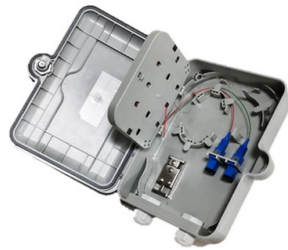


AI server replacement cycle



Overview

Fixed per-server lifecycle; New server generations released every 2-3 years; Gradual replacement. Services tied to fixed hardware configurations; Instances migrated to new hardware when released; Legacy applications remain on old servers. We rethink the AI datacenter lifecycle scheme across three stages (building, IT provisioning, and operation) highlighting how power, cooling, and networking decisions affect long-term TCO. We focus on hardware refresh strategies aligned with evolving hardware trends and evaluate operational. Unfortunately, traditional datacenter lifecycle management (designed for general-purpose workloads) struggles to keep pace with AI's fast-evolving models, rising resource needs, and diverse hardware profiles. Operators across the IT asset. Artificial intelligence infrastructure is evolving rapidly, and the first wave of enterprise AI deployments is already approaching its refresh cycle. Organizations that invested in NVIDIA A100- and H100-powered environments in 2023 and 2024 are now beginning to evaluate what comes next, especially. AI hardware refresh cycles have compressed from 5-7 years to 18-36 months, turning data center decommissioning into a continuous pipeline instead of a one-time event. The data center decommissioning services market hit \$12.94 billion by 2032, growing. ITAD, or IT Asset Disposition, is the process of removing old hardware in a way that protects data and helps optimize infrastructure across your AI data center.



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