THE GUARDIAN OF NATIONAL AND LOCAL DATA
STAR OF BOSPHORUS DATA CENTER

STAR OF BOSPHORUS—The digital fort safeguarding Turkey's data. The data center has been inaugurated in a ceremony attended by the Minister of Science, Industry and, Technology (MoSIT), Mustafa Varank.

Turkey's leading technology group NGN has opened the Star of Bosphorus, one of the biggest data center investments in Turkey. Key figures from the business, economy, and technology worlds, most notably **Minister of Industry and Technology Mustafa Varank,** attended the ceremony on Friday, 5th of July, at the Star of Bosphorus Data Center (SoBDC).

Operational in Turkey and the Middle East, NGN has been doing business as a reliable technology business partner for leading businesses in Turkey and the region. NGN has set its focus on a very critical requirement in this age of digitalization all over the world and finally established **SoBDC**.

Managing, storing, and backing up critical data is indispensable in an era when digital data is being generated non-stop every single second. Data centers undertake a key role at this point. NGN has contributed to the digitalization of Turkey by realizing its SoBDC project. SoBDC is a unique facility for corporate customers who have determined that reliability and uninterrupted operation ranks at the top of their priorities. It offers next-gen solutions with its technology, experienced team, and international certifications.

Turkey's data is safe in the hands of a local solution provider

A key investment in Turkey in its class with an approximate value of $150 million, SoBDC also makes a great contribution to the employment required for the IT industry. **SoBDC** enables businesses in Turkey to safeguard and use their data at an in-country entity. It also looks to become a data center where data from abroad will be hosted. **The NGN family plans to contribute TRY 2 billion to the Turkish economy in 5 years** and export their data service abroad in line with Turkey's export objectives. 3 foreign

countries have already started receiving SoBDC's service. In the short run, their objective is to extend their data services to over 30 countries.

NGN notes that Turkey's population of 80 million, approximately 50% of whom are young people, offers significant potential. They want to maximize this potential by means of the SoBDC offering. NGN projects to provide employment for more than 1,000 people when its data center reaches its full capacity.

MoSIT Minister Mustafa Varank put in a good word for NGN in the speech he gave for their SoBDC investment, noting that: *"The breakneck speed at which technology advances gives rise to new rules in every discipline from commerce to health, energy to agriculture, and finance to communication. Developments in the field of advanced technology from big data and data analytics to cloud computing, cyber security, human-machine interaction and artificial intelligence have completely changed production and business models. Information industry and digitalization lie at the core of this change. Digitalization touches every aspect of economy, technology, science, industry, and life. Moving from traditional centuries-old trades such as processing iron, mankind is poised now to process data and step into a brand-new era of production and development. We have to understand every aspect of this era and become a playmaker. Therefore, we set off with the vision of National Technology Move. Digital transformation has become a buzzword in our every speech, associating it often with digital development and economy. We encourage and lead our SME's, entrepreneurs, and young people to become the productive actors of the digital age and make policies accordingly. We see the trend, demands and requirements of the industries directly on-site, and act as travel mates with our businessmen, entrepreneurs and human resources. Its most notable example is the data center we have inaugurated today. Seeing that the support we have provided has paved the way for such visionary work is a great pleasure for us. Regarding digitalization, our main goal is to create the capacity Turkey requires and turn Turkey into a playmaker in this industry. At MoSIT, when pondering about policies to adapt with regard to such an important issue, of course we include private industry representatives and NGOs in the loop. We have developed a "Digital Turkey Roadmap" with the participation of all related stakeholders. Our roadmap contains six components under the titles human, technology, infrastructure, suppliers, users, and governance. Now, within the framework of our vision of a National Technology Move, we are at the stage of implementing active action plans. I can say that the ''Turkish Open-Source Platform'' we founded is an example of these actions. With this platform, we have the intention*

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of boosting the quality and quantity of our software developers, lower license costs, and reduce foreign-source dependency. Dear guests, let me stress that we pay special attention to artificial intelligence technology. AI is expected to contribute $15.7 trillion to the global economy and expand national economies by 26% on average by 2030. Developed countries are making advances in AI technologies through universities, research centers, and tech leader ventures to maintain their share in this market. With that in mind, we carry out serious activities and produce projects for the needs of public and private industry. I want to stress that I'm really pleased to see Turkey's digitalization objectives come true at SoBDC. I wholeheartedly believe that this remarkable center will lend power and inspiration to our digital development objectives."

Head of the Presidential Investment Office Arda Ermut also spoke about the SoBDC Investment: *"Expansion of technology as well as developments in the volume and diversity of data have taken the concepts such as big data, AI, cloud technologies, and fintech out of the laboratory and turned them into parts of our lives. As a result, data centers have turned into very important walls of the new world ecosystem for data storage and data security. In this framework, NGN's high-tech investment in the SoBDC is a type of investment that we encourage and prefer. As a country, we notice the importance of such investments in order to climb to the upper ranks of the added value chain.*

Head of the Presidential Digital Transformation Office Dr. Ali Taha Koç said: *"In our world, connecting more than 20 billion electronic devices at present, secure data flow has become more important than ever. Last week, we attended to the G20 committee in Osaka with the President. The Osaka Declaration signed during the summit includes the opinion that digitalization has changed our economies and societies in every aspect. Data has gradually become a more important source for growth and that effective use of data should contribute to social welfare in every country...With the investments realized in this scope, the Star of Bosphorus Data Center will further contribute to this area. In accordance with our year 2023 objectives, we must have the ability to exist in the competitive economy of tomorrow and produce solutions for innovative technologies. The most innovative technology at present is AI technologies, and the top requirement of AI in this respect is data. The data center inaugurated today will be an important step to protect this data. Countries' existing data and cyber domination fields are their digital territories. We will both protect our data as we do our land, and process it like we process the land, share it and turn into value through*

an open source method. What is meant by open data is anonymization of the data and its purification from personal data. The data center we opened today and those we will open in the future play a critical role in storing the data produced in our country."

NGN Chairman and CEO İnanç Erol emphasized their investment in the future of Turkey during his speech at the ceremony: *''Local content, local software, and a local cloud will provide very serious benefits for the economic development, export, and international competition of our country. Data needs uninterrupted and strong infrastructure. We do not need and should not need to send the National Data produced in Turkey abroad. We have moved to keep this **"national data''** in Turkey in order to become a country who "owns and protects her own data" and to catch up with the digital age. We produced this technological masterpiece with an **approximately $150 million investment**. This is one of the most developed data centers of our region and one of the small number of buildings in the world with 9.0 earthquake resistance thanks to the seismic isolation technology employed and its construction on 138 isolators. As the NGN family, we are a group that intends to produce and add value to our country. We will continue our journey with the Star of Bosphorus hopefully both in Anatolia and with our investments in other fields of technology."*

After the speeches, the visitors had a special tour of the data center and saw a surprise show in the seismic area. The visitors were very interested in the "Seismic Waves" performance which visualizes and vocalizes data of all earthquakes in the world from 1993 to 2013 by means of AI.

100% Safe and Secure

As Turkey's most developed data center, the Star of Bosphorus offers data center services in international standards to companies. The services range from consulting to cloud computing management, disaster recovery, backup and business continuity, security, data storage, and hosting. A reliable technology business partner of all industry leaders including banking and finance, production, telecommunication, retail, and the public sector, NGN brings new standards to the industry with the Star of Bosphorus.

The SoBDC with Uptime Institute Tier III design and facility certificate is situated in an approximately 24,000 sqm indoor area with 16 MW total electric power. The data

center with more than 2,000 standard cabinet storage capacity in 5,000 sqm white area guarantees a unique service level with design and facility competencies.

The Star of Bosphorus has structural seismic isolation and uninterrupted operation with high standards of data security designed to minimize the effects of the strongest earthquakes in the world. Constructed on 138 seismic isolators, the Star of Bosphorus was designed according to the world-wide accepted FEMA standards. Designed to ensure continuity of operation during earthquake by taking into account the correlation of seismic events in the last 2500 years, the Star of Bosphorus has made a breakthrough in Turkey in this field. The Star of Bosphorus will protect the entire building in case of an earthquake and eliminate any possible interruptions. The data center also passed through the academic review process, as the Star of Bosphorus worked with ARUP, one of the world's most qualified organizations for independent audits. Therefore, one can comfortably say on a scientific basis that the Star of Bosphorus has full earthquake protection.

The Star of Bosphorus Data Center employs the most developed cooling and power distribution technologies and it has been designed to provide 1.30 or less PUE on average in a year. The Star of Bosphorus Data Center has a scalable design with four data center modules at two separate buildings. Each module has two data halls and each module operates within its own infrastructure with power, cooling, fire prevention, and physical security systems. Thanks to this modular structure, each module runs effectively independently, and maximum productivity is guaranteed with the integrated use of the best hardware.

The Star of Bosphorus guarantees operational continuity with a detailed approach from the number of staff to business administration, material quality, and supply management, and prevents potential losses by maintaining data integrity with an uninterrupted service in case of an emergency such as a disaster or power cut. The Star of Bosphorus is located approximately 30 km away from the city center in Tuzla district on the Anatolian side of Istanbul. It was designed to respond to flexibility and scalability needs from power distribution to cooling. The location of the data center was chosen by taking into account major location criteria such as easy access, uninterrupted power supply, and remoteness to risks. The Star of Bosphorus is physically away from many risks as it is located adjacent to Istanbul Tepeoren Power Transmission Plant. This data center with high standards is located on safe land that is

not close to a dam or big water tank with a risk of erosion, and the design team has considered all natural disasters such as flood and storm in addition to earthquake.

The Star of Bosphorus embarks on presenting the most developed data center services of Turkey to its customers with an experienced staff on data center infrastructure and operations.

About NGN:

Technology group NGN, operating in Turkey and in the Middle East, successfully serves leading businesses in Turkey and the region in the industry of technology. A leading IT company in Turkey, NGN also has operations in UAE, Bahrain, and Qatar.

Listed among Turkey's 'Best-Performing IT Companies' and picked as the 'Top Data Backup & Storage Systems Integrator', NGN seamlessly manages customers' entire IT operational load with its system integration, datacenter, cloud, and managed service solutions – all offered under one roof.

NGN uses its turnkey systems integrator approach to deliver traditional IT solutions and services as well as solutions in many innovative areas such as the Internet of Things (IoT), Big Data & Analytics, Cloud, Virtual Reality & Augmented Reality, and Blockchain.

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