2026 [102]. The design holds a provisional GreenRE Platinum certification [105]. Plans call for a renewable-power programme with BGMC Energy and reNIKOLA, with solar expected from 2028 at about 630,000 MWh a year [99]

DayOne (under construction): A 100-acre complex is under construction at Nusajaya Tech Park, Johor; its first Johor facility was announced in 2021. Customers supply their own chips and equipment, DayOne says. ByteDance is its biggest customer, according to analysts cited by The New York Times [102]

Bridge Data Centres (stage unverified): Documented market; site status not verified. Bain-owned; formerly Chindata’s overseas business [70]

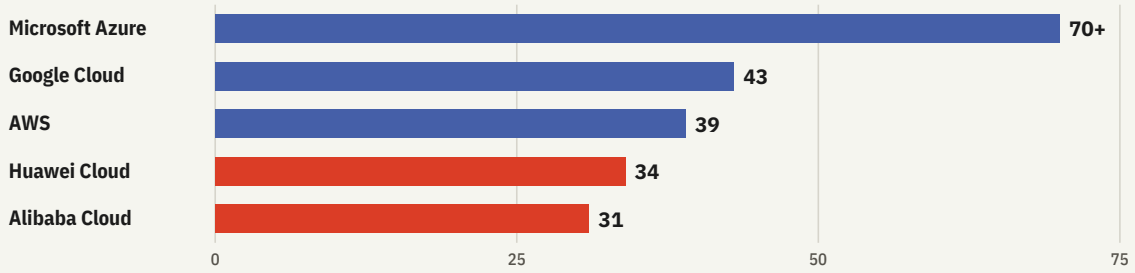
Alibaba Cloud (operating): Cloud regions in Kuala Lumpur (2017) and Johor (2026)

Tencent Cloud (operating): Johor Bahru cloud region, launched Aug. 2026

[9, 12, 18–21, 99, 102–105]. U.S. cloud providers are not mapped; their far larger networks are compared in the chart below. Markers sit at the city when one is disclosed and are approximate at country level otherwise. A cloud region, an availability zone and a building are different units.

For scale: cloud regions worldwide, by provider

All regions, including home markets, as each provider reports them. The three largest U.S. providers each run more regions than Huawei or Alibaba. Outside mainland China and Hong Kong, the three Chinese providers together run about 43.



Microsoft [35]; Google [92]; AWS [34]; Huawei Cloud [20]; Alibaba Cloud [19]. Counts are as reported, Sept.–Oct. 2026; AWS has two more announced. Tencent is omitted because its list mixes public, finance-industry and restricted regions. A region is a service area, not a building.

Chinese cloud regions abroad, by provider

	Alibaba Cloud	Huawei Cloud	Tencent Cloud
Southeast Asia	6	4	4
Middle East & Türkiye	2	2	1
Latin America	2	5	1
Africa	–	2	–
Europe	3	1	1
Japan & Korea	2	–	3
United States	2	–	2
Total	**17**	**14**	**12**

Provider region lists, Oct. 2026 [57–59, 89, 90]; Tencent Osaka [91]. Totals sum provider-reported regions outside mainland China and Hong Kong; one region can span several buildings, and one city can host several regions. Huawei counts its two Mexico City regions separately and lists Dublin on its EU site; its earlier Buenos Aires region no longer appears on its current lists. Alibaba's Riyadh region is a partner region. Alibaba's São Paulo and Tencent's Johor Bahru regions opened in Aug. 2026 [57–59, 76, 77]. Government data centers: Kenya [60], Mozambique [61].

Access that is not a campus

Tencent · ~100,000 AI chips
Reported five-year lease of Oracle capacity across Southeast Asian sites, giving access to the chips; delivery is not confirmed. Tencent rents; it does not own the campuses. Reuters could not verify the report. [28]

VNET · 478 MW overseas land bank
Secured in the second quarter of 2026. The figure describes overseas land resources, not disclosed operating capacity; countries and sites were not disclosed. [8]

What this shows. China's data center buildout is large, but its structure matters as much as its scale. Hyperscalers generate demand; state carriers supply computing capacity; specialist operators and, increasingly, energy companies build campuses; and government capital enters through several channels. The company on the building is often not the company financing, controlling or ultimately using it.

▼ The companies behind the buildout

Data center developers and operators

Independent operators

GDS 万国数据 CORE
Independent developer; overseas arm DayOne now separate [7, 9]

VNET (21Vianet) 世纪互联 CORE
Carrier-neutral; 1,007 MW wholesale in service [8]

Chindata China 秦淮数据 CORE
Hyperscale campuses; owned by HEC-led group since Jan. 2026 [11]

ZData / Zhonglian Data 中联云港 · 中联数据 CORE
One company: 中联云港数据科技股份有限公司, short name 中联数据, English brand ZDATA. Among 15 leading providers named by CAICT/ODCC. About 1.0 GW of IT capacity in service, Dec. 2025, per AIIB; building in Johor, Malaysia [22, 98–101]

Range Intelligent Computing 润泽科技 CORE
Campuses from Langfang to Danzhou [24]

AtHub 数据港 CORE
98.3% of 2025 main-business revenue from one internet group; Alibaba named as customer [47, 48]

GLP China 普洛斯 CORE
20 data centers, 1.4 GW of secured IT capacity; Zhejiang state-linked investors [17]

Aofei Data 奥飞数据 IMPORTANT
15 self-built data centers in nine cities, Beijing to Nanning [26]

Hotwon 浩云长盛 IMPORTANT
Specialist operator named by CAICT; Zhongwei hall operating since 2023, AI cluster under construction [22, 27, 85]

Kehua Data 科华数据 IMPORTANT
10 major self-built data centers; 20+ nationwide (2023); also sells power equipment [75]

Xiyun Computing Power 西云算力 IMPORTANT
Built the China Brain data center in Zhongwei, then moved to GPU compute services; not the AWS operator NWCD [42]

Baosight Software 宝信软件 IMPORTANT
49.34% directly held by Baoshan Iron & Steel; 50.28% with Magang, acting in concert; data center units in Shanghai, Hebei, Chongqing [44, 71]

AWS China operating partners

Sinnet 光环新网 IMPORTANT
Operates the AWS Beijing region [40]

NWCD 西云数据 IMPORTANT
Operates the AWS Ningxia region [40]

Cloud and AI compute buyers

Hyperscalers and AI groups

Alibaba 阿里巴巴 CORE
RMB380bn commitment; 31 cloud regions [3, 19]

Tencent 腾讯 CORE
RMB52.8bn capex, Apr.–June 2026; Qingyuan, Chongqing [39, 52]

Baidu 百度 CORE
GPU cloud revenue up 283%, Q2 2026; Yangquan computing center [38, 53]

Huawei 华为 CORE
34 cloud regions; also sells chips and systems [20]

ByteDance / Volcano Engine 字节跳动 / 火山引擎 CORE
Reported >RMB200bn 2026 plan; Malaysia AI project [21, 54]

JD Cloud 京东云 IMPORTANT
Cloud and internal e-commerce workloads

CapitalOnline 首都在线 IMPORTANT
Cloud services; Qingyang computing projects [29, 74]

State telecom carriers

State-owned

China Telecom 中国电信 CORE
Nearly 8 GW AIDC carrying power; RMB20.1bn AIDC revenue, H1 2026 [50]

China Mobile 中国移动 CORE
112.7 EFLOPS AI compute; RMB19bn data center revenue, H1 2026 [49]

China Unicom 中国联通 CORE
>1.15M standard cabinets (2.5 kW basis), mid-2026; >45 EFLOPS AI compute [51]

Adjacent

Wangsu Technology 网宿科技 ADJACENT
Content delivery and edge nodes [41]

Also in the buildout

Other leading Chinese data center operators, named by CAICT/ODCC among 15 leading providers [22]; Zhonglian Data (中联数据) is the same company as ZData and is listed under independent operators

Zhongjin Data 中金数据

Yovole 有孚

Bohao Data 博浩数据

Heying Data 合盈数据

Boda Data 博大数据

Shanghang Technology 尚航科技

Overseas platforms

DayOne
Singapore; GDS holds about 19.9%; ByteDance its biggest customer, per analysts; IPO planned [9, 102, 106]

Bridge Data Centres
Bain-owned; Malaysia, India, Thailand [12]

Energy companies building campuses

Envision Group 远景
Energy technology group; Galaxy campus in Ulanqab, 120 MW commissioned of 2 GW planned [62]

AI infrastructure suppliers

ZTE 中兴通讯 IMPORTANT
Servers, networking, power, cooling and complete data center systems; computing 35.1% of H1 2026 revenue [94]

Inspur 浪潮 IMPORTANT
AI servers and liquid-cooled systems; servers 92.5% of Inspur Information's H1 2026 revenue [95]

Sugon 曙光 IMPORTANT
HPC and AI systems; its DataEnergy unit led China's first national cold-plate liquid-cooling standard, 2026 [96]

H3C 新华三 IMPORTANT
Servers, networking and liquid-cooled AI computing platforms [97]

Investors

HEC Group 东阳光
Materials and energy group; led the Chindata China purchase [10, 11]

Lochpine / PJ Millennium
CATL affiliate; ~38.1% of VNET [16]

CORE Essential to understanding the buildout IMPORTANT Significant regional or specialist role ADJACENT Supports the buildout but is not a campus operator

Flags show the controlling owner's country where one exists; otherwise the headquarters.

WireScreen

Notes

Updated November 5, 2026, to add ZData and later reporting from Johor. Original research cut-off: October 4, 2026. This briefing relies on public filings and official releases; company announcements establish disclosed plans, not independently verified construction or chip deployment.

Megawatt figures follow each company's own basis. Power reservations, land banks, bookings, in-service capacity and utilized capacity are kept separate. No national spending total or market-share ranking is asserted.

Bridge Data Centres carries a U.S. flag because its controlling owner is Bain Capital. DayOne carries a Singapore flag because no controlling owner is disclosed; it is headquartered there and GDS holds about 19.9%. Chinese brand or company names are given where applicable. Selecting a company on the China map shows the matched legal entity and stock code where available; campus-level project companies have not been resolved for every site.

▼ Sources (106)

1. IEA. Energy and AI executive summary, 2025; consistent 2024 country shares
2. IEA. Key Questions on Energy and AI executive summary, 2026
3. Alibaba. RMB380bn AI and cloud investment announcement, 24 Feb 2025
4. Alibaba / SEC. June quarter 2026 results, 20 Aug 2026
5. PRC State Council. Computing hub investment figures, 29 Aug 2024
6. Reuters. Reported draft RMB2tn plan, citing Bloomberg, 9 Jun 2026
7. GDS / SEC. Second quarter 2026 results, 13 Aug 2026
8. VNET. Second quarter 2026 results, 18 Aug 2026; Q1 REIT disclosure
9. DayOne. Final Series C close, 5 Jun 2026; GDS minority interest in GDS disclosure
10. Bain Capital. Chindata China sale agreement, 10 Sep 2025
11. Chindata. HEC acquisition completion, January 2026
12. Bridge Data Centres. Company history and March 2025 bank financing
13. NDRC. Eight hubs and ten clusters, 21 Mar 2022
14. PRC SCIO. National Data Administration briefing, 13 Aug 2024
15. Alibaba. HK$80bn placement completion and intended use, 26 Aug 2026
16. VNET. Strategic share purchase closing, 21 Sep 2026
17. GLP. Zhejiang investment and China portfolio, 26 Aug 2025
18. Alibaba Cloud. Paris Johor Japan Mexico expansion, June 2026
19. Alibaba Cloud. Global expansion plan and current footprint, 23 Sep 2026
20. Huawei Cloud. Global infrastructure and region footprint
21. MIDA. ByteDance Malaysia investment proposal, June 2024
22. ODCC / CAICT. 2025 computing-center provider report summary, 11 Aug 2025
23. AtHub. Official domestic data center distribution
24. Range / CNInfo. Exchange-hosted company profile; planned regional footprint
25. Baosight. 2025 annual report summary, filed March 2026
26. Aofei / SZSE. 2025 annual report, filed April 2026
27. Zhongwei government. Hotwon campus construction permit, March 2026
28. Reuters. Tencent Oracle lease reported by FT, 1 Oct 2026
29. CapitalOnline. Official global cloud network website and 2026 filing
30. Amazon / SEC. June 2026 Form 10-Q; cash capex definition
31. Alphabet / SEC. June 2026 Form 10-Q; H1 capex
32. Microsoft. FY2026 Q4 call; calendar 2026 capex and lease change
33. Meta. Q2 2026 results; full-year capex guidance
34. AWS. Current global regions and AZs
35. Microsoft Learn. Azure regions overview, June 2026 update
36. VNET. First quarter 2026 results; two REIT listings, March 2026
37. Microsoft Learn. Azure in China is operated by 21Vianet (VNET)
38. Baidu. Yangquan expansion and regional intelligent-computing solutions
39. Tencent. Official environmental page; Qingyuan and Chongqing facilities
40. AWS China. Region operators Sinnet and NWCD
41. Wangsu. Official CDN and global node offering
42. Xiyun Computing Power (宁夏西云算力). Official company website
43. WireScreen corporate record: VNET Data Center Co., Ltd., updated Sept. 2026
44. WireScreen corporate record: Shanghai Baosight Software Co., Ltd., updated Oct. 2026
45. WireScreen corporate record: Chindata Group Holdings Ltd., updated Aug. 2023
46. WireScreen corporate record: Shanghai AtHub Co., Ltd., updated Oct. 2026
47. AtHub (数据港) 2025 annual report, Apr. 2026
48. AtHub website: customers
49. China Mobile 2026 interim results announcement, Aug. 13, 2026
50. China Telecom 2026 interim results presentation, Aug. 20, 2026
51. China Unicom 2026 interim results presentation, Aug. 18, 2026
52. Tencent 2026 second-quarter results, Aug. 12, 2026
53. Baidu 2026 second-quarter results (SEC Form 6-K), Aug. 18, 2026
54. South China Morning Post: ByteDance raises 2026 capex, May 2026 (unconfirmed by company)
55. Chindata: HEC completes acquisition, with regional campus list, Jan. 2026
56. Xi Jinping, Belt and Road Forum keynote, May 14, 2017 (via Ministry of Science and Technology)
57. Alibaba Cloud: global data center locations
58. Huawei Cloud: cloud service regions
59. Tencent Cloud: regions and availability zones
60. AidData: China Eximbank loan for Konza Data Centre and Smart City Project, Kenya
61. AidData: China Eximbank loan for Mozambique Data Center and E-Government Project
62. Bloomberg via Energy Connects: Envision commissions first phase of Ulanqab data center, Aug. 2026
63. China Daily: Envision Group completes AI data center in Ulanqab, Aug. 6, 2026
64. DatacenterDynamics: Envision says it has commissioned 2 GW campus in Inner Mongolia, Aug. 2026
65. Data Centre Magazine: Envision launches Mission Gobi; Chifeng green-power data center, July 20, 2026
66. Remio: Envision 2 GW claim needs context (Chifeng power system; Tencent workload scheduling), 2026
67. The Standard (Bloomberg): Pentagon battery ban covers CATL, BYD, Envision Energy and others from Oct. 2027
68. WireScreen corporate record: Envision Energy Limited (远景能源有限公司), updated Oct. 2026
69. 10 U.S.C. § 4865 (FY2026 NDAA § 842), incorporating the battery producers specified in FY2024 NDAA § 154 (Pub. L. 118–31)
70. Chindata Group Holdings, FY2022 Form 20-F (Bridge Data Centres within the group)
71. Baosight 2026 interim report summary (China Securities Journal), Aug. 20, 2026
72. Tencent Cloud statement on the Chifeng 100% green-power data center with Envision, Mar. 27, 2026 (via Sina Finance)
73. Yicai: Envision's Ulanqab base and its AI computing-center unit, Aug. 2026
74. China News Service: Qingyang computing ecosystem, including CapitalOnline, Aug. 2, 2026
75. China Securities Journal: Kehua operates 20+ data centers in 10+ cities, Apr. 2023
76. Alibaba Cloud: first cloud region in Brazil launches, Aug. 27, 2026
77. CRN Asia: Tencent Cloud opens first Malaysia region in Johor, Aug. 2026
78. AtHub 2025 annual report summary (China Securities Journal), Apr. 18, 2026
79. Range Intelligent Computing 2025 interim report (Shenzhen exchange)
80. Phoenix News: Range campuses in Chongqing, Danzhou and Lanzhou, Sept. 2026
81. Eastmoney: Aofei Langfang and Tianjin campuses in operation, Apr. 2026
82. Baxtel: Chindata and HEC break ground in Yidu, Yichang, Apr. 2026
83. Gansu Daily: Chindata Qingyang base phase one topped out, Dec. 2024
84. Chindata 1.2 GW framework agreement with Zhongwei government
85. China Daily: Hotwon second Ningxia data center begins operation, May 2023
86. AtHub: Huailai base begins operation, July 2023
87. Tencent News: CapitalOnline compute platform in Qingyang, June 2026
88. The Paper: Tencent Qingyuan cloud data center begins operation, July 2020
89. Huawei Cloud Europe: region list (EU-Dublin)
90. Huawei Cloud Direct Connect: supported regions (LA-Lima1, LA-Mexico City1)
91. DatacenterDynamics: Tencent Cloud launches region in Osaka, Apr. 2025
92. Google Cloud: locations (43 regions, 130 zones)
93. Huxiu: China Mobile 2026 capex plan, RMB136.6bn, with RMB37.8bn for computing networks and RMB8.9bn for intelligent networks, Aug. 2026
94. ZTE: H1 2026 results; computing 35.1% of revenue, data center products up 90%+, Aug. 2026
95. Gelonghui: Inspur Information (000977) H1 2026 results review, Aug. 2026
96. Sugon: DataEnergy leads national cold-plate liquid-cooling standard GB/T 48023-2026, Aug. 10, 2026
97. H3C: S90000 liquid-cooled computing platform launch, May 15, 2026
98. Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank. China: Project Forest (ZData Intelligent valley Limited), financing approved Apr. 23, 2026
99. Bernama via The Star: ZDATA developing RM8bil GreenRE Platinum hyperscale data centre in Johor, Mar. 11, 2026
100. WireScreen platform record: ZDATA Group Co., Ltd. (中联云港数据科技股份有限公司), page last updated Oct. 2026; exported Nov. 5, 2026 (subscriber record, no public URL)
101. China Securities Journal: 中联云港数据科技股份有限公司(简称"中联数据"), July 10, 2019
102. The New York Times. Adam Satariano and Xinyun Wu, "How One Country Became the Unlikely Crossroads of the Global A.I. Boom," published Oct. 30, 2026, updated Nov. 3, 2026
103. Lowyat.NET: ZDATA Technologies responds to protests of AI datacentre in Johor (phase one completed Feb. 4), Feb. 11, 2026
104. The Star: Johor data centres turn to recycled water (Gelang Patah treatment plant opened Mar. 2026), July 23, 2026
105. EdgeProp: Malaysia's first hyperscale data centre earns GreenRE Platinum rating (provisional certification), Mar. 2026
106. GDS Holdings Limited. Annual report on Form 20-F for fiscal year 2025 (equity interest in DayOne of approximately 19.9% as of the report date)