



EQUINIX

SOFTLAYER<sup>®</sup>  
an IBM Company



# CONNECTING TO IBM SOFTLAYER WITH EQUINIX

SOLUTION BRIEF

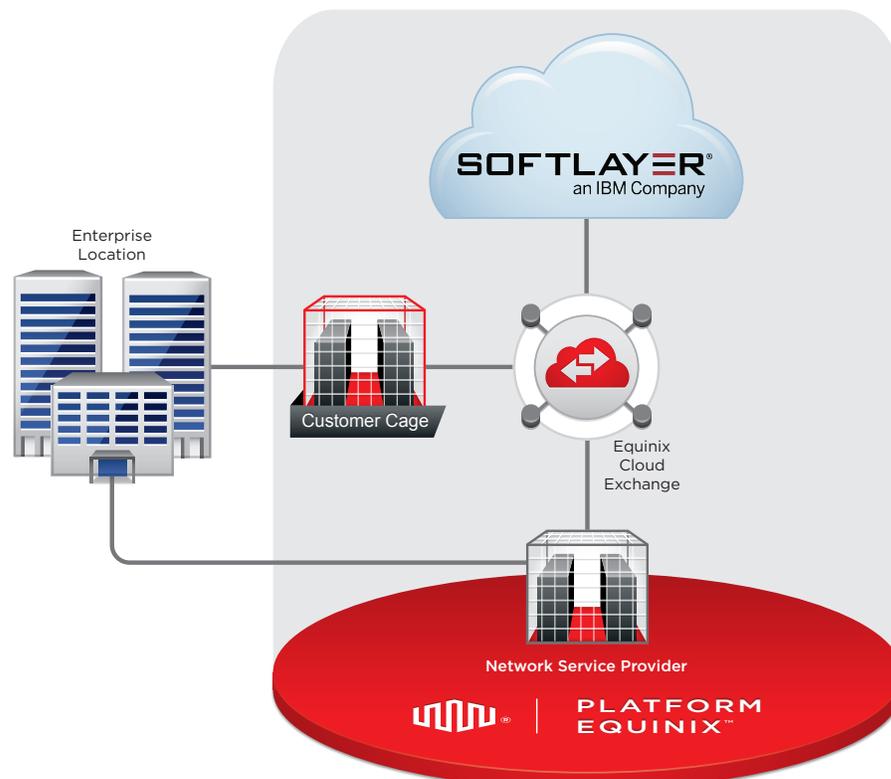
# CONNECTING TO IBM SOFTLAYER WITH EQUINIX

Equinix enterprise customers can quickly and easily deploy a private or hybrid cloud strategy to IBM SoftLayer by leveraging its Direct Link capability, a market-leading private interconnection service that enables customers to connect their enterprises' on-premise network or private data center to the IBM SoftLayer platform. Enterprises can connect via IBM SoftLayer Direct Link NSP, a fiber cross connect within an Equinix International Business Exchange™ (IBX®), in ten metro areas worldwide, nine of which are enabled with Equinix Cloud Exchange™. IBM SoftLayer has extended their Direct Link CSP service available in Equinix IBX data centers to include virtual connections via the Cloud Exchange. Regardless of the connection method, leveraging private connectivity with Equinix and IBM SoftLayer Direct Link ensures secure, predictable and scalable network availability to the IBM SoftLayer platform.

And with the ability to manage multiple connections through a single port with Equinix Cloud Exchange, companies can quickly and cost-effectively access IBM SoftLayer and other cloud and network services to help build a versatile and scalable enterprise cloud strategy.

## Extending the Enterprise Infrastructure

This provisioning of virtual circuit connections allows customers to easily build the hybrid cloud of their choice, even while reducing the application latency often associated with traditional cloud access. The IBM SoftLayer platform provides infrastructure-as-a-service solutions options, including bare metal or virtualized servers, SAN/NAS storage, network, software, and management tools to deliver high-performance computing and storage that can be securely and reliably integrated with the enterprise's data center. This unique approach helps enterprise CIOs quickly respond to changing business needs without incurring the cost or logistical challenges of constructing a new data center.



# Benefits of the IBM SoftLayer Platform and Equinix Cloud Exchange

Access to IBM SoftLayer via the Equinix Cloud Exchange provides a high-speed, low-latency, secure and consistent connection, enabling better performance of applications that utilize hybrid cloud architectures. Create virtual connections to IBM SoftLayer, network service providers and enterprise IT by building sophisticated yet easy-to-manage hybrid cloud solutions.

Additional capabilities include:

- **Frequent and massive backup and storage for disaster recovery and business continuity** – Move and store data from your corporate data centers to your IBM SoftLayer infrastructure (or vice-versa), and the dedicated network connections give you fast, consistent and reliable transfer.
- **Super-secure data** – Transfer sensitive financial, healthcare or government-regulated data to and from your cloud platform, never touching a public network.
- **Run applications** – Build and deploy enterprise applications to meet the needs of the business. Scale the infrastructure and network to handle the most demanding workloads.

By bringing cloud and network services providers together with enterprises and enabling them to establish private, high-performance connections with one another, the Equinix Cloud Exchange delivers direct access to users for the services they need to build sophisticated cloud solutions.

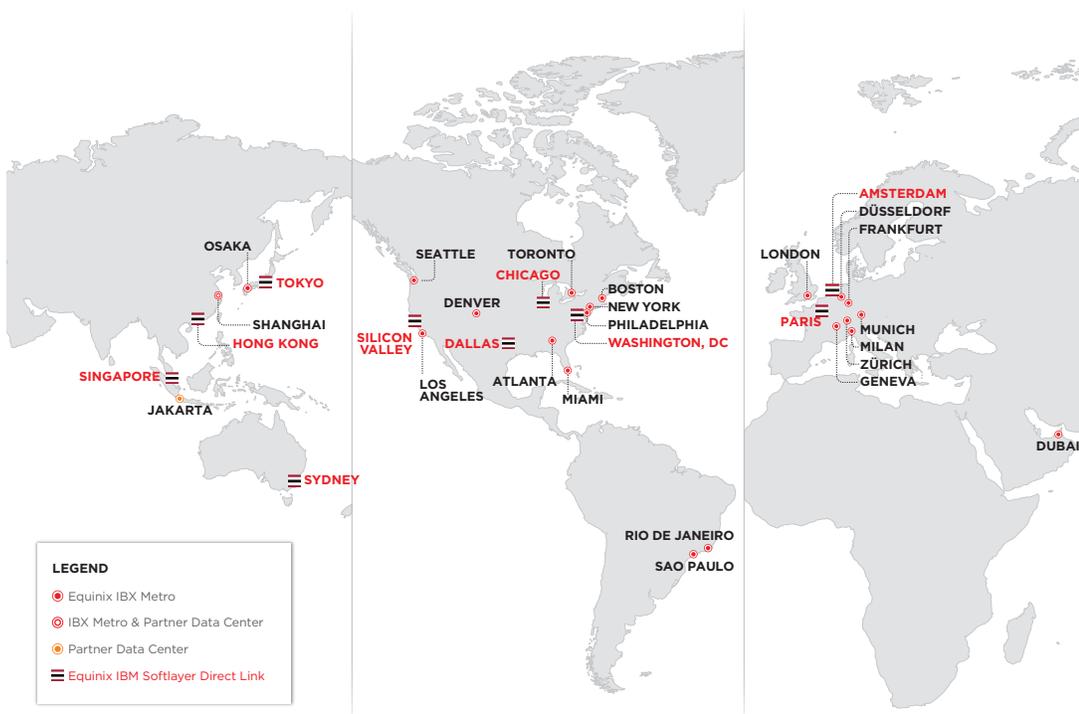
## Availability

Access to the IBM SoftLayer platform is available through the Equinix Cloud Exchange in metros spanning North America, Europe and Asia-Pacific:

**North America** Chicago, Dallas, Silicon Valley, Washington, D.C.

**EMEA** Amsterdam, Paris

**Asia-Pacific** Singapore, Sydney, Tokyo





SoftLayer Direct Link is also available via cross connect in the Equinix IBM data center in Hong Kong. In addition to the nine Equinix Cloud Exchange metros with SoftLayer Direct Link, the Equinix Cloud Exchange is available in Equinix IBX data centers in Atlanta, Hong Kong, Los Angeles, Melbourne, New York, Osaka, Seattle, Sao Paulo, Singapore, Toronto, and Zurich.

## Key Features of the IBM SoftLayer Platform

IBM SoftLayer gives enterprises some of the highest-performing cloud infrastructure available with the widest range of cloud computing options. It enables companies to mix and match between virtualized nodes and provides bare metal compute and storage.

IBM SoftLayer components and services include:

**Cloud Servers** – Powerful bare metal and virtual servers, in a single, seamless platform.

- **Bare metal and virtualized servers** – Deploy fixed configuration in minutes or spin-up bare metal in 2–4 hours using API or IBM SoftLayer portal. Fully integrated platform for performance optimization and management.
- **SAN/NAS** – network storage, CDN and backup

**Network** – Direct Link, domain services, network appliances and load balancing. Equinix customers can choose among a range of connection speeds:

- IBM SoftLayer Direct Link cross connects that provide 1Gbps or 10Gbps connections
- Virtual connections via the Equinix Ethernet Exchange in a scalable range, including 200Mbps, 500Mbps, 1Gbps or 10Gbps virtual connections over 1Gbps/10Gbps ports

**Management** – hosting, management, control and reporting tools.

## Deployment

IBM SoftLayer Direct Link in conjunction with Equinix Cloud Exchange lets customers create private connections between IBM SoftLayer and either the company's existing on-premise infrastructure or their dedicated enterprise data center located in an Equinix colocation environment.

1. Enterprise customers that deploy in a colocation environment can benefit from significant cost savings, as they can easily leverage Equinix's existing global infrastructure and eliminate the capital expense of building and operating their own dedicated data centers facilities and support systems.
2. An enterprise colocation strategy leveraging an Equinix IBX data center reduces network costs by exploiting access to more than 1,500 carriers and network providers, allowing companies to choose the ones that meet their specific needs and budget.
3. Customers with an on-premise data center have the option of establishing a secure connection to IBM SoftLayer via Equinix infrastructure by creating a node within the Equinix data center for fast, secure and reliable access to IBM SoftLayer, as well as a broad spectrum of other ecosystem partners.

## About SoftLayer, an IBM Company

SoftLayer, an IBM Company, operates a global cloud infrastructure platform built for Internet scale. With 100,000 devices under management and a global footprint of data centers and network points of presence, IBM SoftLayer provides Infrastructure as a Service to leading-edge customers ranging from startups to global enterprises. IBM SoftLayer's modular architecture provides unparalleled performance and control with a full-featured API and sophisticated automation controlling a flexible unified platform that seamlessly spans physical and virtual devices, and a worldwide network for secure, low-latency communications.

IBM SoftLayer delivers unmatched infrastructure capabilities ranging from small start-ups to the largest enterprises. Here are just some capabilities enabled by the IBM SoftLayer platform:

- High Performance Computing
- Enterprise Resource and Planning (ERP)
- Public, private and Hybrid Cloud
- Big Data, Analytics, Database Services, Backup and Recovery, BC/DR
- Social Business, Mobile DevOps and E-Commerce

## More Information

The IBM SoftLayer platform is available in select global Equinix locations. If you would like more information, contact your account manager or email us at IBM [SoftLayerSolutions@equinix.com](mailto:SoftLayerSolutions@equinix.com).

For more information about IBM SoftLayer, visit [SoftLayer.com](https://SoftLayer.com).

For more information about Equinix Cloud Exchange, visit [eqix.it/cloud-exchange](https://eqix.it/cloud-exchange).

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## About Equinix

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Equinix, Inc. (Nasdaq: EQIX) connects the world's leading businesses to their customers, employees and partners inside the most interconnected data centers. In 44 markets across five continents, Equinix is where companies come together to realize new opportunities and accelerate their business, IT and cloud strategies.

In a digital economy where enterprise business models are increasingly interdependent, interconnection is essential to success. Equinix operates the only global interconnection platform, sparking new opportunities that are only possible when companies come together.

# Packet Fusion

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Connecting the Dots to the Cloud