

Alibaba to Open Datacentres in Frankfurt, Dubai

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25 November 2016

Alibaba Cloud, the self-explanatory subsidiary of Chinese giant Alibaba, is set for global expansion as it announces plans to open four datacentres in Frankfurt, Dubai, Sydney and Japan by end 2016.



The facilities bring the number of Alibaba locations outside of its home China to 8, and the global total to 14. The majority of the sites, including the German one, are joint ventures-- Alibaba will be using a Vodafone datacentre in Frankfurt, the Dubai facility operates through a joint venture with holding company Meraas, and the Japanese location is the result of teamup with SoftBank.

"The four new datacentres will further expand Alibaba Cloud's global ecosystem and footprint, allowing us to meet the increasing demand for secure and scalable cloud computing services from businesses and industries worldwide," the company says. "The true potential of data-driven digital transformation will be seen through globalisation and the opportunities brought by the new global economy will become a reality."

Remarking on the choice of Germany as European base, Alibaba points out the country's highly developed infrastructure and security standards, as well as the strategic location in the heart of the continent. Alibaba has ambitions to rival the likes of Microsoft and Amazon in the cloud, and such expansion demands the ramping up of European cloud facilities through the building of more facilities.

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