

# Alibaba Cloud

## Express Connect Notice









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# Document conventions

Style	Description	Example
 <b>Danger</b>	A danger notice indicates a situation that will cause major system changes, faults, physical injuries, and other adverse results.	 <b>Danger:</b> Resetting will result in the loss of user configuration data.
 <b>Warning</b>	A warning notice indicates a situation that may cause major system changes, faults, physical injuries, and other adverse results.	 <b>Warning:</b> Restarting will cause business interruption. About 10 minutes are required to restart an instance.
 <b>Notice</b>	A caution notice indicates warning information, supplementary instructions, and other content that the user must understand.	 <b>Notice:</b> If the weight is set to 0, the server no longer receives new requests.
 <b>Note</b>	A note indicates supplemental instructions, best practices, tips, and other content.	 <b>Note:</b> You can use Ctrl + A to select all files.
>	Closing angle brackets are used to indicate a multi-level menu cascade.	Click <b>Settings</b> > <b>Network</b> > <b>Set network type</b> .
<b>Bold</b>	Bold formatting is used for buttons, menus, page names, and other UI elements.	Click <b>OK</b> .
Courier font	Courier font is used for commands	Run the <code>cd /d C:/window</code> command to enter the Windows system folder.
<i>Italic</i>	Italic formatting is used for parameters and variables.	<code>bae log list --instanceid</code> <i>Instance_ID</i>
[] or [a b]	This format is used for an optional value, where only one item can be selected.	<code>ipconfig [-all -t]</code>
{ } or {a b}	This format is used for a required value, where only one item can be selected.	<code>switch {active stand}</code>

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# 1. Announcement: changes made to hosted connections

Starting October 28, 2021, Alibaba Cloud offers shared ports for Express Connect users. The following content describes the changes brought by the new feature, including how users create hosted connections and the billing of hosted connections.

## Changes for Express Connect partners

- Hosted connection creation: Express Connect partners must create shared ports instead of virtual border routers (VBRs) for tenants to establish hosted connections. Express Connect partners will not be able to create VBRs for tenants. For more information, see [Overview](#).
- Hosted connection billing: Alibaba Cloud no longer charges initial installation fees, resource usage fees, or VBR fees from Express Connect partners. Instead, Alibaba Cloud charges resource usage fees and outbound data transfer fees from tenants. For more information, see [Billing of hosted connections over Express Connect circuits](#).

- Existing cross-account VBRs

The VBRs that Express Connect partners previously created for tenants will not be suspended. In addition, the adjustment does not affect the billing of these VBRs. We recommend that Express Connect partners add shared ports for tenants to manage their hosted connections with which the VBRs are associated. The process does not cause service interruptions. For more information, see [Operation guide for Express Connect partners](#).

- New hosted connections

Before an Express Connect partner can create a hosted connection for a tenant, the Express Connect partner must acquire the required permissions to create shared ports. To acquire the permissions to create shared ports, contact a customer service manager or to Alibaba Cloud.

## Details

### Impact

## Changes for tenants

- Hosted connection creation: Express Connect partners must create shared ports instead of VBRs for tenants to establish hosted connections. For more information, see [Overview](#).
- Hosted connection billing: Alibaba Cloud no longer charges initial installation fees, resource usage fees, or VBR fees from Express Connect partners. Instead, Alibaba Cloud charges resource usage fees and outbound data transfer fees from tenants. For more information, see [Billing of hosted connections over Express Connect circuits](#).

We recommend that tenants contact Express Connect partners to add shared ports for the existing hosted connections. The process does not cause service interruptions. For more information, see [Operation guide for tenants](#).

## Details

### Impact

## 2.Cancellation of free outbound data transfer quota

Valued Express Connect users,

Beginning July 1, 2021, Express Connect charges outbound data transfer fees. In addition, the following changes are made to Express Connect:

- You are no longer charged initial installation fees.
- You are no longer charged virtual border router (VBR) fees.
- You are charged outbound data transfer fees. For more information about the billing for outbound data transfer, see [Billing](#).

After you enable billing for outbound data transfer, you can use 50 TB of outbound data transfer free of charge each month.

The free quota on outbound data transfer expires on December 31, 2022. Starting January 1, 2023, Express Connect no longer provides free outbound data transfer quotas. You will be charged for all of the outbound data transfer incurred in your service. We recommend that you enable billing for outbound data transfer at the earliest opportunity.

For more information about how to enable billing for outbound data transfer, see [Enable billing for outbound data transfer](#).

For more information about the billing of the Express Connect service, see [Billing](#). Thank you for your continued support.

# 3.Expired physical connection instances will be deleted in Express Connect

Dear Express Connect users,

Starting from 10:00:00, February 13, 2020, Alibaba Cloud will begin to delete expired physical connection instances in Express Connect. These expired physical connection instances have overdue payments for port resource usage and not associated with Virtual Border Routers (VBRs). During this deletion, you can manage your workloads in Alibaba Cloud without service disruption.

The overdue physical connection instances will be automatically deleted 15 days after they are suspended.

## 4.Notification on deleting invalid Express Connect physical connections

Dear Express Connect users,

Starting from 10:00:00 of January 6, 2020, Alibaba Cloud will begin to delete invalid Express Connect physical connections. Invalid physical connections include physical connections whose initial installation fees have not been paid and are therefore invalid. This operation will not affect any service you have deployed on Alibaba Cloud.



## 5. Notice on annual lockdown periods

Dear Alibaba Cloud customers,


During major events of China, data centers of Chinese service providers will be locked down, which will affect the leased line installation schedule.

Data centers of Chinese service providers will be locked down during the following periods:

- Chinese New Year: Lunar December 28 to January 9 of the next year.
- NPC and CPPCC sessions: start from March 3rd and generally last 11 to 18 days.
- 6.18 Midyear Shopping Festival: May 29 to June 3 and June 15 to 19.
- 9.9 Bargain Festival: September 4 to 9.
- National Day: September 29 to October 7.
- Double 11: October 28 to November 12.
- Double 12: November 30 to December 13.
- Chinese New Year Shopping Festival: January 18 to 20.

During the lockdown of data centers, your services can be affected in the following ways:

1. During the lockdown periods, no one is allowed in or out of the data centers. No operations involving circuit and data adjustments are allowed, such as routing policy modifications, bandwidth adjustments, and network cutover. Only server reset and emergencies are handled.
2. During the lockdown periods, no visitor permits are issued.

 **Note** Lockdown of data centers constitutes a force majeure. Alibaba Cloud should not be held responsible for its impact on the promised installation schedule.

## 6. Notice on peering connections upgrade to CEN instances

Peering connections became unavailable for purchase as of June 20, 2019. You can migrate the VPCs and virtual border routers (VBRs) that were created for peering connections to Cloud Enterprise Network (CEN) instances.

Compared with Express Connect peering connections, CEN provides more flexible and convenient VPC connections. The following table compares the basic functions of Express Connect peering connections and CEN instances.

Item	CEN	Express Connect
Network connection	<p>Network-wide interconnection</p> <p>All networks (VPCs and Virtual Border Routers) associated with a CEN instance are interconnected with each other. A secure, reliable, and high-speed intranet communication channel can be established between any two networks.</p>	<p>Single point interconnection</p> <p>Express Connect connections cannot be extended. Specifically, the VPCs or on-premises data centers that are connected through Express Connect can only communicate with the peer VPCs.</p>
Route management	<p>Dynamic learning</p> <p>Based on the Fullmesh link, CEN dynamically learns and distributes routes, which improves the convergence of routes, and the quality and security of network communication.</p>	<p>Manual configuration</p> <p>Express Connect requires end-to-end manual route configuration.</p>
Bandwidth management	<p>Cross-region shared bandwidth package</p> <p>CEN provides bandwidth packages which are sold by region to facilitate cross-region bandwidth adjustments. Bandwidth packages also help optimize resource allocation and save costs.</p>	<p>Point-to-point purchase</p> <p>The bandwidth of an Express Connect connection must be specified when you create the connection. You can adjust the bandwidth value after you create an Express Connect connection, but you cannot change the connected regions.</p>