

# CenturyLink® Cloud Connect: MPLS/IPVPN to AWS (w/Dedicated Cross Connect)

## Direct, Secure, Private Connection to AWS

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# Purpose

**The purpose of this document is to provide an end-to-end walk through for a customer setting up Direct Connect for the first time via CenturyLink's Cloud Connect with Dedicated Cross Connect.**

**Information contained is provided to serve as a supplement to AWS documentation linked throughout this document. Users should check the provided links to obtain the most up-to-date information and for more details pertaining to AWS processes.**

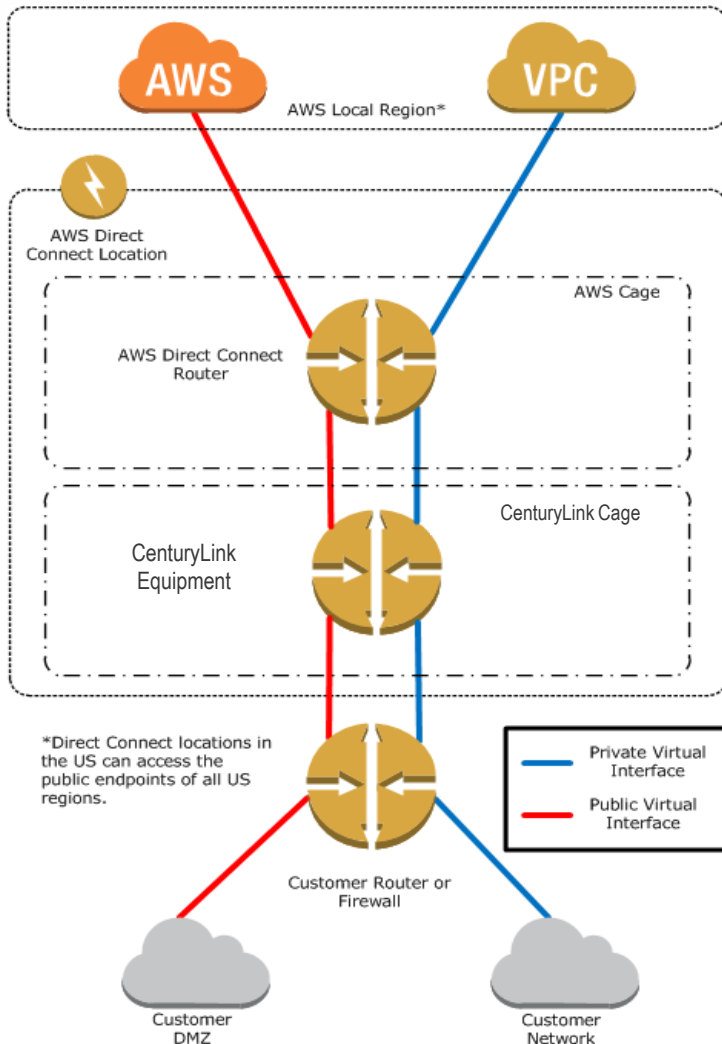
Disclaimer: The material in this guide is for informational purposes only and is taken from AWS's website material. All AWS related configuration information is based off of the AWS Console configuration instructions from the AWS website.

# Contents / Steps

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# 1) Background Information

What is AWS Direct Connect (<https://aws.amazon.com/directconnect/>)



**AWS Direct Connect links your internal network to an AWS Direct Connect location.**

**One end of the connection is connected to your network, the other to an AWS Direct Connect router.**

**With this connection in place, you can create virtual interfaces directly to the AWS cloud services, bypassing the public Internet.**

**An AWS Direct Connect location provides access to Amazon Web Services in the region it is associated with, as well as access to other US regions.**

**For example, you can provision connections to any AWS Direct Connect location in the US and use it to access public AWS services in all US Regions.**

# 2) Background Information

## Getting Started with AWS Direct Connect (<https://aws.amazon.com/directconnect/getting-started/>)

- This document is for Cloud Connect services connecting to AWS Direct Connect with a dedicated cross connect.
- The supporting service ordered from CenturyLink is Dedicated Cloud Connect to AWS.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> option in the scenarios below (screenshot from the AWS Direct Connect Getting Started webpage – link above) is applicable to this CenturyLink service type.

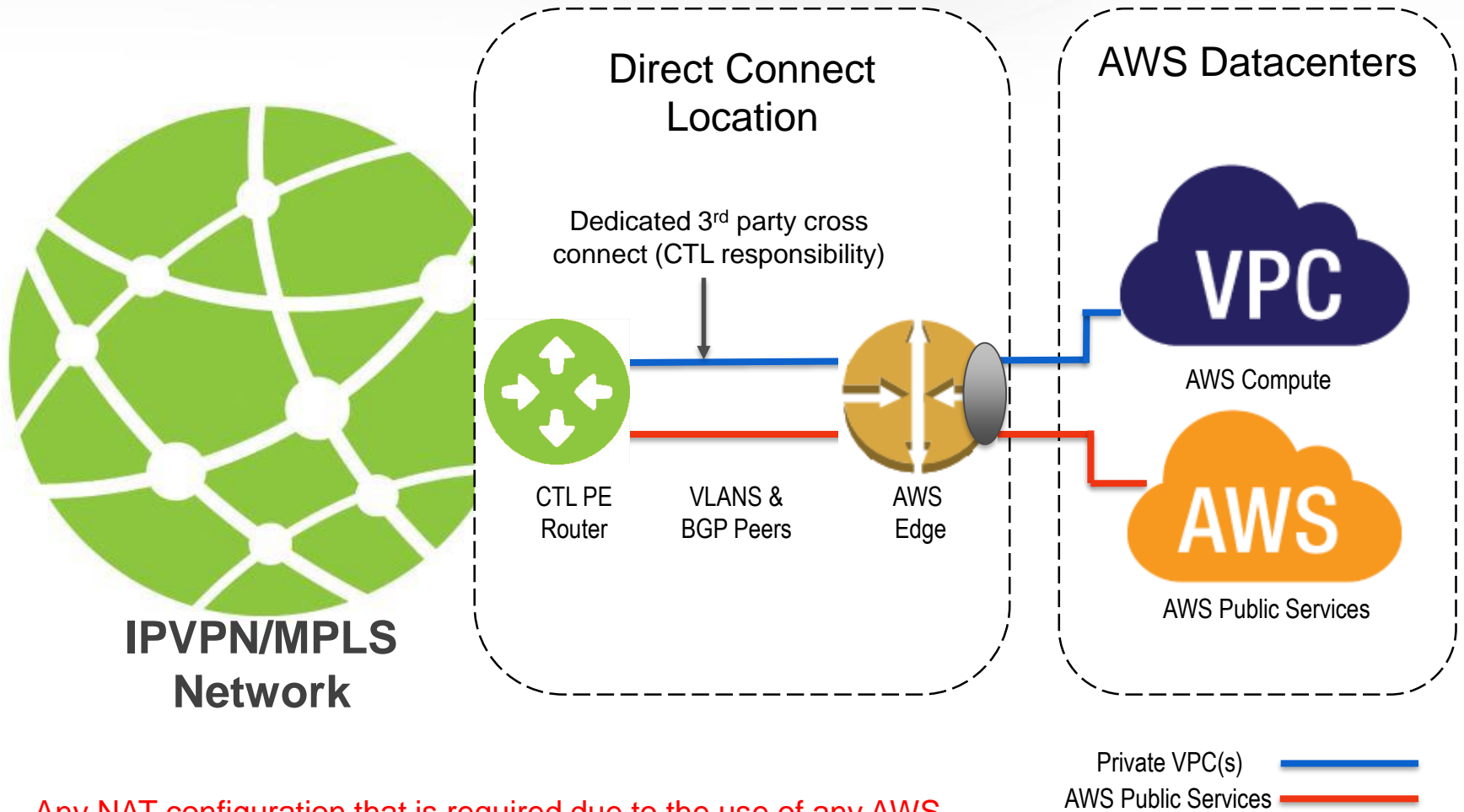
AWS Direct Connect enables you to directly interface your on-premises network with a device at an AWS Direct Connect location. The following procedures demonstrate the common scenarios to get set up with an AWS Direct Connect connection. You can also refer to the article [How do I provision an AWS Direct Connect connection?](#) in the Knowledge Center.

You can set up an AWS Direct Connect connection in one of the following ways.

Scenario	Method
Present at AWS Direct Connect Location	Connect directly to an AWS device from your router at an AWS Direct Connect location using 1Gbps or 10Gbps connection.
Connect from your premises	Work with a partner in the <a href="#">AWS Partner Network (APN)</a> or a network provider that will help you connect a router from your data center, office, or colocation environment to an AWS Direct Connect location. The network provider does not have to be a member of the APN to connect you.
Connection via AWS Direct Connect Partner	Work with a partner in the <a href="#">AWS Partner Network (APN)</a> who will create a hosted connection for you. Sign up for AWS, and then follow the instructions to <a href="#">accept your hosted connection</a> .



### 3) Topology - Dedicated Cloud Connect for AWS Direct Connect



- Any NAT configuration that is required due to the use of any AWS Public Services will be the responsibility of the customer.

# 4) Roles and Responsibilities

## Roles and Responsibilities

STEPS REQUIRED TO SET UP AWS DIRECT CONNECT CONNECTIVITY	END CUSTOMER	CENTURYLINK	AWS
<b>SET UP CONNECTIVITY TO AWS DIRECT CONNECT LOCATION</b>			
Order CenturyLink Dedicated Cloud Connect service(s) to AWS Direct Connect	X		
Provide LOA/CFA to CenturyLink Account Team	X		
Create Virtual Circuit to AWS		X	
Monitor Virtual Circuit to AWS		X	
<b>SET UP BGP PEERING BETWEEN CENTURYLINK PROVIDER EDGE AND AWS EDGE DEVICE</b>			
Configure BGP Peering on CenturyLink PE Router facing AWS		X	
Configure BGP Peering on AWS side via Portal facing CenturyLink	X		
<b>LINK SERVICES ON AWS TO THE DEDICATED CIRCUIT</b>			
Create & link Virtual Interface, Virtual Private Gateway, VPC, Direct Connect Gateway etc.. As applicable via AWS Console	X		

## 5) Customer requests CenturyLink Cloud Connect service

- To order CenturyLink Cloud Connect to AWS Direct Connect, contact your CenturyLink Account Representative
- Information needed by CenturyLink to complete the connection:
  - ❑ AWS service(s) you are connecting to
    - ❑ Public Virtual Interface (VIF) Requirements
    - ❑ VPC / VIF / Direct Connect Gateway Requirements
      - ❑ Identify how many VPCs/VIFs etc you need connectivity to
        - ❑ Each VPC/VIF requires a separate logical connection with Dedicated Cloud Connect IPVPN/MPLS from CenturyLink
    - ❑ Determine the amount of bandwidth needed to each VPC/VIF
  - ❑ Which AWS Region and/or Direct Connect location do you require connectivity to
  - ❑ What contractual term length is desired (1yr, 3yr, 5yr etc...)
  - ❑ Confirm you will be providing LOA/CFA to CenturyLink for connection at the Direct Connect location.



## 6) Creating the Direct Connect and Generating LOA/CFA

[https://docs.aws.amazon.com/directconnect/latest/UserGuide/getting\\_started.html](https://docs.aws.amazon.com/directconnect/latest/UserGuide/getting_started.html)

For Dedicated Cloud Connect to AWS Direct Connect service, you will need to obtain LOA/CFA from AWS via your AWS user console. To do this you first need to create an AWS Direct Connect, then select the appropriate Direct Connect Location, which will then generate an LOA/CFA.

Once you obtain the LOA/CFA document, please provide it to your CenturyLink account team immediately. This is required for the CenturyLink account team to submit your order for services to be provisioned.

Before you create the Direct Connect via the AWS user console, please ensure you have the following information:

- The port speed that you require. You cannot change the port speed after you've created the connection request. This port speed will match that of the CenturyLink Cloud Connect port speed (either 1Gb or 10Gb).
- The AWS Direct Connect location at which the connection is to be terminated.  
*If you are not sure what these are, please consult with your CenturyLink Sales Engineer*

To complete the above steps, please see instructions from the AWS website continued on the next 2 pages.

## 7) Creating the AWS Direct Connect from the AWS User Console

[https://docs.aws.amazon.com/directconnect/latest/UserGuide/getting\\_started.html](https://docs.aws.amazon.com/directconnect/latest/UserGuide/getting_started.html)

### To create a new AWS Direct Connect connection

1. Open the AWS Direct Connect console at <https://console.aws.amazon.com/directconnect/>.
2. In the navigation bar, select the Region for the connection.
3. On the **Welcome to AWS Direct Connect** screen, choose **Get Started with Direct Connect**.
4. In the **Create a Connection** dialog box, do the following:
  - a. For **Connection Name**, type a name for the connection.
  - b. For **LAG Association**, specify whether the connection is standalone, or if it should be associated with a link aggregation group (LAG) in your account. This option is only available if you have a LAG in your account. To associate the connection with a LAG, select the LAG ID. The connection is created with the same port speed and location as specified in the LAG. For more information, see [Link Aggregation Groups](#).
  - c. For **Location**, select the appropriate AWS Direct Connect location.
  - d. If applicable, for **Sub Location**, choose the floor closest to you or your network provider. This option is only available if the location has meet-me rooms (MMRs) in multiple floors of the building.
  - e. Select the appropriate port speed, and then choose **Create**.

Only if applicable

It can take up to 72 hours for AWS to review your request and provision a port for your connection. During this time, you may receive an email with a request for more information about your use case or the specified location. The email is sent to the email address that you used when you signed up for AWS. You must respond within 7 days or the connection is deleted.

# 8) Obtaining LOA/CFA from the AWS User Console

[https://docs.aws.amazon.com/directconnect/latest/UserGuide/getting\\_started.html](https://docs.aws.amazon.com/directconnect/latest/UserGuide/getting_started.html)

After you request a connection, AWS makes a Letter of Authorization and Connecting Facility Assignment (LOA-CFA) available to you to download, or emails you with a request for more information. The LOA-CFA is the authorization to connect to AWS, and is required by the colocation provider or your network provider to establish the cross-network connection (cross-connect).

## To download the LOA-CFA

1. Open the AWS Direct Connect console at <https://console.aws.amazon.com/directconnect/>.
2. In the navigation pane, choose **Connections**.
3. Select the connection and choose **Actions, Download LOA-CFA**.

### Note

If the link is not enabled, the LOA-CFA is not yet available for you to download. Check your email for a request for more information. If it's still unavailable, or you haven't received an email after 72 hours, contact [AWS Support](#).

4. Optionally type the name of your provider to have it to appear with your company name as the requester in the LOA-CFA. Choose **Download**. The LOA-CFA is downloaded to your computer as a PDF file.
5. After you've downloaded the LOA-CFA, do one of the following:
  - If you're working with an APN member or network provider, send them the LOA-CFA so that they can order a cross-connect for you at the AWS Direct Connect location. If they cannot order the cross-connect for you, you can **contact the colocation provider** directly.

AWS Direct Connect locations that are listed as multiple sites (for example, Equinix DC1-DC6 & DC10-DC11) are set up as a campus. If your or your network provider's equipment is located in any of these sites, you can request a cross connect to your assigned port even if it resides in a different campus building.

### Important

A campus is treated as a single AWS Direct Connect location. To achieve high availability, configure connections to different AWS Direct Connect locations.

### IMPORTANT:

**Once you have the LOA/CFA, please email it to your CenturyLink Account Team as your order cannot be placed until this is received**



## 9) CenturyLink and Customer Provisions Cloud Connect to AWS

- **Upon network order submission, CenturyLink will provision a Layer 3 IPVPN/MPLS connection to the requested interconnect point**
  - CenturyLink will configure VLAN Tagging and Layer 3 BGP Routing on the CenturyLink PE Router(s).
- **CenturyLink completes configuration, and provides Customer with necessary information that you will need to configure the Layer 3 turn up on the AWS side via the AWS user console:**
  - IP subnet(s)
  - Autonomous System Number (ASN) info for BGP peering
  - BGP Authorization Key
  - VLAN ID
- Upon provisioning completion by CenturyLink, you will receive the configuration information from the CenturyLink provisioning with instructions as to order completion, activation scheduling, etc.. As applicable to your order.

# 10) Additional AWS Direct Connect Resources

Overview	<a href="https://aws.amazon.com/directconnect/">https://aws.amazon.com/directconnect/</a>
Details	<a href="http://docs.aws.amazon.com/directconnect/latest/UserGuide/Welcome.html">http://docs.aws.amazon.com/directconnect/latest/UserGuide/Welcome.html</a>
VPC Endpoints	<a href="http://docs.aws.amazon.com/AmazonVPC/latest/UserGuide/vpc-endpoints.html">http://docs.aws.amazon.com/AmazonVPC/latest/UserGuide/vpc-endpoints.html</a>
Pricing	<a href="https://aws.amazon.com/directconnect/pricing/">https://aws.amazon.com/directconnect/pricing/</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There are different price rates for traffic to the local AWS region and remote AWS regions</li></ul>
FAQ	<a href="https://aws.amazon.com/directconnect/faqs/">https://aws.amazon.com/directconnect/faqs/</a>
Getting Started	<a href="https://docs.aws.amazon.com/directconnect/latest/UserGuide/getting_started.html">https://docs.aws.amazon.com/directconnect/latest/UserGuide/getting_started.html</a>
AWS Direct Connect Limits	<a href="https://docs.aws.amazon.com/directconnect/latest/UserGuide/Welcome.html#directconnect_limits">https://docs.aws.amazon.com/directconnect/latest/UserGuide/Welcome.html#directconnect_limits</a>
Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A single CenturyLink Dedicated IPVPN/MPLS Cloud Connect service will support connectivity to a single Virtual Interface (VIF) / VPC or a single Direct Connect Gateway. To support additional VIFs/VPCs/Direct Connect Gateways, please order additional Cloud Connect logical connections. See your CenturyLink Account Team for additional details as needed.</li></ul>