

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS EQUINIX AND ORACLE

1. What is the relationship between Equinix and Oracle?

Enterprises are now able to deploy hybrid cloud solutions by seamlessly integrating on-premises Oracle applications, databases, and compute and storage with Oracle Cloud running Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) and Platform as a Service (PaaS) public clouds. Oracle Cloud has a substantial presence in Equinix International Exchange Business™ (IBX®) data centers. Oracle Cloud is available through the Equinix interconnection platform, including Equinix Cloud Exchange Fabric™ (ECX Fabric) and Equinix Cross Connects.

2. Why has Oracle decided to make Oracle Cloud services available inside Equinix IBX data centers?

First, Oracle is leveraging Platform Equinix® to host a significant portion of its cloud because of the reliability, security and performance of Equinix IBX data centers. Second, Platform Equinix provides a ready-made business ecosystem of more than 9,800 customers and 1,700 networks globally. Many are already Oracle customers. The Equinix/Oracle relationship makes it easy for these customers to deploy a hybrid cloud, while providing a simple way for new customers to access Oracle Cloud through the Equinix Cloud Exchange Fabric.

3. What are the Oracle Cloud solutions?

- **Platform as a Service (PaaS)** is built on proven Oracle technology that runs everywhere. It delivers the industry's #1 database (Oracle Database) and #1 application server (Oracle WebLogic Server). Arguably, Oracle Cloud is the industry's leading enterprise cloud platform that mirrors the suite of Oracle applications
- **Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS)** offers a comprehensive set of infrastructure services that enables businesses to run any workload in the cloud, including Oracle's Bare Metal Cloud, elastic compute and storage

Please visit [Cloud.Oracle.com](https://cloud.oracle.com) to view the complete list of Oracle Cloud's wide variety of services.

4. Why should I choose Oracle Cloud?

Oracle is uniquely positioned with the broadest collection of cloud services, with solutions at every layer of the cloud technology stack, and the ability to move workloads and applications between cloud and on-premises environments seamlessly. The biggest barrier to cloud adoption has been security and performance challenges. Oracle and Equinix have addressed these concerns by offering Oracle FastConnect: a private and secure connection to Equinix Cloud Exchange Fabric. By connecting to the Equinix Cloud Exchange Fabric, customers have additional flexibility of accessing multiple public cloud services in their hybrid cloud strategy.

5. What is Oracle FastConnect and how does it work?

Oracle FastConnect enables customers to connect their on-premises network, data center or other network resources to Oracle via enterprise-grade links to Oracle's network edge. With Oracle FastConnect, enterprises gain a direct connection to dozens of leading PaaS and IaaS services that span database, Java, integration, analytics, compute and storage.

6. What are common use cases for Oracle FastConnect?

FastConnect is a good choice for any of the following use cases:

- Cloud native workloads that need to be privately accessible from inside the enterprise
- Hybrid workloads that span colocated customer-owned Oracle technology in a data center cage and resources in the cloud, and that require a predictable and consistent networking experience
- Moving workloads and data between public cloud networks, or from remote locations to elastic, on-demand deployed resources in the cloud

Many customers have made significant investments in their Oracle technology, including Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP), database services, service-oriented architecture (SOA) and Business Intelligence (BI). Oracle Cloud is the ideal service to extend the value of your existing investments by deploying hybrid cloud architecture, while offering a path to interconnect complete cloud-based solutions.

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Examples include:

- Connecting on-premises Oracle technology to Oracle Cloud
- Extending core Oracle database and ERP systems to data marts and Big Data in the cloud
- Deploying Oracle Cloud at Customer in a customer-owned Equinix IBX data center to meet regulatory, security and data sovereignty requirements with future upgrade to the cloud by colocating adjacent to the Oracle FastConnect locations
- Developing high-availability Disaster Recovery locations using Oracle Exadata backed up to Exadata as a Service in Oracle Cloud spanning distinct geographies
- Leveraging an Interconnection Oriented Architecture™ (IOA™) strategy within an Equinix IBX data center to deploy at the digital edge to move data and workloads between public cloud networks

7. What are some benefits of deploying on-premises infrastructure adjacent to an Oracle FastConnect location in an Equinix IBX® data center?

Today, enterprises are tasked with providing a consistent “omnichannel” experience in a global business environment, requiring enterprises to converge independent silos of business, technology and physical facilities into a single platform focused on the global roaming user. Unfortunately, today’s enterprise connectivity paradigm—where multiple individual long-distance interconnections emanate from the enterprise data center—does not meet the edge connectivity demands of the emerging converged enterprise.

Enterprises are responding by deploying an Interconnection Oriented Architecture (IOA) strategy that harnesses strategically distributed interconnection access centers—such as Oracle FastConnect—at the digital edge, or closest to users. Having direct, nearby, high-speed connections among colocated network and cloud services providers and business partners significantly reduces the exploding cost and management burden of interconnecting remotely-dispersed locations and users.

8. Where is Oracle FastConnect available?

FastConnect to Oracle’s Bare Metal Cloud service is available only in Washington, D.C., with new locations coming soon. Specific service availability should be confirmed by Oracle. Oracle Cloud is available through the Equinix Cloud Exchange Fabric in the following five metros:

Americas: Chicago and Washington, D.C.

Europe: Amsterdam and London

Asia Pacific: Sydney

9. What Oracle Cloud Services are available via FastConnect, and in which metros?

- **Oracle Bare Metal Cloud Services:** available in Washington, D.C., with new locations to be announced
- **IaaS and PaaS:** available in Chicago, Washington, D.C., Amsterdam, London and Sydney
- **Software as a Service (SaaS):** confirm specific service availability with Oracle

10. How can enterprises privately connect to Oracle Cloud?

Equinix Cloud Exchange Fabric: Enterprises colocated in the same metro location as an Oracle FastConnect location can use the Equinix Cloud Exchange Fabric to create a virtual circuit between their enterprise network and the appropriate services on Oracle Cloud. Enterprises in an Equinix IBX data center must order a port to the Cloud Exchange. The connection to Oracle is fully redundant from a switch fabric perspective, but Oracle does not require that an enterprise purchase redundant ports on the exchange. Once an enterprise has a port on the Cloud Exchange portal, it can order virtual connections to pass traffic directly to Oracle.

Cross connect: Enterprises colocated in the same metro location as an Oracle FastConnect location can order cross connects to Oracle Cloud. Bare Metal Cloud Services accept 10G port speed.

Note: Port speed for other services is defined during solutioning workshop

Multi-tenant aggregators: Network service providers, managed service providers and systems integrators use Equinix interconnection solutions to provide cloud access to their remote enterprise customer networks. Enterprises can ask their MPLS provider, network provider or hosting partner to procure access to Oracle Cloud on their behalf. Many networks use Equinix Cloud Exchange Fabric and/or cross connects to provide access to Oracle Cloud.

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11. What is the benefit of using Equinix Cloud Exchange Fabric to access Oracle Cloud compared to cross connects?

Equinix Cloud Exchange Fabric acts as an aggregation switch that enables many virtual connections over a single physical port. This connectivity method simplifies and speeds the process to create virtual circuits to Oracle Cloud. Once an enterprise has deployed physical ports to the Cloud Exchange, enterprises can quickly build and delete multiple virtual circuits over a single physical port. Furthermore, enterprises benefit from using multiple cloud services, such as connecting to Oracle Bare Metal Cloud services on one virtual circuit, while maintaining additional virtual circuits to connect to other Oracle IaaS, PaaS services, etc.

12. Can I connect my enterprise network to Oracle FastConnect locations in Equinix IBX data centers?

Yes, enterprises can deploy their enterprise network edge in an Equinix IBX data center by either deploying within Equinix or using a network service provider to connect to a given metro where FastConnect is offered.

Deploy within Equinix: Enterprises can connect to Oracle FastConnect locations in Equinix by working with their MPLS or WAN provider to order a circuit(s) to connect their physical location to the Equinix location.

Connect via network service provider: Enterprises that want to connect to Oracle Bare Metal Cloud Services should request their network service provider to deliver the circuit to any Equinix IBX data center in the given metro.

For the exact address, please contact your Equinix sales representative.

Country	City	Address
USA	Ashburn	21721 Filligree Ct., Ashburn, VA 20147
Germany	Frankfurt	Kleyerstrasse 90, 60326 Frankfurt, AM Main

(More coming soon)

For other Oracle Cloud services, contact your Oracle Account Representative for address and location information.

Technical Details

1. What are the requirements to connect Oracle FastConnect?

Before deploying Oracle Network Cloud Service FastConnect, customers should:

- Own networking gear to support 802.1Q (single-tag) or 802.1ad (Q-in-Q option available only if connecting via ECX Fabric) VLANs and Border Gateway Protocol (BGPv4)
- Provide a public or private BGP ASN for their corporate network
- Consider colocation with the Equinix IBX data center in the metro where they need the FastConnect service. If customers are not colocated in an Equinix IBX data center adjacent to Oracle FastConnect, they must choose one of many network service providers to set up this connection
- Order ports on the Equinix Cloud Exchange Fabric (ECX Fabric), connect their routers to them and use the ECX Fabric Portal to configure a virtual circuit to Oracle Cloud
- Possess a valid Oracle order for FastConnect with the appropriate port speed defined
- Provide public IPs to access Oracle Public Cloud services. Optionally configure NATing if needed
- Provide enterprise's private IP blocks that need to be announced to the Virtual Cloud Network (VCN) within Oracle's Bare Metal Cloud Services

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2. How do I connect to Oracle public cloud via FastConnect Partner Edition?

After ordering the FastConnect service from Oracle, use the Equinix Cloud Exchange Fabric (ECX Fabric) portal to order access to FastConnect. Equinix will provide the configuration information for your equipment to access FastConnect. After configuring your network routers, advertise your valid public IP prefixes to Equinix for bidirectional connectivity.

Important facts:

- To use Oracle FastConnect, you will need network equipment capable of supporting Layer 3 routing using BGP
- The connection speed options for FastConnect through ECX Fabric are 1Gbps and 10Gbps. Oracle FastConnect is set up to be redundant and highly available. To achieve end-to-end redundancy from your network edge, you will need to order redundant ports from Equinix, along with separate physical cross connects from redundant routers in your network to achieve end-to-end redundancy. You will need to configure your BGP peering with ECX Fabric with the information provided by Equinix in order to connect to Oracle FastConnect. Redundancy is highly recommended but not mandated. Contact the Equinix support team to obtain the ECX Fabric support guide for detailed steps
- You cannot advertise a private IP address to Oracle using FastConnect. You will need to advertise publicly routable IP addresses over your peering session with Equinix
- If you have configured redundant connections into ECX Fabric and only one of your links fails, you will not lose connectivity. If both your links to the ECX Fabric fail, you will not be able to use Oracle FastConnect until the connectivity is restored. However, you will not lose your access to Oracle services, as they will still be available through the public internet
- You cannot extend a VLAN from your network using Oracle FastConnect. Equinix does not support Layer 2 connectivity into Oracle FastConnect

3. How does Equinix Cloud Exchange Fabric orchestrate virtual connections directly to the Oracle network?

You can purchase 1GB and 10GB ports onto the Equinix Cloud Exchange Fabric platform. Given the architecture with Oracle, Equinix can provide additional value to enterprises by managing the Layer 3. Therefore, the enterprise will peer with ECX Fabric and propagate the routes to Oracle public cloud. This provides maximum flexibility in how you access Oracle Cloud. You must have a public or private ASN and public IP addresses that you own.

4. How do I order Oracle Cloud Solutions and Oracle FastConnect?

Contact your Oracle account manager. Oracle Bare Metal Cloud services can be ordered on the Oracle cloud portal: [Cloud.oracle.com/en_US/bare-metal](https://cloud.oracle.com/en_US/bare-metal)

5. I am connected with Equinix Cloud Exchange Fabric at a different city than where my Oracle services are provisioned. Can I use that same connection to access Oracle FastConnect?

No. You will need to order Oracle FastConnect at the location where your Oracle services are provisioned, and connect through the Equinix Cloud Exchange Fabric at that location. Work with your Equinix Account Manager to select network service providers that can provide a private link to the Equinix Cloud Exchange Fabric location where your Oracle services are provisioned.

6. How do I contact Equinix with additional questions or find out more information about the Oracle Cloud partnership?

Please visit the Oracle Cloud partner page: Equinix.com/partners/oracle-cloud/

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7. How is FastConnect for Oracle Bare Metal Cloud Services technically any different from FastConnect for Oracle public cloud?

With FastConnect for Oracle Bare Metal Cloud Services, the customer's router sets up BGP directly with the DRG inside Oracle cloud, enabling customers to directly announce private (RFC 1918) IP addresses over this BGP.

With FastConnect to Oracle public cloud, the customer's router sets up BGP with Equinix Cloud Exchange Fabric (ECX Fabric). ECX Fabric has pre-established the BGP session with Oracle that receives Oracle public routes for the given metro. Once the BGP session is established with ECX Fabric, customers can announce only publicly addressable IPs over this BGP. To exchange private IPs, customers have to set up IPsec tunnel over the FastConnect.

8. When setting up FastConnect for Oracle Bare Metal Cloud Services, why am I prompted for BGP information of ASN and peer IP address?

This is pass-through information that is communicated to Oracle Bare Metal Cloud Service to establish BGP between customer router and DRG within Oracle Cloud.