

## Case Study

Rittal Australia / Macquarie University



**MACQUARIE**  
University  
SYDNEY · AUSTRALIA

# Rittal Delivers an Efficient, End-To-End Solution for a Smooth Transition of Macquarie University's Data Centre Relocation



## Introduction

Since its establishment fifty-nine years ago, Macquarie University has evolved into a globally recognised institution, distinguished by its commitment to academic innovation and practical learning through industry collaboration. With a focus on blending cutting-edge research with real-world applications, the university caters to over 44,000 students and 3,000 staff, creating an environment where education and innovation thrive. The university's state-of-the-art campus, and investment in advanced educational technologies and research facilities, offer a dynamic and resource-rich setting for its diverse community of students and faculty.

## Problem

Macquarie University, faced a significant logistical challenge when a campus redevelopment plan necessitated the relocation of its data centre. The original data centre was located in a building scheduled for demolition to make way for a new science and research facility. This situation presented a unique set of challenges for the University:

- **Urgency and Precision in Relocation:** The data centre had to be moved swiftly to avoid disruption to the University's critical academic and research operations. This required a relocation strategy

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Damien McLynskey –  
Head of Technical Services &  
Infrastructure  
Macquarie University

ENCLOSURES

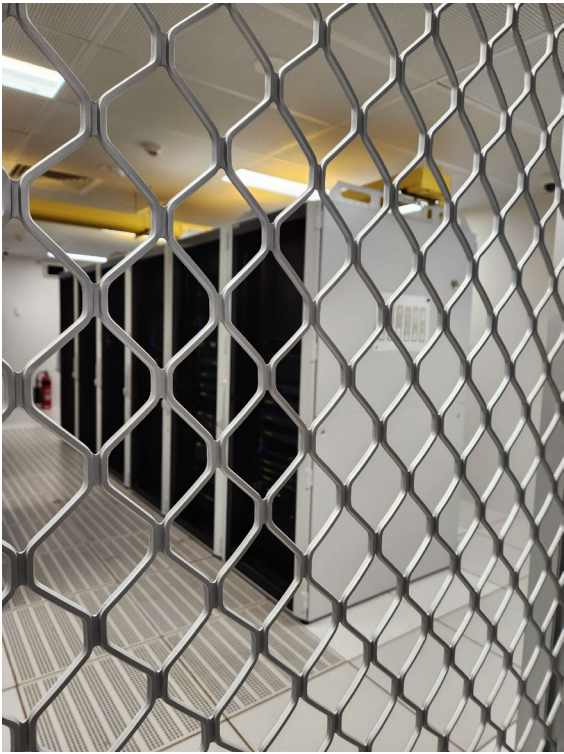
POWER DISTRIBUTION

CLIMATE CONTROL

IT INFRASTRUCTURE

SOFTWARE & SERVICES





that was not only efficient but also precise, ensuring that all IT infrastructure was transferred without compromising data integrity or operational continuity.

- **Finding a Suitable New Location:** The new location for the data centre needed to be within the campus to maintain the integrity and security of the University's network.
- **Ensuring Enhanced Security and Reliability:** Given the importance of the data centre to the University's operations, the new location required enhanced security measures. This was crucial to protect sensitive academic data and research projects. Additionally, the reliability of the IT equipment in the new setting was paramount to ensure uninterrupted academic and research activities.
- **Minimising Downtime During Transition:** The transition to the new data centre had to be executed with minimal downtime. This was a critical factor, as any significant disruption could adversely affect the university's operations.

These challenges required a well-thought-out strategy, combining efficient project management, technical expertise, and a deep understanding of the University's specific needs.

### The Solution

In response to this challenge, Macquarie University partnered with Rittal to facilitate a smooth transition to a new data centre. Rittal's range of industry-leading products and services, and an ongoing partnership with Macquarie University, made them pivotal in this transition.

The relocation involved moving the data centre from its original location to a previously tenanted space, already equipped with essential infrastructure, which was both strategic and efficient, significantly cutting downtime and reducing operational challenges.



Extending on the existing infrastructure of the new data centre, Rittal installed 36 **preconfigured IT racks**, made to order at Rittal's Sydney modification centre. These racks, part of the **TS IT series**, featured vented doors designed to facilitate optimal airflow for the servers, ensuring efficient cooling and reliable operation.

The solution also included 72 metered **Power Distribution Unit (PDU)** that provided detailed power measurement at the infeed and per phase, enabling precise energy management. Additionally, an advanced monitoring system, an **integral PDU accessory**, was incorporated to allow the data centre operators at Macquarie University to continuously monitor the physical environment, tracking both temperature and humidity levels.

**Rittal's modification centre's assembly service**, allowed for rapid configuration of modular product. This adaptability was crucial in meeting the specific needs of Macquarie University's data centre, particularly in terms of security, reliability, and reduced downtime. The direct delivery and installation of the preassembled racks within the required timeframe further demonstrated Rittal's commitment to efficiency and customer satisfaction.

## Outcome

The relocation executed over a weekend was smooth and efficient, minimising any significant operational disruptions and downtime.

"Rittal delivered the units, unpacked them, and placed them in the data centre, providing a full-service solution that significantly eased the impact on our team", explains Damien McLynskey, Head of Technical Services & Infrastructure Macquarie University.

Rittal's process was streamlined from design to delivery and installation, significantly reducing repetitive manual tasks, production costs, and lead times. This efficiency was achieved without disrupting existing workflows, showcasing Rittal's ability to adapt to the unique demands of the project.

Mr McLynskey continued, "We were already confident in the quality of Rittal's products and knew that was the direction we wanted to take. The delivery and installation of the 36 racks, along with everything else that was part of the project, went incredibly smoothly. I'm very satisfied with how everything turned out, and the overall response has been extremely positive. It's been a really successful outcome for everyone involved."

The project was a testament to Rittal's ability to deliver tailored solutions in a time-sensitive and efficient manner, reinforcing its reputation as a reliable partner in industrial automation and IT infrastructure solutions.