

The Peering Database

The <https://www.peeringdb.com/> is a freely available, user-maintained database of networks which take part in the global Internet. It is considered the authoritative source of all information relating to network operators who participate in peering around the world.

The database facilitates the global interconnection of networks at Internet Exchange Points (IXPs), data centres, and other interconnection facilities, and is the first stop in making interconnection decisions.

Background

In the early Internet (of the 1990s) there were few network operators and interconnect points around the world that interconnections were relatively straightforward to seek out and implement (in the author's experience anyway). In March 1999 there were 4640 ASNs in the Internet with only 800 providing transit. This compares with today's total exceeding 73000 ASNs and over 10000 ASNs providing transit, never mind that almost every country in the world now has at least one Internet Exchange Point if not a datacentre facilitating commercial interconnects.

In the 1990s establishing new interconnects by attending in major Internet operations meetings (NANOG, RIPE, AfNOG, APRICOT and so on), with network information passed on by word of mouth or email or even by letter!

With the rapid growth of the Internet in the late 1990s and early 2000s, there needed to be a more scalable way for a Network Operator to get their "peering information" out to the global Internet operations community. And hence the PeeringDB was born.

What is the Peering DB

The Peering DB is a repository of the important information that network operators need to determine whether an interconnection is feasible, makes commercial sense, makes technical sense, and is even technically feasible. While the Peering DB website has much more detailed information, the Peering Toolbox is highlighting the key points.

Here are some example entries to show what is possible. The first example (publicly accessible) is of LINX, the London Internet Exchange:

PeeringDB

Search here for a network, DC, or facility.

Advanced Search

LINX LON1

Peers: 811, Connections: 913, Open Peers: 688, Total Speed: 33.2T, % with IPv6: 85

Organization

Also Known As

Long Name

City

Country

Continental Region

Media Type

Service Level

Terms

Last Updated

Notes

Contact Information

Company Website

Traffic Stats Website

Technical Email

Technical Phone

Policy Email

Policy Phone

Sales Email

Sales Phone

Health Check

LAN

MTU

DC P Member Export URL

Visibility

Peers at this Exchange Point

Peer Name #1 IPv4	ASN IPv6	Speed	Policy
isp_ashboda 195.68.225.115	33820 2001:79b:4::8488:1	2G	Selective
01 Telecom (EET) 2001.79b.4::314a6:1	251933 195.65.227.214	19G	Open
02 Jorita Telecom 195.68.225.114	9116 2001:79b:4::239c:1	19G	Open
02 Jorita Telecom 195.68.225.66	9116 2001:79b:4::239c:2	19G	Open
01 Yemari Dedicated, Dashed 2001.79b.4::2291:1	8891 195.65.224.245	19G	Selective
330 Parent IT 195.68.225.213	20915 2001:79b:4::51b3:1	1G	Open
01 ZIM Limited 2001.79b.4::4697:1	47447 195.65.227.70	19G	Open
01 24Shells Inc 2001.79b.4::0729:1	55281 195.65.227.118	19G	Open
01 31173 Services AB 2001.79b.4::08a7:1	38351 195.65.226.62	19G	Open
40 Data Centres Ltd 2001.79b.4::01:1	31485 2001.79b.4::01:1	19G	Selective

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