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AWS Direct Connect

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What?

- AWS Direct Connect establishes a dedicated network connection between your on-premises network and AWS. With this connection in place, you can create virtual interfaces directly to the AWS Cloud, bypassing public internet.
- AWS Direct Connect links your internal network to an AWS Direct Connect location over a standard Ethernet fiber-optic cable.

Why?

- The AWS Direct Connect service is the shortest path to your AWS resources. While in transit, your network traffic remains on the AWS global network and never touches the public internet. This reduces the chance of hitting bottlenecks or unexpected increases in latency.

When?

- You want to build hybrid applications that span AWS and on-premises networks.
- You want to ensure smooth and reliable data transfers at massive scale for large datasets and need a predictable performance.

Where?

- AWS Direct Connect is a global service and available at locations worldwide.
- An AWS Direct Connect location provides access to AWS in the Region with which it is associated. You can use a single connection in a public Region to access public AWS services in all other public Regions.

Who?

- When creating a new connection, you can choose a dedicated connection from AWS (1 Gbps, 10 Gbps, or 100 Gbps) or hosted connection provided by an AWS Direct Connect Delivery Partner (50 Mbps up to 10 Gbps).

How?

- After deciding on an AWS Direct Connect location and connection size, create your connection request on the AWS management console. Download Letter of Authorization (LoA) and provide it to an APN partner and ask them to establish the connection on your behalf.

How much?

- There are three factors that determine pricing: capacity (measured in Mbps Gbps), port hours (measure the time that a port is provisioned), and data transfer out (DTO) (charged per GB).
- AWS Direct Connect data transfer-in is free.