Move beyond the expected.

The Avocent Data Center Planner
Taking data center operations to the next level

EXECUTION

AVAILABILITY

EFFICIENCY

Avocent.

EMERSON™
Network Power

What's the state of your data center?

You are in a critical position.

The data center is arguably IT's most valuable (and expensive) asset, and you are responsible for the day-to-day operation. The demand for your services has grown steadily and so has the complexity of your job. Many professionals in your position have developed a range of ad hoc tools and techniques to manage the physical infrastructure. However, as most have noted, these tools are neither comprehensive nor integrated and keeping them updated is labor intensive and the likelihood for error is great.

You need a comprehensive solution.

Your life is complicated enough. Why continue to depend on multiple modules and quick fixes?

You need a single, holistic solution that provides an all-encompassing view of whatever detailed information is required to effectively manage the entire data center. Anything less will come up short. You need Avocent Data Center Planner.

Avocent Data Center Planner is the only infrastructure management software that offers the functionality necessary to optimize the data center infrastructure in one product. This comprehensive solution is a visual infrastructure planning and management offering within the Emerson Network Power strategic framework for data center optimization. It provides data center management with accurate and complete information about where devices and equipment are located, their current capacities and projected growth.
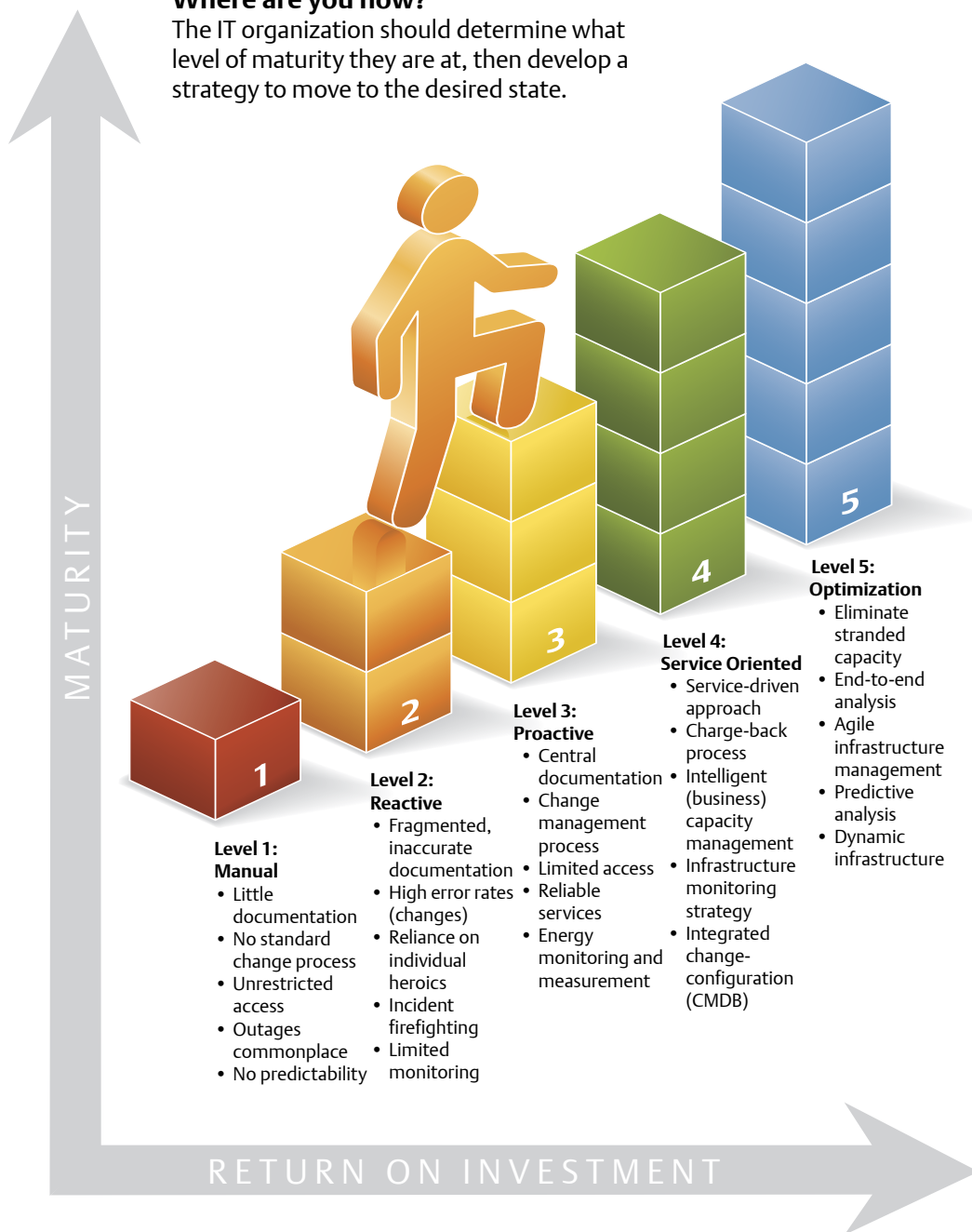
"The task of managing configuration information was identified as a leading opportunity to improve staff effectiveness. Nearly half (49 percent) of survey respondents reported using three to five systems to document their infrastructure, furthermore, 67 percent of data center managers reported updating documentation in the data center manually. These issues can only lead to the conclusion that the data center is not being used as efficiently as it could be, effectively costing the organization money."
– ARI, 2010 Report

Where are you now?
The IT organization should determine what level of maturity they are at, then develop a strategy to move to the desired state.

MATURITY

Level 1: Manual
- Little documentation
- No standard change process
- Unrestricted access
- Outages commonplace
- No predictability

Level 2: Reactive
- Fragmented, inaccurate documentation
- High error rates (changes)
- Reliance on individual heroics
- Incident firefighting
- Limited monitoring

Level 3: Proactive
- Central documentation
- Change management process
- Limited access
- Reliable services
- Energy monitoring and measurement

Level 4: Service Oriented
- Service-driven approach
- Charge-back process
- Intelligent (business) capacity management
- Infrastructure monitoring strategy
- Integrated change-configuration (CMDB)

Level 5: Optimization
- Eliminate stranded capacity
- End-to-end analysis
- Agile infrastructure management
- Predictive analysis
- Dynamic infrastructure

RETURN ON INVESTMENT

GROWING COMPLEXITY
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GROWING CHALLENGES

The growing complexity of the data center and rapid demand of change has rendered traditional methods of infrastructure management inadequate. The continued reliance on disparate tools is inefficient and drives up the cost of services to the business. Even the most organized managers struggle to operate effectively when they must manually aggregate data from multiple systems. Data centers operating in this mode are considered manual or, at best, reactive.

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GROWING DEMAND FOR PROACTIVE MANAGEMENT

The new expectations being made of data centers–from 24/7 availability to green initiatives–demand proactive management.

Your challenges are increasing every day.

Data Center Management
Your life is about constant change and demands from your only customer–the business. Your primary responsibilities are to:

- *Coordinate with Facilities* – To ensure the infrastructure is available when you have projects to execute.
- *Meet SLAs/Availability* – You must know exactly what you are managing and understand the dependencies across the infrastructure. How will changes impact availability?
- *Provide Detailed Reporting* – Business decisions are based on your input. Senior management expects reliable metrics on capacity and growth expectations, as well as reliable audits of usage and costs.
- *Plan for Growth* – You must know precisely when you will run out of space and capacity and implement plans to improve utilization of the existing infrastructure.

Facilities Management
You are the data center engineer and policeman: You execute the tasks to guarantee the data center's performance and 24/7 availability. Your primary responsibilities are to:

- *Ensure Infrastructure Availability* – Always striving for 99.999% uptime. Everyone is depending on you to make sure the infrastructure is adequately cooled and powered.
- *Coordinate Installs/Changes with IT* – You work with IT to have visibility into its plans so you are able to meet changes in demand.
- *Completely Understand Your Physical Infrastructure* – You need accurate data to show you how equipment is performing and where to place equipment to ensure optimal performance.
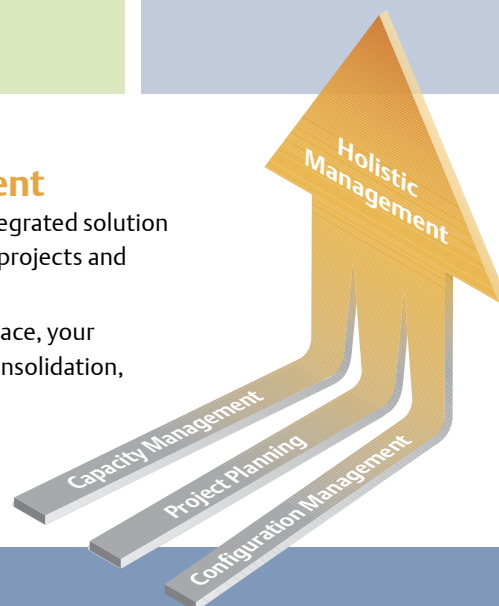
IT Executive/Management
Responsibility doesn't go further than you. Strategic planning and management are your battle. Your primary responsibilities are to:

- *Develop and Maintain Operational Consistency Across the Organization* – You must research, implement and standardize best practices across the organization.
- *Ensure Operational Efficiency* – The pressure to reduce costs weighs heavily on you. You must run an efficient organization even as demand increases while the budget does not.
- *Keep an Eye to the Future* – You must interpret capacity information from across the organization and develop the best path for growth.

Maturing from a reactive to proactive environment

To efficiently manage the physical infrastructure, organizations need a fully integrated solution that (at a minimum) tracks the physical infrastructure configuration, manages projects and calculates current space, power and cooling.
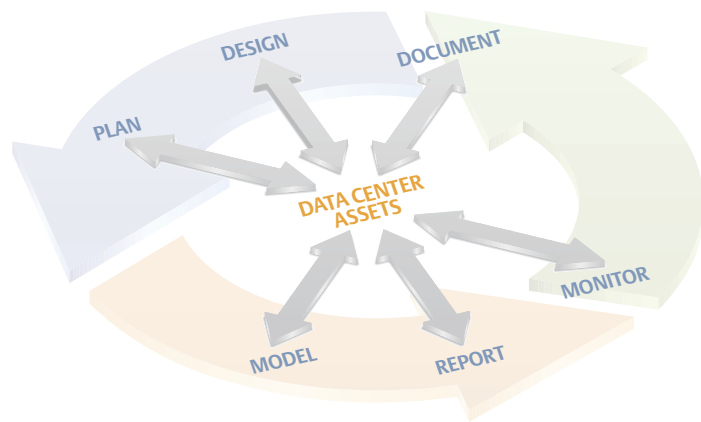
It's the only way to move from a reactive to proactive maturity level. Once in place, your organization will gain tremendous advantages and be better able to achieve consolidation, virtualization and energy efficiency goals.

Holistic Management

Capacity Management

Project Planning

Configuration Management

The Solution! The New Avocent Data Center Planner

Delivering unmatched visualization, insight and management capabilities

Avocent Data Center Planner is a visual infrastructure planning and management solution within the Emerson Network Power strategic framework for data center optimization. It provides data center management with accurate and complete information about where devices and equipment are located, their current capacities and future changes.

FEATURE	BENEFIT
Inventory management	• Know the physical location and attributes of all the equipment in a data center • Search for assets by their characteristics and physical location • Reduce the amount of time required to complete mandatory audits • Decrease unaligned inventory and avoid unnecessary maintenance costs
Configuration management	• Simplify planning and management with a comprehensive model of the data center • Improve communication with a single source of truth for Facilities and IT • Reduce mean time to repair
Capacity tracking	• Know the infrastructure capacities and align resources to meet the data center requirements • Right-size the infrastructure and decrease costs associated with over-provisioning and risks associated with under-provisioning
Reporting	• Improve decision-making time and accuracy with comprehensive analytics • Gain detailed insight into the infrastructure status and equipment
Intuitive visual interface	• Enhance process efficiency and minimize system administration • At-a-glance infrastructure status and predictive modeling

A powerful new offering to take you to the next level.

Enjoy unparalled visualization

Innovative graphics are dynamically updated as equipment is installed, decommissioned or moved within the infrastructure. The device symbol library is rich and includes all environmental statistics and nameplate power consumption information, dimensions, weight and connection and port information from the manufacturer.

DATA CENTER MANAGEMENT	• Know the current state of the data center at a glance • Efficiently manage routine services and branch issues
FACILITIES MANAGEMENT	• Be able understand changes in the data center in real time • Have easy access to asset requirement needs
IT EXECUTIVE/MANAGEMENT	• Have visibility into the global operations from a single solution

Plan with confidence

Sophisticated modeling and predictive analysis capabilities (i.e., what-if scenarios) are easily created using a drag-and-drop interface. The Data Center Planner intuitive interface provides visibility into projects across organizational departments. The project planning features help organizations stay organized and see the impact of changes before they occur–allowing them to prioritize activities and reduce the risks associated with changes.

DATA CENTER MANAGEMENT	• Act with confidence when provisioning and decommissioning equipment • Prepare for new implementations • Create detailed asset change/adjustment plans
FACILITIES MANAGEMENT	• Anticipate power and cooling needs • Know that your facility can handle what's expected of it
IT EXECUTIVE/MANAGEMENT	• Accurately anticipate budget needs • Have greater confidence in capacity predictions and expectations

Know your capacity

The unique rack timeline capabilities (unique to Data Center Planner) offer insight into exactly when/how rack capacity (space, power, cooling) will be impacted by changes over time. The single solution with the configuration and project planning capabilities ensures that the system is up to date and accurate.

DATA CENTER MANAGEMENT	• Better plan for changes and their impact on your facilities infrastructure • Anticipate issues and resolve them before the business is impacted
FACILITIES MANAGEMENT	• Confidently implement installs and device changes without compromising availability
IT EXECUTIVE/MANAGEMENT	• Visualize data center growth and establish and measure consistent metrics across the organization

Know your inventory

Save valuable time with on-demand reporting and centralized access to asset information. Easily identify the assets that are in production and those that are on the move. The single repository eliminates the need for personnel to conduct labor-intensive audits and update multiple spreadsheets, freeing up resources and improving management efficiency.

DATA CENTER MANAGEMENT	• Save time when looking up asset information • Get rid of outdated, manual inventory processes
FACILITIES MANAGEMENT	• Get immediate, trustworthy information on device requirements
IT EXECUTIVE/MANAGEMENT	• Increase staff efficiency and reporting accuracy

Share critical data with other departments

Standardized APIs support exchange of data to and from the Data Center Planner software database. Data exchange allows the business to share critical information across departments and enables strategic operations management and planning.

DATA CENTER MANAGEMENT	• Improve service levels and automate processes
FACILITIES MANAGEMENT	• Incorporate the valuable data collected by the facilities management systems to the IT business processes, enabling accurate operational decisions
IT EXECUTIVE/MANAGEMENT	• Eliminate redundant processes and streamline operations • Maintain a single comprehensive dashboard with current performance metrics

A powerful way to add even more control.
Integrate with DSView™ 3 management software.

Simplify, unify and automate.

Data Center Planner and DSView 3 management software seamlessly integrate to provide a single console for managing the data center.

Data Center Planner Software
The system of record for all physical infrastructure equipment in your data center.

Avocent Data Center Planner is designed to be the system of record for the physical equipment in your data center (location, space, rack power, connectivity and network). It connects, monitors and communicates with all IT devices via DSView 3 management software to create a holistic, single view of your operations.

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DSView 3 Management Software
Complete data center control through a single interface.

DSView 3 management software enables secure, out-of-band, centralized management of all connected IT and network devices– physical and virtual–in today's often complex and geographically dispersed data centers. When used in conjunction with KVM appliances, serial console appliances, service processor gateways and rack PDUs, the hardware and software combine to allow IT administrators to remotely access, monitor, measure and control target devices on multiple platforms at numerous locations–anywhere, anytime, regardless of the health or status of the operating system or network availability.
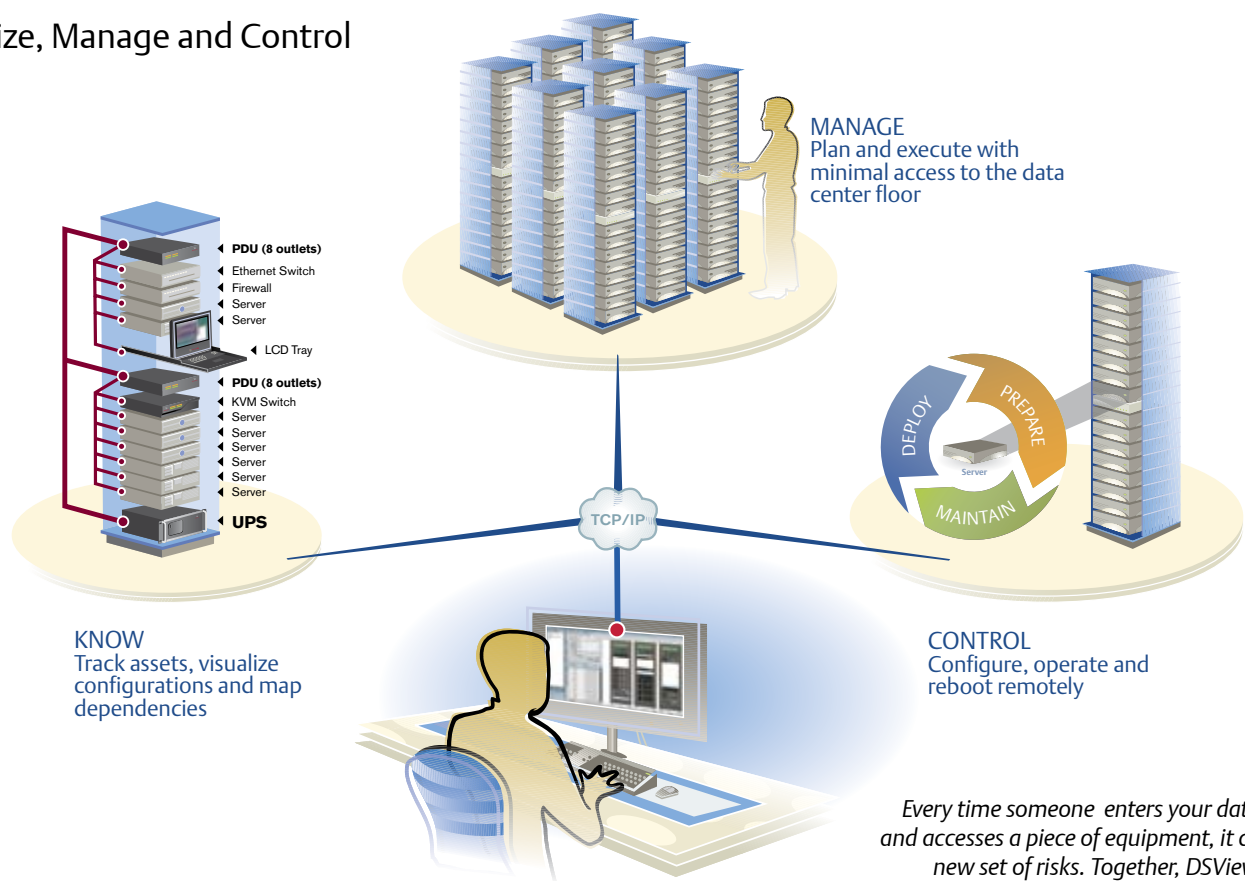
Avocent DSView 3 Power Manager adds power monitoring and notification capability to the access and control functions of DSView 3 management software. It gives you the ability to monitor and measure IT energy consumption and determine costs and trends across all levels within the data center and remote locations.

How does this help you?

With DSView 3 software integrated into your Data Center Planner install, you'll enable secure, in- and out-of-band, centralized management of all connected IT and network devices. Plus, a rich reporting and controlling interface means you are always on top of what is going on in your data centers, no matter how dispersed.

DATA CENTER MANAGEMENT	• Improve security by reducing the access to the data center floor • Execute decisions and configuration changes without jeopardizing compliance
FACILITIES MANAGEMENT	Reduce the number of escalations and unplanned outages
IT EXECUTIVE/MANAGEMENT	Maintain best practices throughout the organization by standardizing and enforcing policies

Visualize, Manage and Control

MANAGE
Plan and execute with
minimal access to the data
center floor

PDU (8 outlets)
Ethernet Switch
Firewall
Server
Server

LCD Tray

PDU (8 outlets)
KVM Switch
Server
Server
Server
Server
Server
Server

UPS

DEPLOY
PREPARE
MAINTAIN
Server

TCP/IP

KNOW
Track assets, visualize
configurations and map
dependencies

CONTROL
Configure, operate and
reboot remotely

*Every time someone enters your data center
and accesses a piece of equipment, it creates a
new set of risks. Together, DSView 3 soft-
ware and Data Center Planner allow you to
remotely plan, manage and control.*

Want to see Data Center Planner in action?

We'd be happy to give you a live demonstration of this exciting new offering.

Visit **www.avocent.com** to find out more.

Confidently move ahead.

Knowing that this is just one part of the broad Emerson portfolio.

Emerson Network Power is the only organization that has both the depth and breadth of solutions in asset, power and cooling design and management, as well as embedded server firmware and infrastructure management capabilities on millions of data center appliances worldwide. This combination of resources, experience and technologies makes Emerson Network Power uniquely positioned to help customers bridge the gap between the data center and IT infrastructure layers and enable intelligent optimization and management of the data center infrastructure.

Never before has a single source existed where you can find what you need to handle more with less complexity, all the while controlling costs and understanding and optimizing your overall performance.

Avocent Professional Services
Our experts are ready to make you...experts.

Avocent Professional Services is ready to help you get the most from your IT infrastructure management investments. Our professionals can assist you through any phase of your IT lifecycle, from planning to implementation, whatever is needed to help you reach that next level of data center management maturity.

Deployment
Free up your IT resources to do what they do best: manage your IT infrastructure. Avocent provides a comprehensive range of deployment services, from on-site to remote, for planned installation of your purchased equipment and extended assistance to optimize your system configuration.
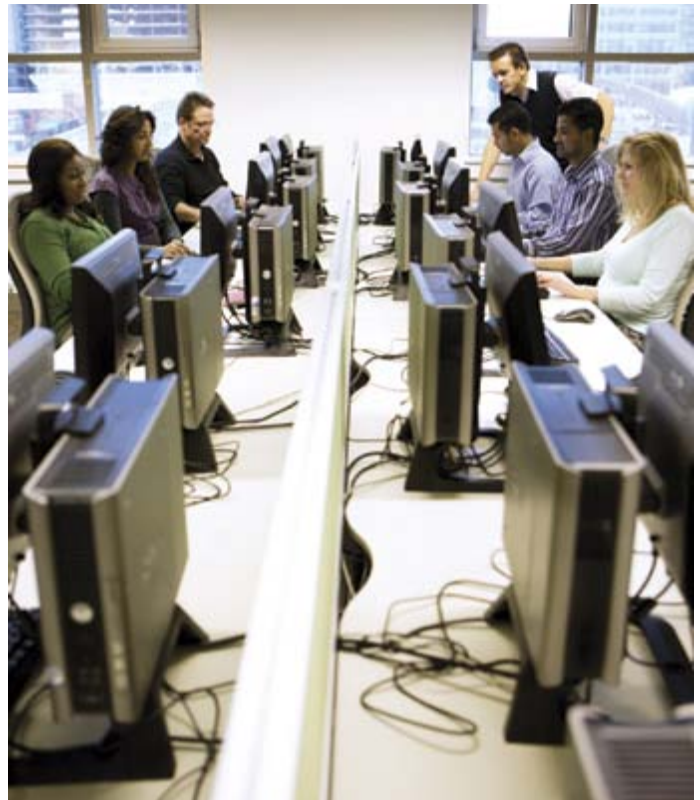
Support
Avocent Professional Services offer updates and upgrades on Avocent software covered by the Avocent Professional Services program. Software maintenance and support is available for one-, two- or three-year periods and includes access to download the latest updates to software and phone support during business hours or options for 24/7 global support.

Training
In-depth training is available with a curriculum focused on best practices and the most effective way to use your Avocent solution.

- Instructor-Led: Students receive detailed course guides and experience hands-on lab exercises designed to get the most out of every learning experience. Classes are available at Avocent corporate, selected regional locations or at the customer site.

- Online - Virtual Classroom: Our virtual classroom training provides you and fellow students with product and solutions training delivered to your desktop by Avocent instructors. These classes are a combination of virtual lecture sessions and labs performed remotely.

- Online - Self-paced Training: We have everything from product overviews and updates to relevant technology training.

Emerson Network Power.
The global leader in enabling *Business-Critical Continuity™*.

EmersonNetworkPower.com

- AC Power
- Connectivity
- DC Power
- Embedded Computing
- Embedded Power
- Infrastructure Management & Monitoring
- Outside Plant
- Power Switching & Controls
- Precision Cooling
- Racks & Integrated Cabinets
- Services
- Surge Protection

EMERSON. CONSIDER IT SOLVED.™