

Alibaba Cloud Express Connect

Notice

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Document conventions

Style	Description	Example
	A danger notice indicates a situation that will cause major system changes, faults, physical injuries, and other adverse results.	 Danger: Resetting will result in the loss of user configuration data.
	A warning notice indicates a situation that may cause major system changes, faults, physical injuries, and other adverse results.	 Warning: Restarting will cause business interruption. About 10 minutes are required to restart an instance.
	A caution notice indicates warning information, supplementary instructions, and other content that the user must understand.	 Notice: If the weight is set to 0, the server no longer receives new requests.
	A note indicates supplemental instructions, best practices, tips, and other content.	 Note: You can use Ctrl + A to select all files.
>	Closing angle brackets are used to indicate a multi-level menu cascade.	Click Settings > Network > Set network type.
Bold	Bold formatting is used for buttons, menus, page names, and other UI elements.	Click OK .
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>

Style	Description	Example
{} or {a b}	This format is used for a required value, where only one item can be selected.	switch { <i>active</i> <i>stand</i> }

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1 Express Connect functions for creating VBRs for other accounts and cross-account peering connections disabled

Dear Express Connect users,

The Express Connect functions for creating Virtual Border Routers (VBRs) for other accounts and creating cross-account peering connections will be disabled starting November 1, 2019. If you want to continue using either of the two functions after they are disabled, you can open a ticket to get help from Alibaba Cloud. Thank you for your support!

2 Annual lockdown periods for Chinese service provider data centers

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 of Alibaba Cloud Express Cloud Connect (ECC).

The data centers of Chinese service providers will be locked down during the following Chinese events:

- **Spring Festival:** from the 28th of the lunar December to the 9th of the lunar January of the next year
- **The two sessions (sessions of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and the National People's Congress):** starting from March 3 and usually taking 11 to 18 days
- **99 Shopping Festival of Taobao:** from September 4 to September 9
- **National Day holiday of China:** from September 29 to October 7
- **Singles' day:** from October 28 to November 12
- **Double-Twelve shopping festival of Taobao:** from November 30 to December 13

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

1. During the lockdown period, 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 period, no visitor's 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.

3 Creating VBRs across accounts by using the physical connection interface service of Express Connect

Dear Alibaba Cloud customer:

On August 1, 2019, an update to the rules for using the physical connection interface service of Express Connect to create VBRs across accounts will take effect. By default, you can use each purchased physical connection interface instance under an account to create a maximum of five VBRs under the account. The number of the created VBRs can be adjusted based on service requirements.

You can use physical connection interface instances under an account to create a total of two VBRs under other accounts.

Thank you for your continued support!

4 Upgrade of Express Connect peering connections to CEN

Express Connect peering connections became unavailable for purchase from June 20, 2019. You can migrate the VPCs and Virtual Border Routers (VBRs) that were created for Express Connect peering connections to Cloud Enterprise Network (CEN).

Compared with Express Connect peering connections, CEN provides more flexible and convenient private network connections on the cloud. The following table compares the basic functions of Express Connect peering connections and CEN.

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>

Item	CEN	Express Connect
<p>Bandwidth management</p>	<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>

5 Time extension of free outbound traffic and billing rule update

Dear Alibaba Cloud customer:

With respect to the outbound traffic fee for the physical connection interface service of Express Connect, the free-of-charge period will last until April 1, 2020 (extended from October 1, 2019).

Billing will be based on VBR instances instead of shared access ports of partners.

Thank you for your continued support!