

## Connecting to IBM Cloud Direct Link

IBM Direct Link lets you create private connections between their remote network environments and their IBM Cloud deployments.

When connecting to IBM through a Direct Link with Megaport, the Virtual Cross Connect (VXC) forms the Layer 2 component of the connection. Layer 3 BGP connectivity is established directly between the customer and IBM Cloud.

## Benefits of IBM Direct Link through Megaport

The benefits of creating an IBM Direct Link through Megaport include:

- Reduced latency, increased availability
- Reduced data egress cost
- Secure connectivity

## Creating a connection to IBM Direct Link

To set up IBM Direct Link with Megaport, you need to open a ticket with IBM to create the Direct Link with Megaport as the provider, and then you need to create a VXC from your Port to the Direct Link.

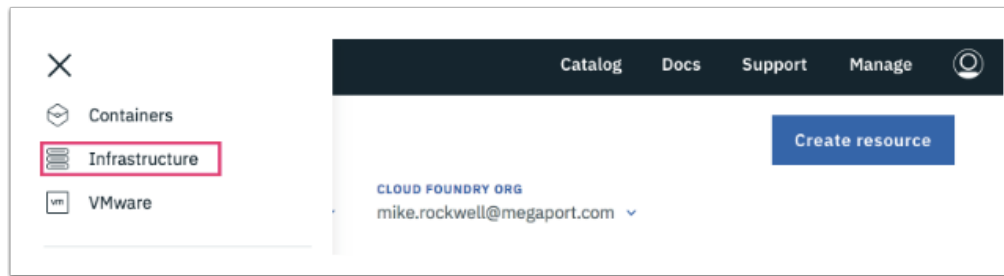
Design considerations when setting up your Direct Link to IBM Cloud:

- Redundancy: Megaport supports redundant connections. In each of the Direct Link peering locations, Megaport has established two diverse Direct Links with IBM Cloud. In the [Megaport Portal](#), the Ports are noted as Port 1 and Port 2. A redundant configuration requires two or more VXC's.
- Local/Global Routing Options: The Local Routing option provides access to data centers with the same three-letter prefix as the Point of Presence (such as DAL, AMS, and MEL). The Global Routing option is required as an add-on to reach data centers outside of those locations. For details on local and global routing options, see the [IBM cloud documentation](#).
- Port speed options for IBM Direct Link Connect are 50 Mbps, 100 Mbps, 200 Mbps, 500 Mbps, 1 Gbps, 2 Gbps, or 5 Gbps. For pricing details from IBM, see [Pricing for IBM Cloud Direct Link](#).
- Megaport-Enabled Direct Link Locations:
  - North America: Ashburn, Dallas, San Jose, Toronto
  - Europe: Amsterdam, Frankfurt, London
  - Melbourne, Sydney

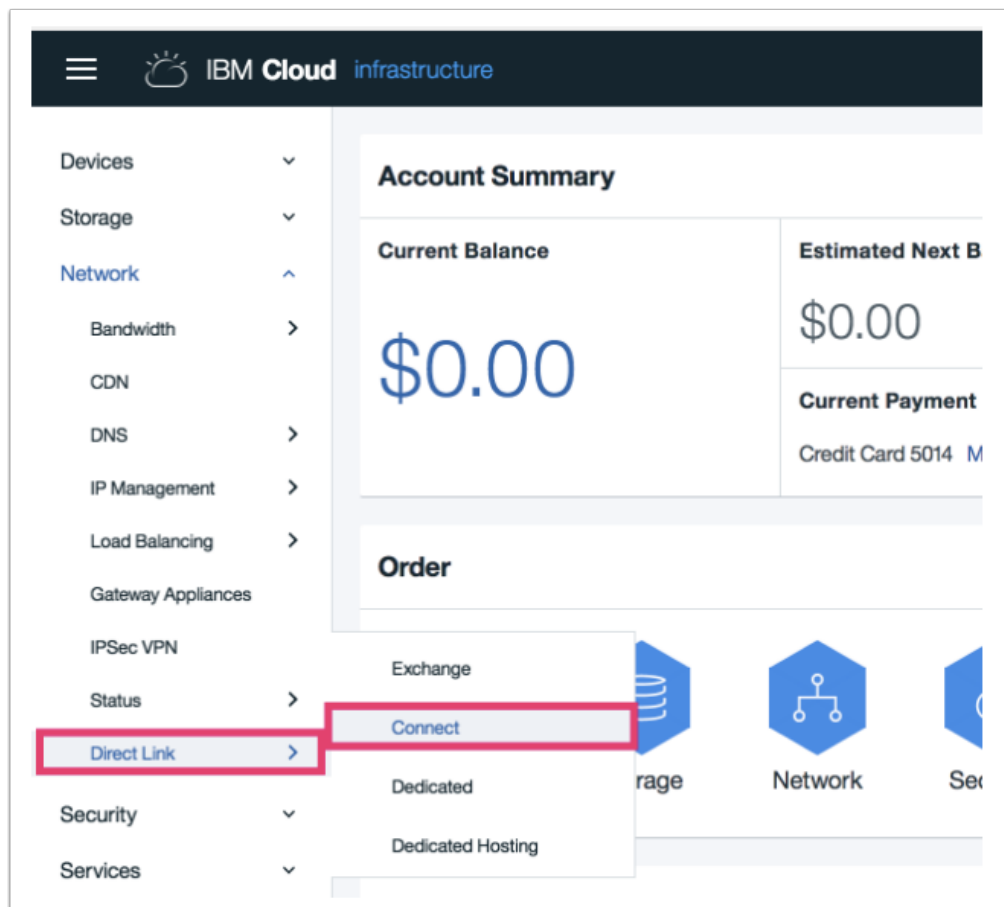
### **To create a ticket with IBM for the Direct Link Connect through Megaport**

1. Log in to the [IBM Cloud](#).

2. Click the main menu in the IBM Cloud and select Infrastructure.

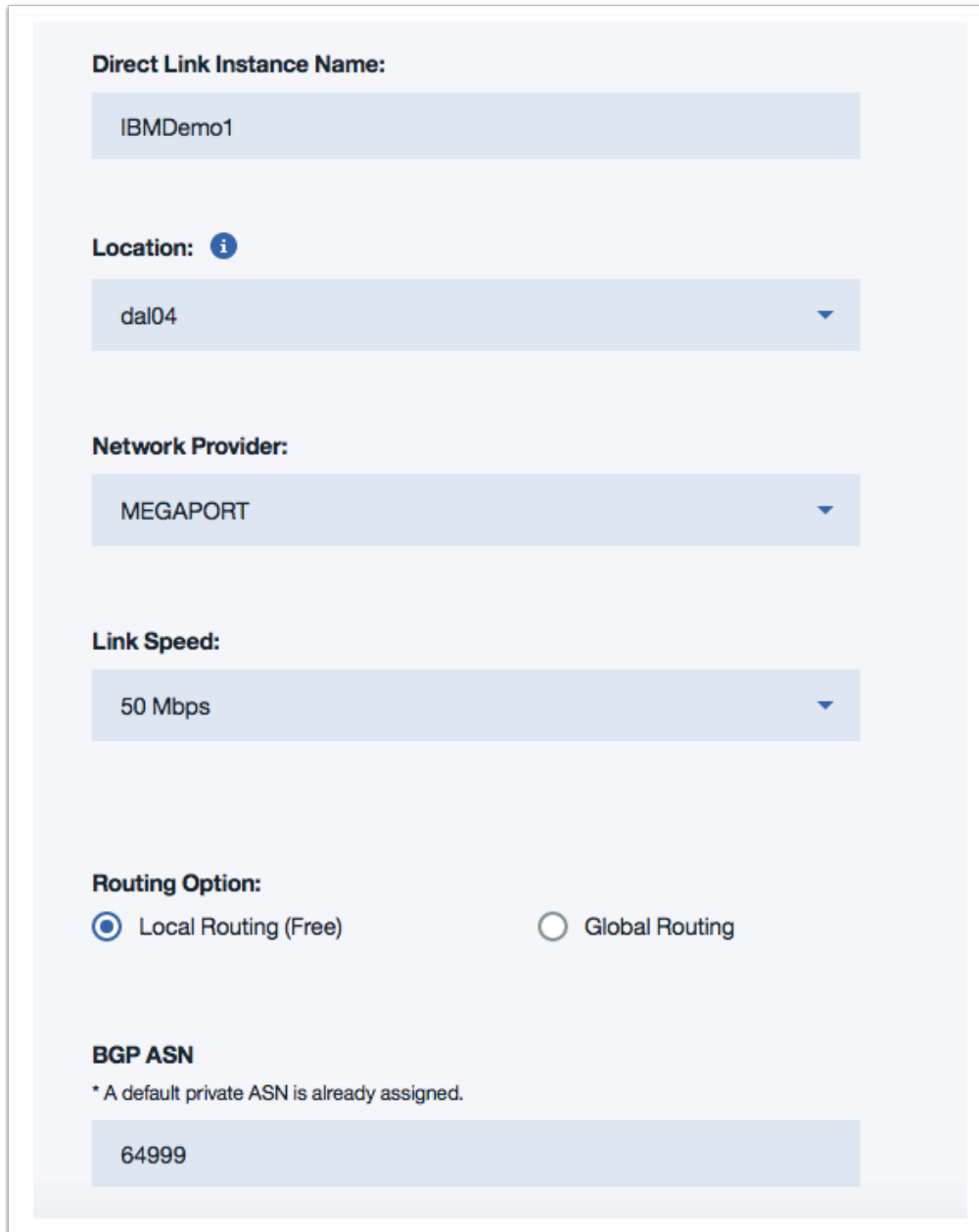


3. Select Direct Link > Connect.



4. Name your Direct Link in the IBM Cloud and select your peering location, provider (Megaport), port speed, routing option (Local /

Global), and ASN.



The screenshot shows a configuration form for a Direct Link Instance. The fields are as follows:

- Direct Link Instance Name:** IBMDemo1
- Location:** dal04 (with an information icon)
- Network Provider:** MEGAPORT
- Link Speed:** 50 Mbps
- Routing Option:** Local Routing (Free) (selected), Global Routing
- BGP ASN:** 64999 (with a note: \* A default private ASN is already assigned.)

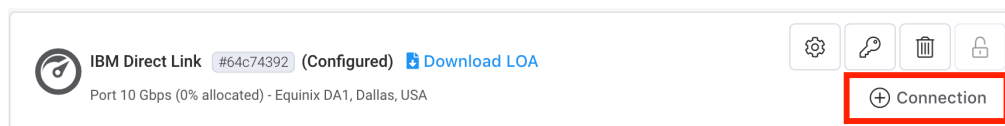
5. Click **Next**.
6. Acknowledge the terms and conditions.
7. Click **Create**.

You are provided with an IBM Cloud Ticket number. Copy the IBM Cloud Ticket and go to the Megaport Portal to provision a VXC to the IBM Direct Link Connect peering location.

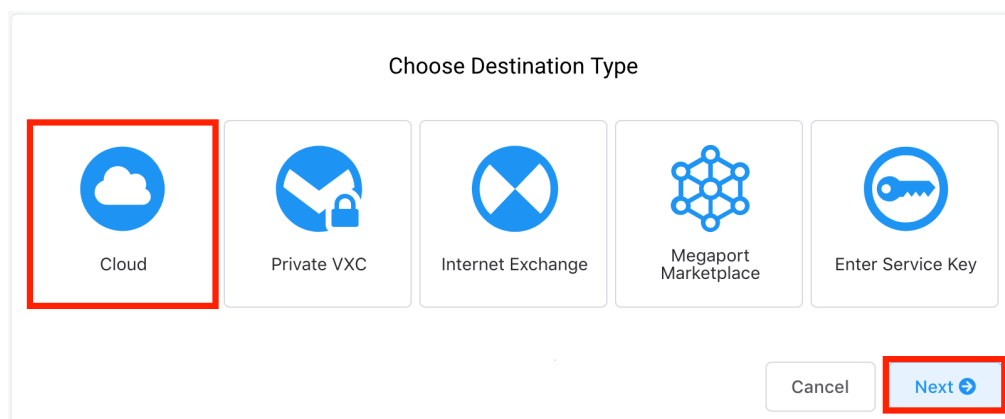
### To create a VXC to the IBM Direct Link Connect

1. In the **Megaport Portal**, find the Port to attach your VXC and click **+Connection**.

If you haven't already created a Port, see [Creating a Port](#).




2. Click the **Cloud** tile and click **Next**.





3. Select IBM Cloud as the provider.
4. Select the IBM Direct Link location where the peer will be set up with IBM Cloud and click **Next**.  
This destination should match the peer location selected in the IBM


## Cloud.


**\* Select Provider**


 **AMS-IX**  
4 Ports


 **AWS**  
35 Ports

 **Alibaba Cloud Computing Ltd**  
8 Ports

 **Azure ExpressRoute**  
78 Ports


 **Google Inc**  
37 Ports


 **IBM Cloud**  
17 Ports


 **Nutanix, Inc.**  
9 Ports


**\* Select Destination Port**


Country Filter ▼


 **IBM Cloud Direct Link Dallas Port 1**  
Digital Realty DAL1, US


 **IBM Cloud Direct Link Dallas Port 2**  
Digital Realty DAL1, US

 **IBM Cloud Direct Link Frankfurt Port 1**  
Interxion FRA8, DE

 **IBM Cloud Direct Link London Port 1**  
Equinix LD5, UK

 **IBM Cloud Direct Link Melbourne Port 1**  
NextDC M1, AU

 **IBM Cloud Direct Link San Jose Port 1**  
Equinix SV1, US

 **IBM Cloud Direct Link Sydney Port 1**  
Equinix SY1/2/4, AU

Cancel
← Back
Next →

### 5. Specify these connection details:

- **Name your connection** – Enter the IBM Cloud ticket number.
- **Invoice Reference** – This is an optional field. It can be any text, such as a PO number or billing reference number.
- **Rate Limit** – This is the speed of your connection in Mbps. In most cases, match the port speed created in the IBM Cloud.
- **Preferred A-End VLAN** – Optionally, specify an unused VLAN ID for this connection. This must be a unique VLAN ID on this Port and can range from 2 to 4093. If you specify a VLAN ID that is already in use, the system displays the next available VLAN number. The VLAN ID must be unique to proceed with the order. If you don't specify a value, Megaport will assign one. Alternatively, you can click **Untag** to remove the VLAN tagging for this connection. The untagged option limits you to only one

VXC deployed on this Port.

\* Name your connection

Invoice Reference

\* Rate Limit  MAX: 10000 Mbps

Preferred A-End VLAN Untag

VLAN is available

6. Click **Next** and add the VXC proceed through the checkout process.

IBM will verify the IBM Cloud Ticket number and send you a /30 or /31 Private IP to provision for BGP.

To connect your IBM Direct Link to complete your private connection to your IBM Cloud environment, see the IBM topic [Configuring Direct Link on Classic](#).

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Last update: