

# What is data center interconnection and what are the different types?

For data center and telecommunication networks, interconnection is the physical linking of one network to another to mutually exchange traffic. Back in the early internet days of the mid-90s, interconnection was between networks and Internet Service Providers (ISPs). Today, interconnection is the ecosystem that powers digital business, extending the capability of networks by providing virtual or physical connectivity to customers, providers, suppliers, or other business locations, to just about wherever you require.



## Cross-Connect

A physical link (usually a patch cord) that connects two parts of a network. Cross-connects are used to connect different services, different customers, or different applications and provide an essential point of flexibility in the physical network infrastructure.



## Campus

A collection of data centers on a single site. Ultra-high fiber counts are required between the data centers in order to provide cross-connects between customers and/or services located in different buildings. Applications are usually sharing content and data, providing back-ups, and enabling greater resiliency.



## Metro

Dedicated high-speed, low-latency connection between data centers in the same metro area.



## Service Exchange

Create private, fast connections to multiple clouds or providers across regions or continents.



## Internet Exchange

Connect with telecom, cloud, and content providers on a unified, high-performance, high-speed network.