

# ARK DATA CENTRES SCALING NEW HEIGHTS





ARK DATA CENTRES IS DRIVING GROWTH THROUGH AI CAPACITY INCREASES, CAMPUS PROJECTS, AND STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS.

# SCALING NEW HEIGHTS

PROJECT MANAGED BY: DECLAN JONES

Since Business Focus last covered Ark Data Centres in 2024, the company has moved into a defining chapter of its development. Building on its position as one of the UK's most prominent data centre operators, Ark has extended its footprint, deepened strategic partnerships and demonstrated an ability to align capacity expansion with technology trends such as artificial intelligence. The momentum it has generated through 2025 and entering 2026 reflects a business that is scaling not only in size but in strategic relevance to the UK's digital infrastructure ecosystem.

Ark Data Centres has, over the past year, forged a clearer sense of purpose around the shifting demands of its market. The global surge in data generation, cloud services, next generation enterprise systems and especially AI has driven demand for data capacity that is both dense and sustainably operated.

At the same time, geopolitical and commercial factors have placed a premium on resilient domestic compute capacity within the UK. Ark's activity through this period indicates it is positioning itself to meet these converging trends with a blend

of strategic project development, technology ready infrastructure and market engagement.

One of the most visible developments in 2025 has been Ark's collaboration with Nebius, an AI infrastructure company, to support one of the UK's early deployments of advanced NVIDIA Blackwell Ultra GPUs at its Longcross Park campus in Surrey. This initiative sees thousands of GPUs installed in liquid ready data halls designed for high density workloads, marking one of the first UK facilities purpose built to meet the cooling, power and connectivity requirements of next generation AI compute. >>

# Powering the Networks that Power Everything

Where resilience, performance and operational assurance meet.

In a world where digital infrastructure has zero room for downtime, Trust delivers the network architecture, operational capability and on-site expertise that keep mission critical environments moving. We design and evolve large scale network estates, deploy the hardware that builds them, and provide real time monitoring that gives complete visibility and control.

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## TRUST: POWERING RESILIENCE BEHIND THE SCENES

As demand for secure, scalable and always-on infrastructure accelerates, Trust is helping organisations turn networks into strategic assets - delivering end to end design, deployment and 24/7 operations that underpin the UK's most mission critical environments.

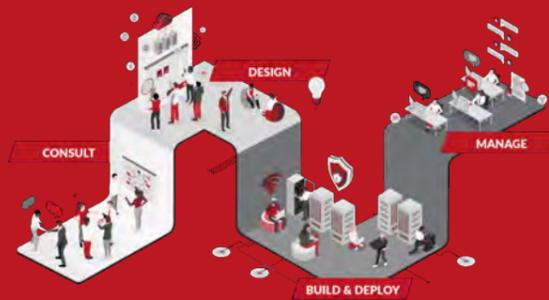
### WHY RESILIENCE IS NON-NEGOTIABLE

Uptime and security are no longer optional extras; they are baseline expectations in a digital economy that runs on data. From regulated industries to critical national infrastructure, organisations are grappling with the twin pressures of rising demand and rising complexity. Trust has built a capability for that reality - bringing together network architecture, largescale implementation and round the clock operations into a single, accountable managed service.

### THE MODEL: SIMPLE IN DESIGN, RIGOROUS IN EXECUTION

Three pillars define Trust's approach:

- Design: Future-ready network and security architecture aligned to business goals
- Deploy: Seamless delivery of robust, scalable infrastructure across complex estates
- Operate: 24/7/365 service desk, proactive monitoring, and embedded on-site teams for operational assurance



### OPERATIONAL ASSURANCE: WHAT 24/7 REALLY MEANS

Always-on support isn't a tagline - it's a discipline. Trust's Network Operations Centre (NOC) provides continuous monitoring, incident response, and change control, backed by embedded engineering teams where customers need them most. This hybrid model- remote and on-site- gives organisations confidence to plan maintenance, scale capacity, and introduce new services without unpredictable risk. In mission-critical environments, downtime isn't measured in minutes- it's measured in reputational damage, regulatory exposure, and lost revenue.

### ECONOMICS MEETS AGILITY

Cost and agility often pull in opposite directions. Trust aligns them. By right-sizing capacity, simplifying network topologies, and consolidating toolsets, customers reduce overhead while accelerating time-to-deploy for new capabilities. Whether rolling out secure Wi-Fi, modernising campus networks, or preparing for edge computing, the emphasis is on outcomes: higher availability, improved performance, and clear accountability.

### THE INSIDE STORY: BEHIND THE SCENES OF A CRITICAL PARTNERSHIP

Ark's facilities are built for resilience - but resilience doesn't happen by accident. Trust provides:

- Design and deployment of large-scale networks tailored for security and scalability
- Round-the-clock monitoring and support to keep systems running flawlessly
- On-site technical teams embedded within Ark's operations

This approach reduces complexity and cost while accelerating adoption of new technologies - a vital advantage in a market shaped by data, AI, edge computing, and cloud.

*"Trust has become an extension of our team, designing and deploying the robust network infrastructure we rely on and then managing it 24/7. Their expertise ensures our systems remain secure and high performing."*

Andy Bugler, Director of IT, Networks & Electronic Security, Ark Data Centres .

For Ark and other customers, the goals are consistent: reliability, scalability, and efficiency. Measurable outcomes include enhanced reliability through proactive monitoring, operational efficiency via streamlined change management, and strategic agility - freeing internal teams to focus on growth while Trust handles the infrastructure foundation.

### CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE, NOT JUST TECHNOLOGY

Infrastructure choices are never purely technical. They live in a business context - budgets, timelines, risk appetite, compliance and culture. Trust engages across that spectrum: mapping stakeholder priorities, defining decision criteria and aligning implementation plans to operational realities. This is where embedded teams matter. Being on-site, working shoulder to shoulder with customer operations, ensures faster feedback loops, higher situational awareness and a service that adapts as requirements evolve.

### INTEGRATION WITHOUT COMPLEXITY

Modern infrastructure is a team sport. Trust integrates with hardware, software and security partners to deliver cohesive solutions that avoid "accidental architecture." The emphasis: reliability first, pragmatic tool choice, and compatibility - so customers can phase upgrades, avoid lock-in, and protect prior investment while moving forward.

### LOOKING AHEAD

AI, cloud, and edge computing are reshaping infrastructure demands - driving higher loads, tighter security, and faster scaling. Trust ensures networks are resilient by design and agile in delivery, preparing customers for what's next.

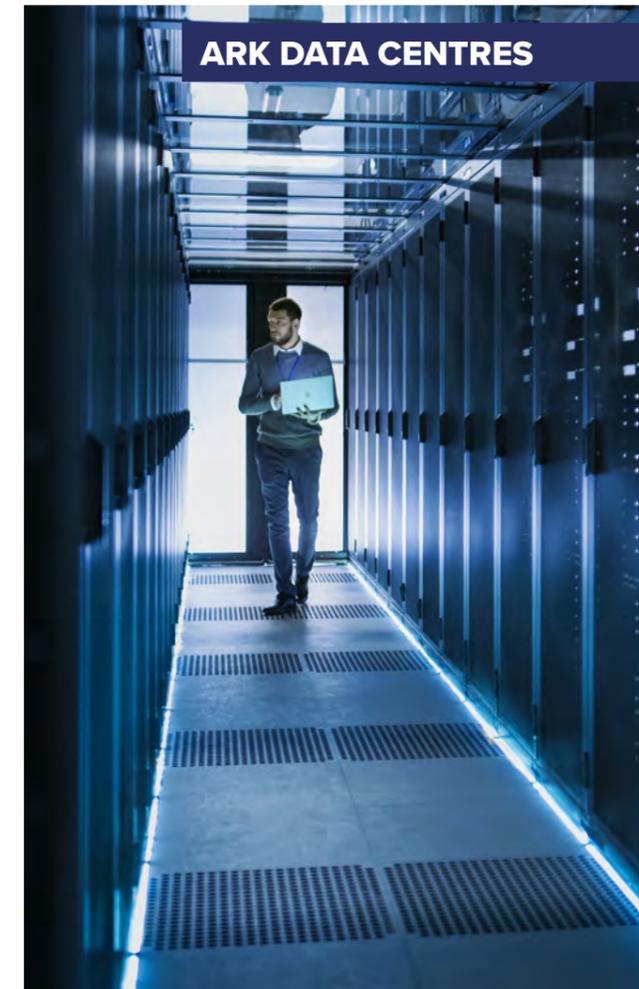
### WHY RESILIENCE MATTERS

In a world where digital infrastructure underpins every critical service, Trust ensures resilience isn't just a promise - it's a proven capability.

- Downtime costs more than money: Reputational damage, regulatory risk, lost revenue
- Complexity is rising: AI, edge computing, and cloud demand robust, scalable networks
- Trust delivers assurance: Design, deploy, and 24/7/365 operational support

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## ARK DATA CENTRES



The Nebius partnership not only underscores Ark's role as a platform for AI innovation but also signals confidence from leading technology buyers in the UK's capacity to host frontier compute infrastructure.

### EXPANDING CAPACITY

In parallel, Ark has acted on plans to expand physical capacity significantly. Towards the end of 2025, the company launched a formal consultation and planning process for a new campus on the site of a former hotel in Watford, outside London.

The proposed Elstree campus, if developed as envisioned, would deliver up to 200 MW of data centre capacity and could become one of the largest campuses in Europe with multiple built data halls scheduled to open in the late 2020s. This project represents a major strategic investment for Ark, underpinned by the belief

that sustained demand for hyperscale, enterprise, cloud and AI workloads will continue to grow in the years ahead.

Such expansive projects reaffirm Ark's ambition to scale at a level commensurate with the UK's broader digital ambitions. The alignment of these plans with the surge in AI related infrastructure investment across the UK reinforces the company's long term relevance.

Research and industry reporting over the past year have highlighted a record pipeline of data centre developments across the country, driven in part by government initiatives aimed at expanding domestic digital infrastructure and by private investment seeking to de risk supply chains for cloud and compute services. Ark's strategic development pipeline places it squarely within this broader trend. >>



## ARK DATA CENTRES

Operationally, Ark has also continued to enhance its technical capability. One of the most noteworthy advancements in 2025 was the deployment, in partnership with ABB and JCA, of the UK's first medium voltage uninterruptible power supply (UPS) architecture tailored for AI workloads. This installation at Ark's Surrey campus integrates grid connection and UPS at medium voltage, which increases efficiency, reduces reliance on generators and optimises space for high density compute infrastructure. Such forward looking power architecture is critical for facilities that will host advanced AI systems with significant energy and resilience requirements.



### AN EVOLVING COMMERCIAL NARRATIVE

The combination of network density, advanced cooling systems, resilient power and sustainability is increasingly central to how data centre operators differentiate themselves. Ark's public commitment to sustainability – as articulated through its infrastructure design, renewable energy sourcing, and operational practices – complements its growth strategy. Its sustainability framework emphasises energy efficiency, carbon reduction, water conservation and low impact construction methods, aligning with broader industry goals toward a climate neutral digital ecosystem.

Behind these operational and technical developments has been an evolving commercial narrative. In late 2025, reports emerged >>

## GRATTE BROTHERS

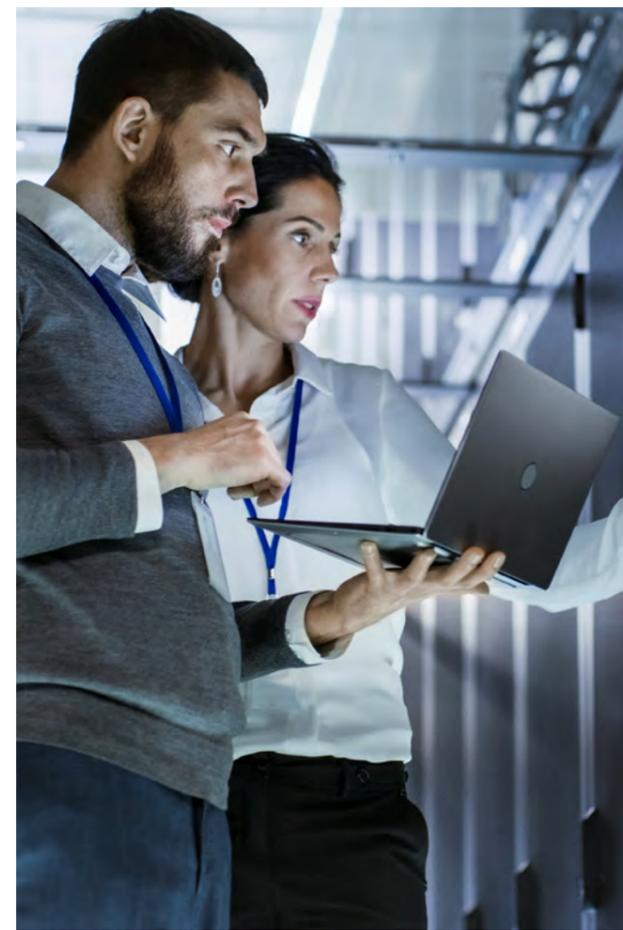
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We have been delivering within the data centre sector for over 30 years, developing a deep understanding of the demands of resilience, uptime, scalability and security. This long-standing experience enables us to work confidently in live, business-critical environments where performance and reliability are paramount.

Our partnership with Ark Data reflects everything we stand for: long-term collaboration, technical integrity and dependable delivery. As an experienced M&E contractor, as well as a principal and general contractor, we offer flexibility in how projects are delivered. By bringing together our in-house design, prefabrication, installation and maintenance capabilities, we provide a fully integrated, end-to-end service that maintains quality, reduces risk and ensures systems perform exactly as intended, providing a service built on quality.

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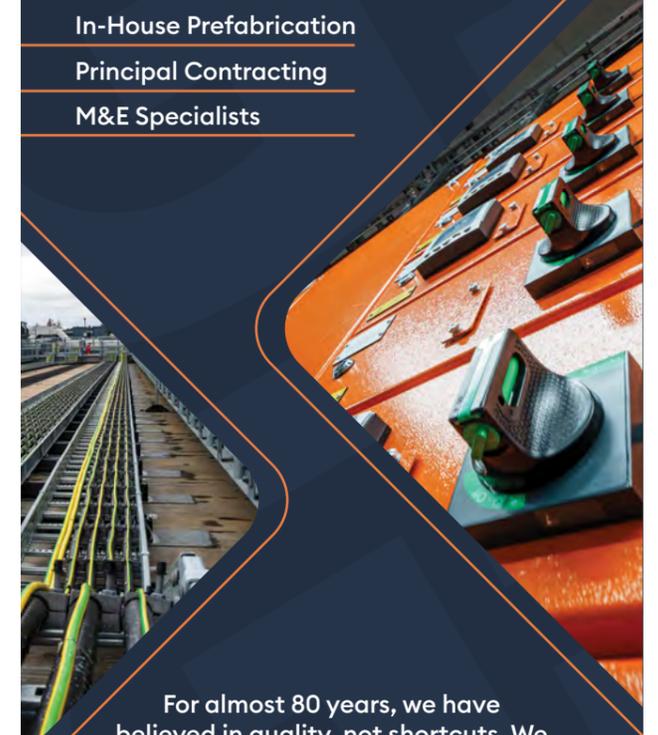
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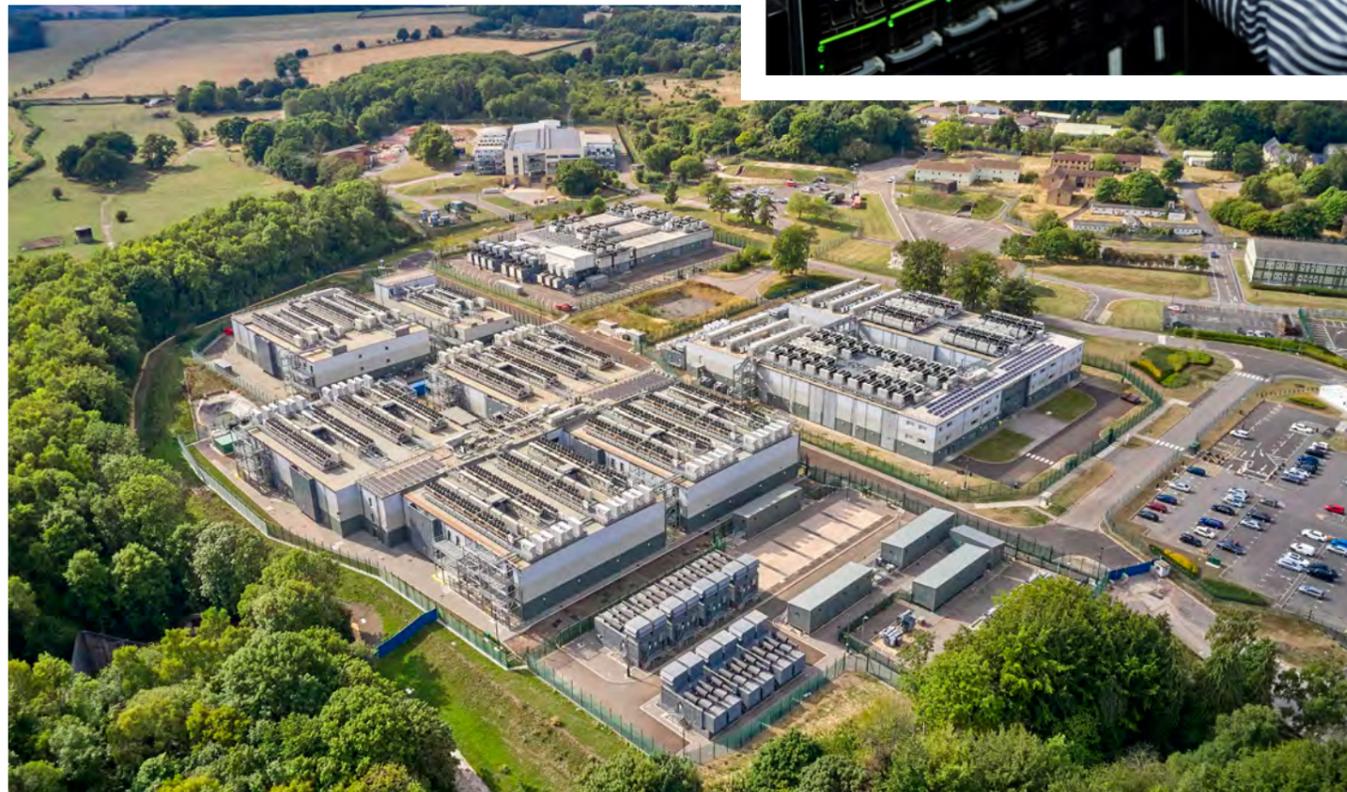
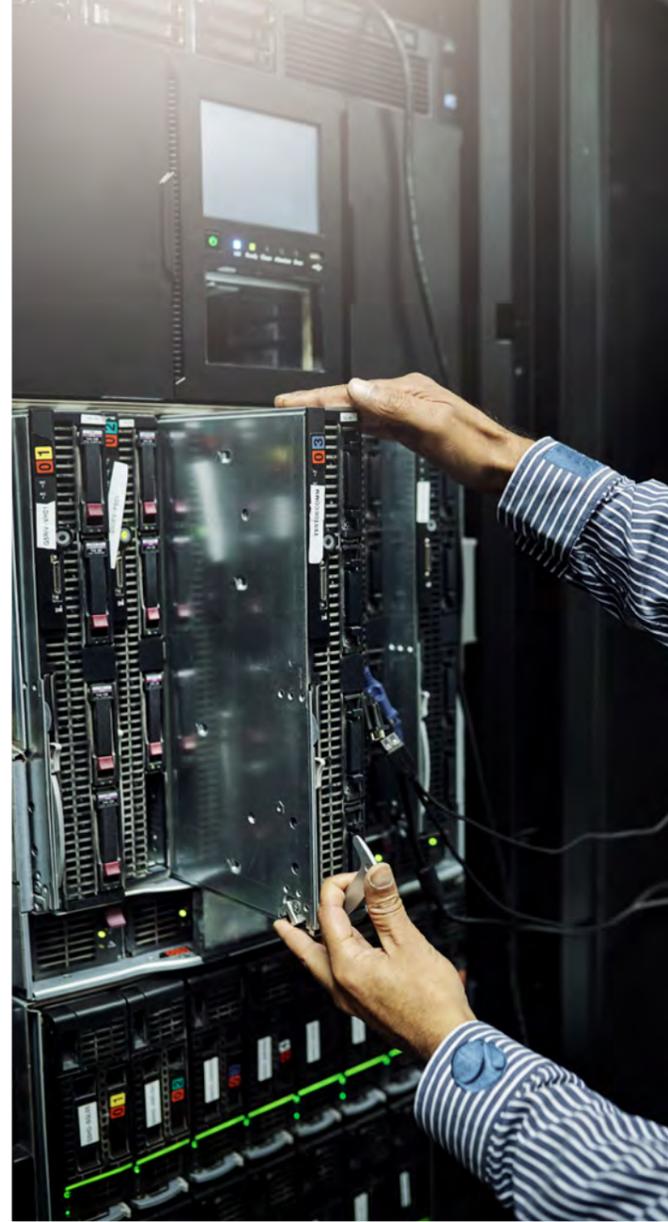


that Ark's majority owner, the investment firm Elliott Investment Management, was exploring a sale of the company at a valuation potentially above £3 billion. While this development has not fundamentally changed Ark's operational posture, it reflects external perception of value tied to the company's assets and growth potential. A successful sale, if pursued, could accelerate further investment and expansion.

Ark's work with government and public sector partners continues to be a differentiator. Its long-standing joint venture with the UK Cabinet Office—Crown Hosting Data Centres—remains a trusted mechanism for delivering secure, resilient infrastructure to public sector bodies. This blend of public and private sector engagement has provided Ark with a unique platform from which to serve a wide range

of customers, from defence and regulatory agencies to commercial enterprises seeking high compliance environments.

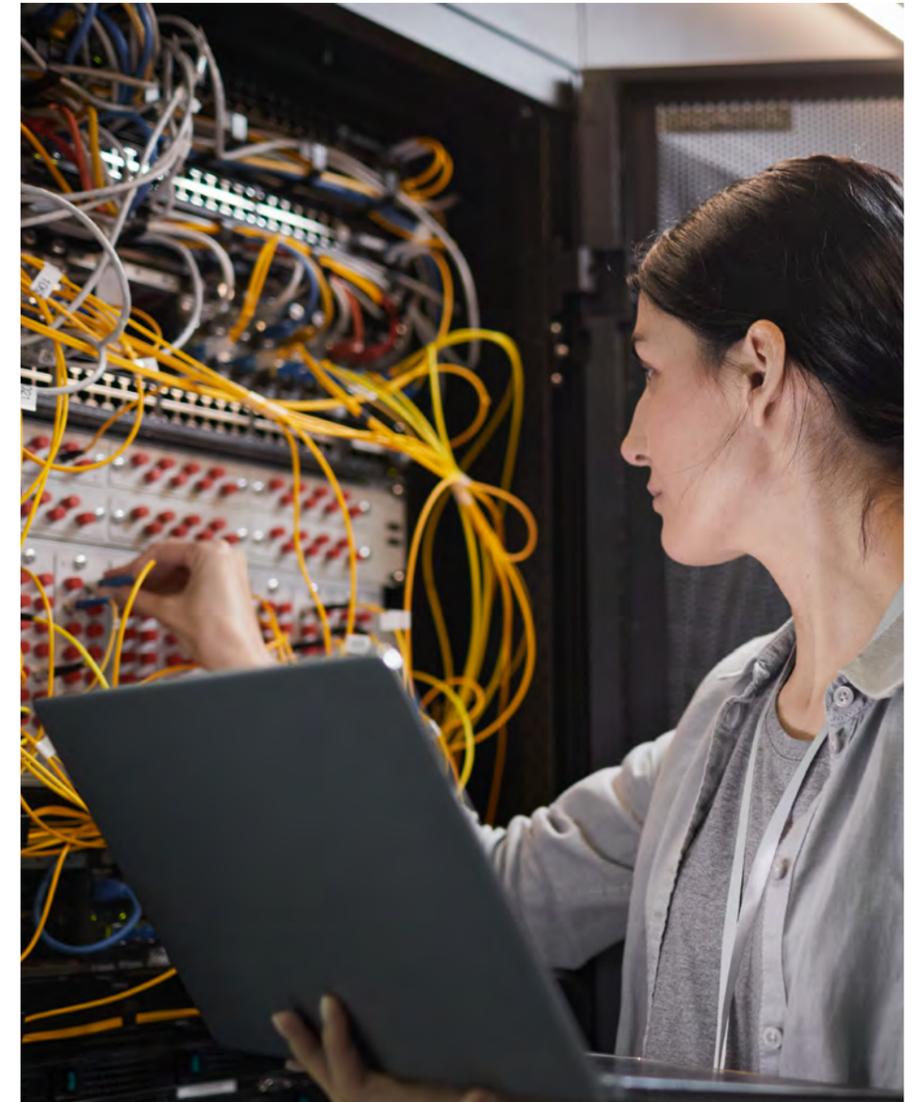
Looking forward into 2026, Ark's strategic focus appears to be on delivering the foundational components of its long term capacity roadmap. Construction of the Elstree campus and the expansion of AI ready infrastructure at Longcross Park are tangible nexuses of that roadmap. As these projects move from planning and early development into execution, they will provide real world indicators of Ark's ability to manage scale and complexity concurrently. At the same time, the demand dynamics for compute and cloud capacity show no sign of abating, supported by continued commercial appetite for AI deployment and hosted services.



**GROWTH, RESILIENCE, AND SUSTAINABILITY**

Critically, Ark's approach reflects the dual realities of the modern digital infrastructure market: growth must be matched with resilience and sustainability. Operators that can offer both will be better positioned to weather economic cycles, energy market volatility and the intensifying expectations of customers around carbon performance. Ark's investments in efficient UPS systems, advanced cooling and renewable aligned operations suggest it is interpreting this market logic correctly.

The past year has been one of transition for Ark Data Centres. From securing partnerships that elevate its technical capabilities to planning campus scale developments that will anchor its future capacity, the company's trajectory since late 2024 demonstrates a blend of ambitious vision and executional discipline. As it enters the next phase of capacity delivery, Ark remains a key player in the UK data centre landscape, helping extend the nation's digital backbone at a time when compute demand is set to surge well into the next decade. ☺



**“ARK REMAINS A KEY PLAYER IN THE UK DATA CENTRE LANDSCAPE, HELPING EXTEND THE NATION'S DIGITAL BACKBONE”**





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