

DATA CENTER PROTOTYPE

Herman Gibans Fodor, Inc. worked in collaboration with H.F. Lenz Engineers of Johnstown, PA to design a prototype data center for a Fortune 500 corporation. The building's function is to act as a remotely located central data center, and high-volume printing facility for the company's operations. During the design process, HGF and H.F. Lenz had frequent meetings with the client's information technology professionals to establish the program requirements. The design team underwent a full study of building and site security, rigorous moisture control methods, and demanding mechanical and electrical coordination that are required for "Mission Critical" facilities.

The schematic design process yielded two basic building types: a two-story prototype and a one-story prototype. Each building configuration was presented to the client's IT team to evaluate it's response to the building program requirements, and ability for future expansion with no effect on continued data center operations. After this analysis, the one-story prototype was developed toward a detailed schematic design, including project specifications that describe the materials, methods, and requirements of the facility.

