AWS Direct Connect
LIVE at M1 Melbourne
Customer FAQs

NEXTDC's M1 data centre houses Melbourne's only Point of Presence (POP) for AWS Direct Connect. Enjoy local, private access to AWS and integrate your cloud services, workloads and applications into a seamless, secure cloud deployment.

Q. What is AWS Direct Connect?

AWS Direct Connect is a network service provided by AWS that offers a high-speed and reliable alternative to using the public internet to access your AWS cloud services.

Q. What can I do with AWS Direct Connect?

Using AWS Direct Connect, data previously transported over the public internet is delivered over a private network connection between AWS and your data centre or corporate network. In many cases, you can reduce network costs, increase throughput and provide a more consistent network experience than internet-based connections.

Q. Where is AWS Direct Connect available?

NEXTDC house three Direct Connect POP locations in Melbourne, Canberra and Perth. For a complete list of Direct Connect locations, you can find them on the AWS **Product Details** page.

Q. How can I connect to AWS?

Melbourne based customers now have the choice of accessing AWS Direct Connect through a simple cross-connect at M1 or via NEXTDC's Ethernet connectivity platform AXON.

Q. Does having a Direct Connect POP in M1 have any advantages for customers in those data centres?

Yes, as a NEXTDC customer you have the ability to choose to access AWS Direct Connect via a standard cross connect without paying for intercapital backhaul costs.

Q. I don't have a rack in the M1 data centre, can I connect to AWS Direct Connect?

For non-NEXTDC residents, you simply access Direct Connect via NEXTDC's AXON Ethernet connectivity platform.

Q. How does AXON work with AWS Direct Connect?

AXON allows customers to connect to any AWS Direct Connect POP in Australia, from any of our AXON network locations. AXON can deliver Direct Connect services starting at 50 Mbit, right the way up to 10 Gbit.

Q. What's the difference between AXON and Direct Connect?

AXON is NEXTDC's Ethernet connectivity platform, enabling customers to connect virtually to their critical IT services, including clouds, service providers, carriers and alternative date centre locations. Direct Connect is Amazon's cloud interconnection product. Customers can access Direct Connect via a standard cross connect if they have rack in the same data centre location, or alternatively via AXON.

Q. What are the benefits of using AXON to connect to AWS Direct Connect?

Private network connections help reduce costs, increase bandwidth and provide a more consistent network experience than internet-based connections. And because your traffic bypasses the internet, AXON helps mitigate security risks and overheads involved in delivering services over a public network.

Q. Can I use my AXON port for any other forms of connectivity?

Yes. AXON facilitates private, secure connections between the people and places critical to your organisation. An AXON port allows you to create any number of virtual connections between your customers, carriers, data centres and cloud providers, including your AWS cloud.

Q. Which AWS services can be used with AWS Direct Connect?

All AWS services, including Amazon Elastic Compute Cloud (EC2), Amazon Virtual Private Cloud (VPC), Amazon Simple Storage Service (S3), and Amazon DynamoDB can be used with AWS Direct Connect. See **aws.amazon.com/directconnect** for more information.

Q. Can I use the same private network connection with Amazon Virtual Private Cloud (VPC) and other AWS services simultaneously?

Yes. Each AWS Direct Connect connection can be configured with one or more virtual interfaces. Virtual interfaces may be configured to access AWS services such as Amazon EC2 and Amazon S3 using public IP space, or resources in a VPC using private IP space.

Q. Does it make a difference which Direct Connect POP I connect to?

Depending on your location, it can make a huge difference which Direct Connect location you connect through. Customers located in states without an AWS Direct Connect enabled POP incur intercapital backhaul costs to route traffic back to Sydney. With the AWS Direct Connect POP's now available in Melbourne, Perth and Canberra, local customers can simply route their traffic to their nearest POP to help reduce unnecessary intercapital backhaul costs.

Q. I already connect to Direct Connect in Sydney, how will establishing a second Direct Connect interconnect benefit me?

Multi-city organisations now have the ability to establish connections to their AWS cloud services via multiple Direct Connect locations, allowing you to improve network performance and reduce overheads associated with intercapital backhaul and provides the ability establish geo-redundancy across your AWS cloud interconnects.

Q. Where can I learn more about direct connectivity to AWS via AXON?

Contact your Account Manager at NEXDC to arrange a one on one briefing. Alternatively visit the **AXON** or **Direct Connect** pages on the NEXTDC website.

Q. How can I get started with AWS Direct Connect?

Contact your NEXTDC Account Manager and let us take care of the rest.