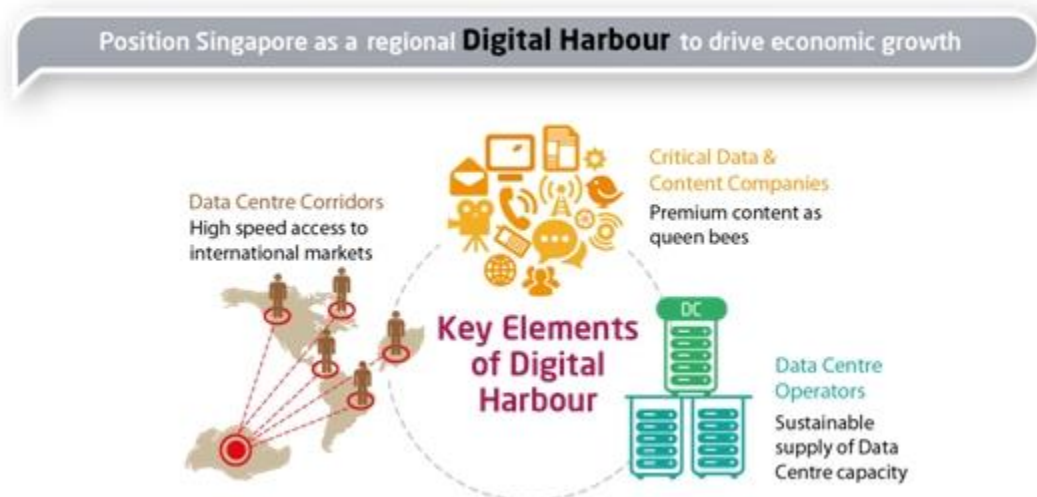


## Digital Harbour

Companies such as data centres and cloud companies typically invest in infrastructure in places with excellent connectivity. This is because connectivity enables the movement of data quickly across the world. The presence of such companies influences sub-sea cable operators' decisions to land sub-sea cables in Singapore. These cables further improve our connectivity to the world by providing more direct routes to other regions, reinforcing the "network effect". Hence it is important to continually attract data, content and digital services into Singapore. This can also bring about more opportunities in areas such as regional content distribution, and grow capabilities in industries such as data analytics.

To achieve the above, we propose to promote Singapore as a "Digital Harbour".



This concept comprises the following three key elements.

- **Critical Data and Premium Content Companies as "Queen Bees" to Attract Data Centres**  
Having critical data and premium content companies here is the first step towards creating a "Digital Harbour". Critical data includes data that supports business functions, such as resource planning. Premium content includes Asian content with strong regional demand. With our reputation as a business hub with strong IP protection, Singapore is primed to be the gateway for critical data and premium content companies to the region. The increase in data and content hosted in Singapore will in turn enhance the trust in our networks and systems. To attract such companies, we could implement a trust-by-design infrastructure. Such an infrastructure will address security and privacy concerns, have robust transactional processes and consist of resilient systems and networks.
- **Ancillary Platforms to Access International Markets**  
Ancillary platforms forming a "Data Centre Corridor" can allow companies to access domestic and international markets faster and more easily. To create this corridor, we need a vibrant Internet exchange that distributes traffic efficiently across all local networks. For companies to gain fast access to overseas markets, we can form a cost-effective and strategic inter-connection amongst selected data centres. These centres must have key aggregation nodes that have multiple international carriers.
- **Sustainable Supply of Data Centre Capacity**

Data centres are facilities used to store computer systems and related components, such as telecommunications and storage systems. They play an important role in digital innovation. Cloud computing and analytics, as well as new business models in the social and mobile space, all require data centres. These centres are also important infrastructure necessary to anchor and distribute premium content in Singapore. As demand for data centres grows, we need to identify more land plots for these clusters early.

An unconventional way to increase our data centre capacity is to go underground. Underground data centres are more secure and resilient against accidental impact, blasts and acts of terrorism. They also require less energy as cooling needs are reduced in lower ambient temperature underground.

### **Opportunities for the ICM Sectors**

Besides drawing companies to set up data centres here, premium content companies also allow local services, such as content production, dubbing, translation and digital advertising, to develop and grow.