A Trailblazing Partnership to Accelerate UK Public Sector, Academic and Scientific Research Computing

Introduction

Kao Data and Jisc have joined forces to provide the UK's public sector, academia, and scientific research organisations with access to cutting edge, sustainable and scalable data centre capacity.

This pioneering partnership will enable Jisc's users to leverage Kao Data's high performance data centre resources, fostering groundbreaking research and supporting the UK Government's ambitious goals in science, technology and AI.

This strategic collaboration reinforces Kao Data's Harlow campus as the premier destination for large scale bioinformatics, life sciences, and AI workloads.

With a focus on environmental and energy efficiency, Kao Data will provide research and academic organisations with a perfect home for their compute whilst supporting them on their journey toward achieving net zero targets.

Who is Kao Data?

Kao Data leads the industry, pioneering the development and operation of UK & European data centres engineered for AI and advanced computing. With a hyperscale-inspired and industrial scale platform, we provide our customers with a secure, scalable and sustainable home for their compute.

Today, Kao Data's NVIDIA DGX-Ready Harlow campus, located in the London-Cambridge UK Innovation Corridor, is the largest data centre development in the country. As a result it has become synonymous with all forms of high density, GPU accelerated computing and remains home to some of the UK's leading and large scale bioinformatics, life sciences and research workloads.

Jisc users from across London, Cambridge and beyond are now able to plan their infrastructure deployments for the future of compute, perfectly positioning them to capitalise on the upcoming wave of AI supported technologies and helping to propel UK research efforts on to the world stage.

Who is Jisc?

Jisc (Joint Information Systems Committee) is the UK's digital, data and technology agency focused on tertiary education, research and innovation. The non profit organisation believes education and research have the capacity to improve lives and that technology is vital in improving education and research.

Jisc is the provider and operator of the Janet network (Joint Academic Network), which serves as the UK's national research and education network. Janet connects more tham 18 million individuals across educational and research institutions in the UK, by facilitating seamless data sharing and collaboration. It has built-in world-class cybersecurity protection utilising sector specific intelligence safeguarding sensitive data and digital assets. The Janet network has managed to save the sector a substantial amount of money by contributing to both time and cost efficiencies.

Jisc also plays a critical role in underpinning the digital needs of the UK's education and research communities, ensuring they have the connectivity and infrastructure required for their work and research exploits.

What are the key benefits of this partnership?

Capacity:
There is immediate availability for Jisc users to access a world-class high performance data centre at Kao Data's Harlow campus. The site is already a hub for high density, GPU accelerated computing, hosting leading bioinformatics, life sciences and research workloads, including NVIDIA's Cambridge-1 supercomputer which is now part of NVIDIA's DGX Cloud.

Scalability:
Kao Data's Harlow campus, which is strategically located between Cambridge and London, offers almost limitless opportunities for scalability, as the site is set to double in size by constructing a further two 10MW data centres over the next few years which allow academic and research organisations to plan their future compute footprint safe in the knowledge that IT-capacity is available.

Simplified Procurement:
Jisc users can access Kao Data's resources through a straightforward and Jisc pre-agreed commercial framework, including preferential pricing, eliminating the need for a complex procurement process.
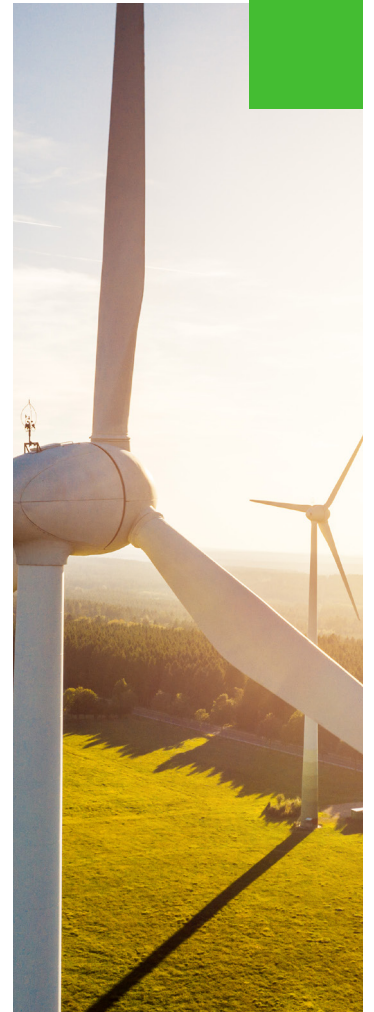
Connectivity:
Kao Data's Harlow campus boasts world-class connectivity capabilities and offers the closest hyperscale on-ramp within the London-Cambridge UK Innovation Corridor. With *Megaport and Console Connect* on campus, users can establish secure, high speed connections to the key cloud providers, to fully enable hybrid computing.

Sustainability:
Kao Data's ongoing commitment to sustainability is a significant asset for Jisc users. The campus is powered by 100% certified renewable energy, maintains an operational and SLA backed PUE of <1.2, and uses HVO fuel powered backup generators. These green credentials perfectly align with those research and academic organisations looking to reduce their environmental impact, especially as AI related electricity consumption is expected to surge to a predicted 134 TWh.

Conclusion

The partnership between Kao Data and Jisc represents a significant step forward in advancing research and innovation in the UK. By providing scalable, sustainable and highly connected data centre capacity to academic and research organisations, this collaboration contributes to the UK's goal of becoming a global leader in science, technology and AI by 2030. As the demand for AI powered computing continues to grow, Kao Data and Jisc are well positioned to support the evolving needs of their users.

For further information about Kao Data and the Jisc partnership please contact:

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