Open Access Data Centres (OADC)

Africa's Fastest-Growing Data Centre Company

A Company Profile by Private Markets Group Ltd



Expanding Infrastructure

Africa's fastest-growing network of data centre facilities



Connectivity Solutions

Providing critical digital infrastructure across the continent



Pan-African Presence

Strategic data centre locations supporting Africa's digital transformation





Open Access Data Centres (OADC) at a Glance

Open Access Data Centres (OADC) represents a transformative force in Africa's digital infrastructure landscape. Established in 2018 as part of the WIOCC Group, the company operates as a leading provider of carrier-neutral, open-access data centre solutions across the African continent.

Industry

Digital Infrastructure / Data Centre Services

Investment Commitment

US\$500+ million multi-year programme

Established

2018

Geographic Presence

South Africa, Nigeria, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

Infrastructure

6 Hyperscale Core Data Centres and over 30 Edge Data Centres

Certification

Tier-III Uptime Institute certified facilities

Parent Company

WIOCC Group

The company distinguishes itself through its unique core-to-edge architecture, providing open-access, carrier-neutral facilities that support improved application performance across Africa's rapidly expanding digital economy. OADC's strategic positioning addresses the continent's growing demand for world-class digital infrastructure while maintaining environmental sustainability commitments.

The OADC Story

The establishment of Open Access Data
Centres in 2018 marked a pivotal moment in
Africa's digital transformation journey. Founded
with the recognition that Africa's digital
economy represents a significant driving force
for continental economic growth, OADC
emerged as a direct response to the critical
need for robust, scalable digital infrastructure
across the continent.





OADC's evolution since its founding has been characterised by rapid expansion and strategic positioning. The company has systematically built a network of facilities across three key African markets, establishing its flagship Core Data Centre in Lagos, Nigeria, while simultaneously developing comprehensive infrastructure in South Africa and pioneering data centre services in the Democratic Republic of Congo with the country's first live Tier-III certified facility.

The company's development trajectory reflects a broader shift in Africa's digital landscape, where increasing demand for cloud services, digital content delivery, and enterprise connectivity has created substantial opportunities for specialised infrastructure providers. OADC's approach to this market has been distinguished by its commitment to open-access principles, ensuring that clients maintain flexibility in their connectivity choices while benefiting from world-class facility standards.

Leadership Team

OADC's executive leadership combines extensive international experience with deep African market knowledge, reflecting the company's strategic positioning as both a global-standard infrastructure provider and an Africa-focused specialist.

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Dr. Ayotunde Coker

Chief Executive Officer,
bringing significant
leadership experience in
telecommunications and
digital infrastructure
development across
African markets. His
background encompasses
both technical expertise
and strategic market
development, positioning
him to guide OADC's
expansion across the
continent.

2

Joshua Smythwood

Chief Operating Officer, overseeing the company's operational excellence and service delivery standards. His role encompasses ensuring consistent performance across OADC's growing network of facilities while maintaining the high service standards required by enterprise clients.

3

Mohammed Bouhelal

Managing Director for the Democratic Republic of Congo, reflecting the company's commitment to local market expertise in its expansion territories. His leadership has been instrumental in establishing OADC's presence in the DRC market, including the development of the country's first live Tier-III certified data centre.

The broader leadership team includes specialists across key functional areas: **Sayuri Moodliar** as Director of ESG, emphasising the company's commitment to environmental and governance standards; **Shelley Durkin** as Director of Projects, overseeing facility development and expansion initiatives; **Marc Matthews** as Director of Engineering, ensuring technical excellence across facilities; **Bruce Page** as Director of Business Solutions, focusing on client-centric service development; **Obinna Adumike** as Head of Converged Digital Infrastructure for Africa, coordinating regional strategy; and **Jürgen Jägersberger** as Director of Transformation, leading strategic initiatives and operational evolution.

This leadership structure reflects OADC's commitment to combining global best practices with local market expertise, ensuring effective execution of its pan-African expansion strategy while maintaining operational excellence standards.

What OADC Does

Open Access Data Centres operates as a comprehensive provider of digital infrastructure solutions, specialising in the development and operation of carrier-neutral, open-access data centre facilities across Africa. The company's core business activities encompass facility development, colocation services, and advanced connectivity solutions designed to meet the diverse needs of Africa's expanding digital ecosystem.

Core Infrastructure Services

The company's primary offering centres on its network of hyperscale core data centres, which provide enterprise-grade colocation services with Tier-III certification standards. These facilities are strategically located in Lagos, Nigeria; multiple locations across South Africa; and Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo, ensuring comprehensive coverage across key African markets.

OADC's unique core-to-edge architecture extends beyond traditional data centre services, incorporating over 30 edge data centres that enable improved application performance and reduced latency for end-users. This distributed approach addresses the specific challenges of content delivery and application hosting across Africa's diverse geographic and connectivity landscape.

Connectivity and Interconnection

The company provides extensive connectivity solutions through its carrier-neutral approach, offering clients complete freedom in choosing preferred partners for local, national, and international connections. OADC's facilities feature comprehensive cross-connect capabilities, enabling seamless interconnectivity between clients within facilities and access to multiple Meet-Me rooms.

A key differentiator is the company's OAfabric platform, described as an "Africa-led interconnection platform" that offers virtual connectivity services powered by WIOCC's extensive digital backbone. This platform provides enterprises and service providers with access to diverse digital ecosystems, supporting user-to-service, user-to-user, and site-to-site connectivity requirements.

Managed Services

OADC extends its value proposition through comprehensive managed services, including 24/7/365 monitoring through dedicated Network Operations Centres, warm hands technical support, and consultancy services. These offerings are designed to minimise operational burden for clients while ensuring optimal performance and security for critical digital infrastructure.

The company's target markets encompass telecommunications operators, internet service providers, cloud operators, wholesale community providers & major enterprises.

Market Position

Open Access Data Centres has established itself as Africa's fastest-growing data centre company, achieving significant market impact through its rapid network expansion and innovative client solutions. The company's market position is characterised by several key competitive advantages that differentiate it within the African digital infrastructure landscape.

Industry Standing

OADC's position as part of the WIOCC Group provides significant strategic advantages, including access to Africa's largest network infrastructure and established relationships across the continent's telecommunications ecosystem. This affiliation enables OADC to offer clients seamless connectivity solutions while leveraging extensive regional expertise developed over more than 15 years of African market presence.

The company's rapid expansion trajectory, establishing six hyperscale core data centres and over 30 edge facilities within a relatively short timeframe, demonstrates exceptional execution capability and market responsiveness. This growth rate distinguishes OADC from competitors who have taken more gradual approaches to African market development.

Competitive Advantages

OADC's carrier-neutral, open-access approach provides a fundamental competitive advantage in markets where clients value flexibility and choice in connectivity options. This positioning contrasts with traditional operator-owned facilities that may limit client connectivity choices, making OADC particularly attractive to enterprises requiring diverse connectivity solutions.

The company's unique core-to-edge architecture addresses specific African market challenges, including the need for reduced latency and improved application performance across diverse geographic regions. This technical approach demonstrates understanding of local market requirements while maintaining international standards for facility operation.

Market Presence

OADC's geographic presence across Nigeria, South Africa, and the Democratic Republic of Congo positions the company strategically within Africa's most significant economic markets. The choice of Lagos as the location for its flagship facility reflects understanding of Nigeria's role as West Africa's economic hub, while the comprehensive South African presence addresses the continent's most developed digital infrastructure market.

The company's ownership structure, including participation by ten major African telecom operators, African Capital Alliance, and international development finance institutions, provides both strategic relationships and financial stability that enhance market credibility and expansion capabilities.

Strategic Focus

OADC's strategic approach centres on sustainable expansion of digital infrastructure capabilities while maintaining environmental responsibility and operational excellence. The company's current strategic priorities reflect both immediate market opportunities and long-term positioning for Africa's digital transformation.





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Sustainability Leadership

Environmental sustainability represents a core strategic focus, with OADC committed to minimising environmental impact through green technologies and initiatives. The company is pursuing internationallyrecognised Green Star ratings for its facilities, acknowledging sustainability in design, construction, and operation. Additionally, OADC is seeking ISO 14001 and 50001 accreditations, confirming environmental and energy management credentials.

This sustainability focus extends to renewable energy strategy implementation, positioning OADC as a leader in green digital transformation across Africa.

Technology Innovation

The development and deployment of the OAfabric platform represents a key strategic initiative, establishing OADC as an innovator in African interconnection services. This platform's focus on providing access to diverse digital ecosystems through a single port with multiple VLANs demonstrates technical sophistication while addressing practical client connectivity challenges.

OADC's emphasis on futureready infrastructure design ensures that facilities can adapt to evolving technology requirements, including support for emerging technologies such as edge computing, artificial intelligence applications, and advanced cloud services.

Client-Centric Service Development

The company's strategic focus on client-centric solutions is evidenced through comprehensive service offerings that extend beyond basic colocation. The provision of 24/7/365 monitoring, warm hands technical support, and consultancy services reflects understanding that clients require operational support alongside infrastructure access.

OADC's approach to serving diverse client segments, from telecommunications operators to government entities, demonstrates strategic flexibility while maintaining consistent service standards across different market requirements.

Looking Forward

OADC's future vision encompasses establishing itself as the definitive digital infrastructure platform for Africa's continued economic transformation. The company's strategic direction reflects confidence in Africa's digital economy growth trajectory while acknowledging the need for continued innovation and expansion to meet evolving market demands.

Vision for Africa's Digital Future

The company's stated vision "to enable Africa's digital ecosystem, driving economic growth and enriching society" positions OADC as a facilitator of broader continental development rather than simply an infrastructure provider. This perspective suggests future initiatives may extend beyond traditional data centre services to encompass broader digital ecosystem development.

OADC's commitment to establishing "world-class, client-centric data centre facilities across Africa" indicates continued geographic expansion while maintaining service excellence standards. The company's approach to creating environments where "clients can seamlessly extend their business across all ecosystems in an open and transparent environment" suggests future development of increasingly sophisticated connectivity and service integration capabilities.

Strategic Positioning for Growth

The company's focus on sustainability leadership positions it advantageously for future market development, as environmental considerations become increasingly important for enterprise clients and regulatory frameworks. The development of the OAfabric platform as a "future-ready foundation" suggests OADC's intention to evolve beyond traditional colocation services toward comprehensive digital infrastructure platforms.

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Growth Opportunities

The African digital infrastructure market presents substantial growth opportunities for OADC, driven by accelerating digital transformation across the continent, increasing demand for cloud services, and expanding internet penetration rates. The company's strategic positioning enables capitalisation on multiple growth vectors while maintaining operational excellence.





Geographic Expansion

OADC's current presence in three African markets provides a foundation for broader continental expansion. The company's established relationships through the WIOCC Group network and ownership participation by major African telecom operators create natural expansion opportunities across additional African markets.

The success of OADC's DRC facility, representing the country's first live Tier-III certified data centre, demonstrates the company's capability to pioneer digital infrastructure development in emerging markets. This experience positions OADC to consider expansion into other African markets where digital infrastructure development remains limited.

Service Portfolio Development

The growing demand for edge computing solutions across Africa presents opportunities for OADC to expand its edge data centre network. The company's existing core-to-edge architecture provides a foundation for enhanced edge services that can support emerging applications requiring low latency and local processing capabilities.

The OAfabric platform's development creates opportunities for expanded virtual connectivity services, potentially including additional cloud access options, enhanced peering services, and specialised connectivity solutions for specific industry segments.

Growth Opportunities (continued)





Market Segment Expansion

OADC's current client base spanning telecommunications operators, enterprises, and government entities provides opportunities for deeper penetration within each segment.

Technology Integration

The increasing importance of artificial intelligence, machine learning, and advanced analytics across African markets creates opportunities for OADC to develop specialised infrastructure solutions supporting these technologies.

Long-term Market Development

OADC's positioning within the WIOCC Group ecosystem provides strategic advantages for long-term market development, including access to established network infrastructure and regional expertise. The company's ability to leverage these relationships while maintaining operational independence positions it well for continued expansion across African markets.

| | 1 | Operational Excellence |
|--|---|--|
| | 2 | Technological Innovation |
| | 3 | Client-Centric Solutions |
| | 4 | Strategic Partnerships |
| | 5 | Pan-African Digital Infrastructure Leadership |

The company's ownership structure, including participation by major African telecom operators and development finance institutions, provides both strategic relationships and financial stability that support long-term growth initiatives. This foundation enables OADC to consider substantial expansion programmes while maintaining operational excellence standards.

OADC's future success will likely depend on its ability to balance rapid growth with operational excellence, maintain technological innovation leadership, and continue developing client-centric solutions that address evolving market requirements. The company's established track record of execution and strategic positioning suggest strong prospects for continued leadership in Africa's digital infrastructure development.

Core-to-Edge Architecture

OADC's unique core-to-edge architecture represents one of its most significant technical innovations and market differentiators. This approach addresses the specific challenges of content delivery and application hosting across Africa's diverse geographic landscape.



Hyperscale Core Data Centres

OADC's six hyperscale core data centres provide enterprise-grade colocation services with Tier-III certification standards. These facilities serve as the backbone of the company's infrastructure, offering comprehensive connectivity options and advanced security features.



Edge Data Centres

With over 30 edge data centres strategically positioned across key markets, OADC enables improved application performance and reduced latency for end-users. These facilities bring computing resources closer to users, addressing the specific challenges of content delivery across Africa.



Integrated Management

OADC's comprehensive management approach ensures seamless operation across both core and edge facilities, providing clients with consistent service levels and simplified management interfaces regardless of where their infrastructure is deployed.

This distributed architecture enables OADC to deliver optimal performance for diverse applications while maintaining cost efficiency and operational excellence. The approach is particularly valuable in the African context, where geographic distances and connectivity challenges can impact digital service delivery.

Connectivity Solutions

OADC's carrier-neutral, open-access approach to connectivity represents a fundamental competitive advantage in markets where clients value flexibility and choice in connectivity options.

Carrier Neutrality

OADC offers clients complete freedom in choosing preferred partners for local, national, and international connections, contrasting with traditional operator-owned facilities that may limit client connectivity choices.

Cross-Connect Capabilities

The company's facilities feature comprehensive cross-connect capabilities, enabling seamless interconnectivity between clients within facilities and access to multiple Meet-Me rooms.

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OAfabric Platform

This "Africa-led interconnection platform" offers virtual connectivity services powered by WIOCC's extensive digital backbone, providing access to diverse digital ecosystems through a single port with multiple VLANs.

Multi-Cloud Access

The company's connectivity solutions support hybrid and multi-cloud environments, enabling clients to connect efficiently to major cloud service providers while maintaining their on-premises infrastructure.

International Connectivity

OADC's relationship with the WIOCC Group provides clients with seamless access to international connectivity options, including submarine cable systems and global network providers.

These connectivity capabilities position OADC as a comprehensive digital infrastructure provider, enabling clients to build flexible, resilient network architectures that support their specific business requirements across African markets.

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Sustainability Commitments

Environmental sustainability represents a core strategic focus for OADC, with the company committed to minimising environmental impact through green technologies and initiatives.

Certification and Standards

- Pursuing internationally-recognised Green
 Star ratings for facilities
- Seeking ISO 14001 environmental management accreditation
- Working toward ISO 50001 energy management certification
- Implementing comprehensive environmental monitoring systems

Energy Efficiency

- Deploying advanced cooling technologies to reduce energy consumption
- Implementing intelligent power management systems
- Optimising facility design for maximum energy efficiency
- Regular energy audits and continuous improvement programmes

Renewable Energy Strategy

- Exploring on-site renewable energy generation where feasible
- Evaluating power purchase agreements with renewable providers
- Implementing battery storage solutions to support renewable integration
- Setting progressive targets for renewable energy utilisation

Sustainable Operations

- Water conservation measures across all facilities
- Waste reduction and recycling programmes
- Sustainable procurement policies
- Regular sustainability reporting and transparency

OADC's sustainability focus positions the company as a leader in green digital transformation across Africa. This approach addresses growing client demand for environmentally responsible infrastructure solutions while potentially reducing operational costs through energy efficiency improvements.

Client Solutions and Target Markets

OADC extends its value proposition through comprehensive managed services and tailored solutions for diverse client segments across the African digital ecosystem.

24/7

100%

30+

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Monitoring

Continuous
monitoring through
dedicated Network
Operations Centres
ensures optimal
performance and
rapid response to any
issues.

Uptime Target

OADC's Tier-III
certified facilities are
designed to deliver
maximum reliability
for mission-critical
applications.

Edge Locations

Extensive edge
network enables
improved application
performance and
reduced latency
across diverse
geographic regions.

Core Facilities

Hyperscale core data centres provide enterprise-grade infrastructure with comprehensive connectivity options.

Target Market Segments

| Market Segment | Key Solutions | Value Proposition |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| Telecommunications Operators | Colocation, Interconnection, Edge Services | Carrier-neutral facilities with extensive connectivity options |
| Internet Service Providers | Peering, Transit, Edge Computing | Improved performance and reduced costs through optimised connectivity |
| Cloud Operators | Hyperscale Colocation, Connectivity | Strategic African presence with world-class infrastructure standards |
| Enterprise Clients | Hybrid Infrastructure, Managed Services | Reliable, secure infrastructure with comprehensive support services |
| Government Entities | Secure Colocation, Compliance Solutions | High-security facilities meeting regulatory requirements |

OADC's approach to serving diverse client segments demonstrates strategic flexibility while maintaining consistent service standards across different market requirements.

Investment and Financial Backing

OADC's ambitious expansion is supported by a robust financial foundation and strategic investment partnerships that provide both capital resources and market relationships.



Key Investment Partners

- International Finance Corporation (IFC)
- Proparco
- African Capital Alliance
- Ten major African telecom operators
- Development finance institutions



This robust financial foundation enables OADC to pursue substantial expansion programmes while maintaining operational excellence standards. The company's established track record of execution and strategic positioning, combined with strong financial backing, suggest strong prospects for continued leadership in Africa's digital infrastructure development.

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