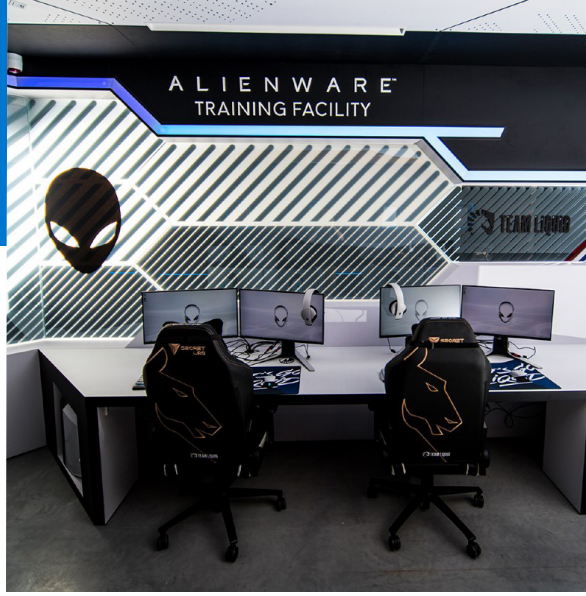
DELL Technologies



Esports Team Wins Big

Team Liquid, one of the biggest names in the billion-dollar esports industry, gets a jump on competitors with Dell EMC PowerEdge servers and Dell EMC PowerSwitch networking switches.

TEAM LIQUID

Entertainment

U.S.

Business needs

To succeed as one of the top esports competitive-gaming organizations, Team Liquid requires exceptional performance with low latency and rapid scalability for its world-class players. The company deployed Dell Technologies solutions including PowerEdge servers and PowerSwitch networking switches in its Alienware training facility in the Netherlands.

Solutions at a glance

- Dell EMC PowerEdge R340
- Dell EMC PowerEdge R6515 with AMD EPYC™ 7262 processors
- Dell EMC PowerEdge R740xd2 with Intel® Xeon® processors
- Dell EMC PowerSwitch S4128T-ON
- Dell EMC PowerSwitch S3148P

Business results

- Extremely low latency, so gamers can make the winning moves
- Dynamic and rapid scalability for faster rendering and streaming
- Technology support for streamlined global creative collaboration

Low
latency responsiveness

Faster
rendering and streaming

Highly scalable for rapid growth

Super-fast connections, low latency and skilled gamers are keys to winning at esports—where competitions are decided in split seconds. That's why Team Liquid, a global professional esports gaming organization with more than 90 championship-caliber athletes, invested in powerful high performance computing (HPC) solutions built on Dell EMC PowerEdge servers and Dell EMC PowerSwitch networking switches for its truly otherworldly European Alienware training facility in the Netherlands.

Game-winning performance

To shave milliseconds off mouse clicks and keyboard press responses, Team Liquid's low-latency system incorporates PowerEdge R340 servers with Intel® Xeon® E-2200 processors, together with two fully redundant 10 Gbps symmetric fiber optic lines and PowerSwitch S4128T-ON 10GbE switches. This gives athletes the lowest latency possible for game play as well as for downloading new games and updates.

"Winning esports athletes do six or seven things every second," says Bo Kryne, director of fan management at Team Liquid. "A delay of more than five or six milliseconds hurts because a gamer's next move is impeded by any processing delay."

Agile networking

A bridge links Team Liquid's European facility with its Alienware training facility at its headquarters in Santa Monica, California. To take maximum advantage of the lightning-fast 10 Gbps lines, it's critical to have equally fast switches to reliably connect as many as two dozen systems at line speed—including 25 top-end Alienware Aurora R11 gaming PCs, plus a 120-inch screen powered by a Dell 4k laser projector.

The PowerSwitch S3148P networking switches ensure the needed bandwidth is always available, and offer Power over Ethernet (PoE) capability, so large numbers of devices can be run off of the same Ethernet cable. This efficiently supports a myriad of Wi-Fi access points, cameras and even climate hubs installed throughout the modern facility.

Powering a championship game plan

Dell Technologies solutions do much more than simply supporting Team Liquid's athletes—PowerEdge is at the heart of the business. PowerEdge R6515 servers with AMD EPYC™ 7262 processors deliver the peak performance and outstanding TCO needed by the firm's engineers, teams of coders and business-support staff.

For example, the Liquid+ business unit, which is responsible for developing Team Liquid's fan loyalty program, relies on the servers' conducive dev/op environment to quickly and efficiently push out updates without any issues.

In addition, because many of Team Liquid's replay archives and self-produced content series offerings include files that require multiple gigabytes or terabytes of storage, the organization has tapped PowerEdge R740xd2 rack servers as storage server hosts.

With large internal storage and cost-efficient drive capacities, PowerEdge R740xd2 servers ensure blazing fast file transfers locally and even globally to facilitate collaboration between engineers and coders at both the European and U.S. training facilities. The servers deliver high compute performance with flash and fast networking options to meet any streaming demands.

The result? A very comfortable and productive creative environment for everyone.

"We have terabytes of data that must frequently be shared back and forth by our graphics and production teams," Kryne remarks. "Having all this vital information on our PowerEdge storage server makes it very convenient."

Bringing prizes home

Esports has been exploding at a double-digit growth rate. Today, there are nearly 500 million fans, and that's projected to rise to 650 million by 2023. Twitch recorded 95 million hours of esports viewing last year.

Team Liquid's athletes have won the most money in the history of esports, while amassing trophies across various titles and countries. These include The International 2017 for DOTA2, and achieving the Intel Grand Slam in 2019 for CS:GO—in addition to domestic championships within the world's most popular esports title, League of Legends.

Making it all possible are Team Liquid's Dell Technologies solutions—including PowerEdge high performance computing clusters and PowerSwitch networking switches—to enable players to perform their best and keep the massive global organization running smoothly.

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Bo Kryne,
Director of Fan Management
Team Liquid

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