

The data center is the massive storage of information. It is like a memory chip the size of 3 football fields. Inside the data center, numerous gigantic cutting-edge servers and memory banks transmit data through fiber optic cable at the speed of light. When an internet user browses the Facebook website, the request goes into the open internet and send to one of the servers in the data center. Then, the server will pack up all the information and send them out. So, users can see everything they need in the blink of an eye.

Data center specialists believe the internet has nothing to do with clouds. It is not floating in the sky. Miles and miles of cables and fiber optics make the internet connection available to every computer user, which means that computers are physically connected, and the internet is made of physical devices. All the worldwide data centers can communicate, sharing information back and forth. Another indispensable thing that runs those data servers is electricity. It is like gasoline in an engine. To avoid power outages, they have 14 gigantic generators next to the data center standing by. However, with the "cloud" concept, it seems like these supercomputers can work without the support of electricity, which is ridiculous.

As the number of users increases, Facebook needs to add more servers to the data center every day. The population of users and amount of servers has a proportional relationship. But the "cloud" does not have similar properties compared to the actual data center. Technicians on site must keep their eyes on the servers to diagnose and fix the malfunctioning ones as soon as possible. They must walk to the specific server, plug in the wire, and do their jobs. The "cloud" concept makes people

feel like servers can work on their own, and never require maintenance, which is incorrect and misleading to people.