

Peering v2

Peering

The **Peering** tab displays allows you to add and manage exchanges, routers, sessions, and peers. Admin users may view and manage recent emails for a company peering email address, and associate email communications with ProVision peers.

The screenshot shows the ProVision Peering v2 interface. At the top is a navigation bar with tabs: Dashboard, Resources, DNS, DHCP, Servers, IPAM, Peering (selected), Reporting, and Global Commander. A search bar and user profile icon are on the right. Below the navigation bar is a sub-tab bar with: Peering (selected), IXs, Routers, Sessions, Peers, AS Set, and Emails. A Settings button is on the right. The main content area is titled 'Exchange List' and contains a table with the following data:

Name	IPv4 IPv6	City	Current Peers	Unapproved Peers	Sessions
Equinix Palo Alto Equinix Internet Exchange Palo Alto	198.32.176.0/24 2001:504:d::/64	Palo Alto	5	89	1
AMS-IX Amsterdam Internet Exchange	80.249.208.0/21 2001:7f8:1::/64	Amsterdam	0	818	0
NAPAfrica IX Johannesburg NAPAfrica IX Johannesburg	196.60.8.0/22 2001:43f8:6d0::/64	Johannesburg	0	477	0
Speed-IX Speed Internet Exchange	185.1.222.0/23 2001:7f8:b7::/64	Dronten	0	202	0
FCIX Fremont Cabal Internet Exchange	206.80.238.0/24 2001:504:91::/64	Fremont	0	126	0

ProVision's **Peering** tab has five subtabs to manage various peering functions: **IXs** (Exchanges), **Routers**, **Sessions**, **Peers**, **AS Set**, and **Emails**.

The **IXs** tab shows the exchange list. From here, you can edit exchange settings and view, manage, and mark peer status and communications via the exchange details page.

The **Routers** tab shows the list of routers in ProVision. From here, you can add new routers or manage existing routers.

The **Sessions** tab lists the current sessions in ProVision. You may also add new sessions, or click on a session name to show session details, from which you may configure and manage each session.

On the **Peers** tab, you can view and manage session peers.

The **AS Set** tab lets you view, import, and update Autonomous Set [inbound prefix filters per peer](#).

In the **Email** tab (Global Admins only), recent email communications to and from a company peering email account may be managed.

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Peering Overview

In ProVision's **Peering** tab, you can add multiple exchanges, routers, sessions, view peer details, as well as send and receive peering requests. ProVision directly interfaces with PeeringDB's API to update exchange and peering data to ensure up to date information, which is automatically managed for cloud installations. Local installations of ProVision that use Peering need to have a PeeringDB account, and for the API Key or Database to be set up in ProVision.

Peering Setup - Local Installations

If you are using a locally hosted instance of ProVision, verify that you have followed the instructions on the [Local Installations: Peering Setup](#) page to set up Peering for your instance.

Set up ProVision Peering

In order to perform common peering tasks, one or more ASNs need to be added in ProVision.

Local instances will also need to provide a PeeringDB API key, or self-manage a PeeringDB database. For cloud instances, 6connect manages the PeeringDB database automatically.

Add ASN(s) to ProVision

Add at least one ASN to ProVision from either the **Admin Admin Preferences Peering** page, or via the **Peering** Tab -> Exchange Settings.

- Click one of the options below for details:

From the **Admin Settings** page, go to Peering -> **Peering Settings**.

Next to "ASN", enter the ASN(s) you want to track in ProVision.

The screenshot shows the 'Peering Settings' page. At the top, there's a navigation bar with tabs: Admin Settings, Application, Authentication, DNS, DHCP, Peering (selected), Templates, Scanning & Discovery, and Managed Servers. Below this, the 'Peering Settings' section is expanded. It contains two main areas: 'Peering Settings' and 'Local PeeringDB Database'. In 'Peering Settings', there's an 'ASN' field with the value '8038,6369', a 'VRF Support' toggle set to 'ON', and two buttons for 'Update Session State' and 'Update AS Set Prefixes', both labeled 'Create Scheduled Task'. There's also a 'Templates' link labeled 'Manage Custom Templates'. In 'Local PeeringDB Database', there's a 'Status' field showing 'Database is reachable', a 'Host' field with 'localhost', and a 'Last Update' field with '2023-01-31T00:27:10Z'. A 'Save Changes' button is located at the bottom right of the settings area.

For multiple ASNs, separate each ASN with a comma (e.g. "1234, 5678").

When done, click "Save Changes" to save your changes.

From the **Peering** Tab, go to the **IX's** subtab and then click "Settings".

The screenshot shows the 'Peering' tab selected in the navigation bar. Below it, there are subtabs: IX's (selected), Routers, Sessions, Peers, AS Set, and Emails. A 'Settings' button is circled in red in the top right corner. Below the subtabs, there's an 'Exchange List' section with a search filter. The table below has the following data:

Name	IPv4 IPv6	City	Current Peers	Unapproved Peers	Sessions
Equinix Palo Alto	198.32.176.0/24	Palo Alto	5	89	1
Equinix Internet Exchange Palo Alto	2001:504:d::/64				

Peering Settings will display.

Settings

Config

Source Networks

ASN	Net Name	IX Name
8038	6connect	Equinix Palo Alto AMS-IX FCIX NAPAfrica IX Johannesburg: Peering NAPAfrica IX Johannesburg: Peering Speed-IX: SPEED-IX
6369	NetRunner	

ASN

Under the "Config" section, you'll see a field to add an ASN - fill in the desired ASN(s), and click "Add".

Add PeeringDB API Key (Local Installations)

Local installations may set the PeeringDB API Key in the ProVision [Admin](#) **Admin Preferences** -> **Peering** page, or via the [Peering](#) Tab -> Exchange Settings.

- Click one of the options below for details:

From the [Admin Settings](#) page, go to Peering -> **Peering Settings**.

The current PeeringDB Account status will display next to "Peering DB Account".

Enter the PeeringDB account API Key, then hit "Test" - the connection will be tested. If successful, you can then save the key.

Peering Settings

Peering Settings

ASN:

VRF Support: ☒ ON

PeeringDB Cache: Cache enabled.

Templates: [Manage Custom Templates](#)

PeeringDB Account (Account is set.)

API Key

Peering contact information is only available to clients with a valid PeeringDB account.
https://docs.peeringdb.com/howto/api_keys/
ProVision only requires a **Read only** API key.

When you are done, click "Save Changes".

Additional Options for Local Installations

Local Installations have an additional option of hard-coding PeeringDB credentials in ProVision's globals.php file or self-managing a local database.

Additional Peering constants may be added into globals.php to change the PeeringDB URL between the main and beta site (some users may find the beta site to have faster response times), and to adjust the PeeringDB cache TTL.

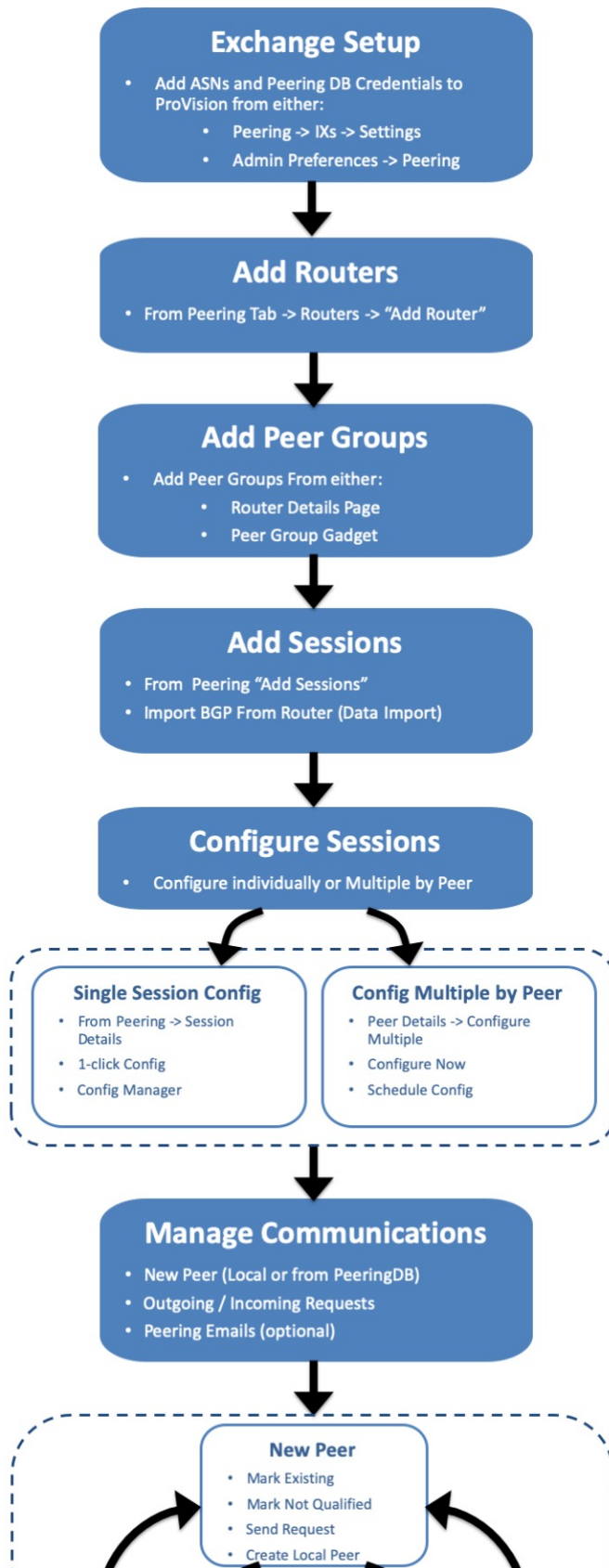
For real-time updates, TTL may be set to 0. However, some users may experience severe lag with a TTL = 0; we recommend using a 10 to 15 minute or greater TTL if this occurs.

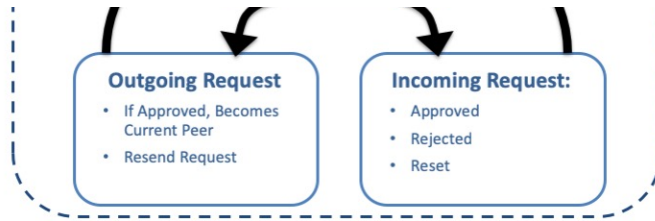
For details on adding / editing these peering constants, see [Local Installations: Peering Setup](#).

Peering Workflow

After the initial Peering setup is complete, you can begin to work with the rest of the Peering tabs, including routers, peer groups, sessions, managing peers, and communications.

PEERING WORKFLOW





Peering Workflow Steps

Below is an outline of the steps needed for a basic workflow process.

- Peering Overview
- Set up ProVision Peering
 - Add ASN(s) to ProVision
 - Add PeeringDB API Key (Local Installations)
 - Additional Options for Local Installations
- Peering Workflow
 - Peering Workflow Steps
 - 1) Add Router(s)
 - 2) Add Peer Groups
 - From Peering "Router Details" Page:
 - From the Peer Group Gadget:
 - 3) Add Session(s)
 - 4) Configure Sessions
 - Configure Sessions Individually by Exchange / Session:
 - Configure Sessions by Peers:
 - 5) Manage Communications
 - New Peer:
 - Outgoing Peer Request:
 - Incoming Peer Request:
 - 6) Repeat for new Routers, Sessions, and Peers.
- Additional Information

1) Add Router(s)

Adding a router is the fundamental base and first step of working with peering in ProVision. Routers may be added through the "Add Router" button in the **Peering** Tab.

For a detailed breakdown of this task, see [Peering Routers](#).

2) Add Peer Groups

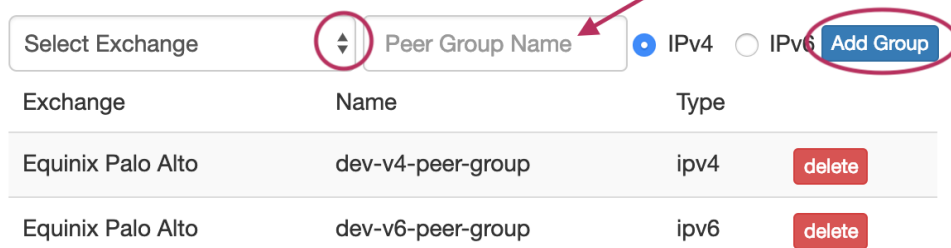
Associating the router with a peer group is necessary to link the router to a particular exchange. You may add the Peer Group information either in the "Router Details" page in Peering, or in the Peer Group Gadget prior to adding sessions.

From Peering "Router Details" Page:

Go to **Peering** Tab Routers. Click on the desired router to view the **Router Details** page. (See [Peering Routers](#))

Here, you may add and delete and Peer Groups associated with the router - select the Exchange, Add the Peer Group Name, select the IP type, and click "Add Group".

Peer Groups



Select Exchange Peer Group Name ☒ IPv4 ☐ IPv6

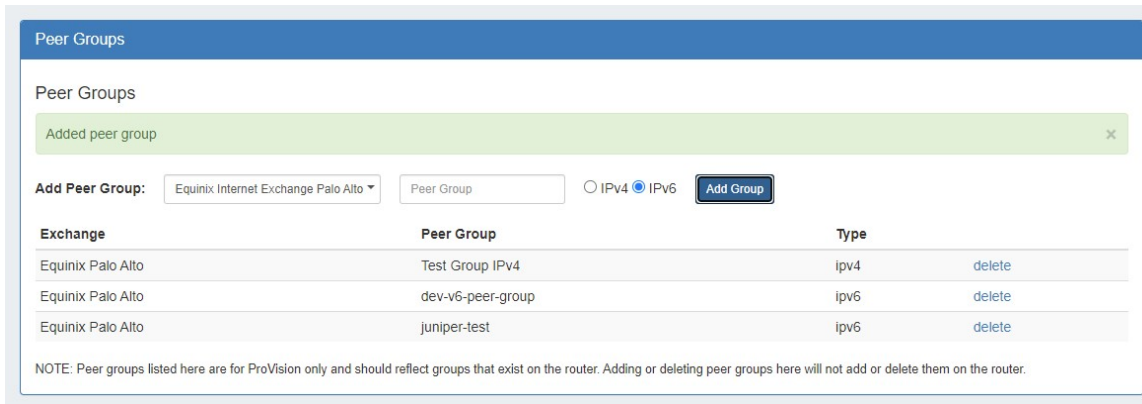
Exchange	Name	Type	
Equinix Palo Alto	dev-v4-peer-group	ipv4	<input type="button" value="delete"/>
Equinix Palo Alto	dev-v6-peer-group	ipv6	<input type="button" value="delete"/>

From the Peer Group Gadget:

If you need to add a Peer Group to an existing router, you may use the [Peer Group gadget](#).

The Peer Group Gadget allows you to add peer groups for IPv4 and IPv6 for a selected exchange from a router's Resource Entry page.

To do this, simply select the exchange, type in a Peer Group name in the text box, select IPv4 or IPv6, then click "Add Group".



Peer Groups

Peer Groups

Added peer group

Add Peer Group: Equinix Internet Exchange Palo Alto Peer Group ☐ IPv4 ☒ IPv6

Exchange	Peer Group	Type	
Equinix Palo Alto	Test Group IPv4	ipv4	delete
Equinix Palo Alto	dev-v6-peer-group	ipv6	delete
Equinix Palo Alto	juniper-test	ipv6	delete

NOTE: Peer groups listed here are for ProVision only and should reflect groups that exist on the router. Adding or deleting peer groups here will not add or delete them on the router.

Peer Groups added from this gadget will then be available to select in the "Add Session" dialog box in the [Peering](#) tab.

3) Add Session(s)

After Routers and Peer Groups have been set up, the next step is Adding Sessions to ProVision.

You may [add a new session](#) through the "Add Session" button in the [Peering](#) tab, or you may [Import Peering Sessions](#) from an existing router.

Importing sessions requires Admin level permissions, and is accessed through the [Data Import](#) Tab in the [Admin](#) section of ProVision.

4) Configure Sessions

Once a session has been added, you will see it in the session list. For a newly added session, the status will show as "Not Configured". There are a few options to configure sessions:

Configure Sessions Individually by Exchange / Session:

You may configure the session through 1 click config or the Config Manager, accessed by [clicking session](#) and opening the [Session Details](#) page. 1 click config uses the default config settings, while the Config Manager allows you to manually create one time use unique settings.

Configure Sessions by Peers:

From the [Peer Details](#) Page, you can choose to create or configure multiple sessions.

With this option, you can view and configure all sessions for that Peer from one menu (as opposed to the Sessions list configure option, which configures individual sessions by Exchange).

Clicking on "Configure Multiple Sessions" button opens a page showing the available exchanges with routers and options to change the router, peer group, and Peer type.

Select the checkmarks for the desired sessions to configure. As a shortcut, you may also check the "Exchanges" option to select all sessions under all exchanges, or, check "Select all networks" next to the exchange header to select all sessions in that exchange. From there, deselect items as needed.

When your selections have been made, click "Create Sessions" to immediately configure all selected sessions.

5) Manage Communications

Once a session has been added with a peer, you will see the peer listed [Peer List](#) under the **Peers** tab.

You'll also be able to manage communications from [Exchange Communications](#).

You will see the list of Peers, their ASNs, Name, Request Status, Notes (log), and the Action Menu (wrench icon).

From here, you may send peer requests, mark peer status, and view notes on previous actions. The available options and flow depends on the Peer Status and whether a request is Outgoing or Incoming.

New Peer:

For an existing peer that was just added, you can mark the peer as:

- a) Mark Existing Peer, or,
- b) Mark Not Qualified

You may also choose to send an outgoing peer request.

Outgoing Peer Request:

To send out a peer request, select "Send Request" from the Action Menu (wrench icon) . This sends an initial peering request email to the peering coordinator for that peer. The email template pre-populates data based on peeringdb data (To address, Subject line and Peering exchange information). You have the chance to edit the email prior to sending. If [Peering Emails are set up in ProVision](#) with the same email address, a copy of the request will be saved to the Sent box.

Once a Request has been sent out, it can proceed two ways:

- a) The request is accepted and Peering is established (becomes current peer)
- b) The request is not accepted / responded to, and the "Resend Request" option becomes available, allowing you to repeat the request.

Incoming Peer Request:

If a request is received, you have a few options from which you may mark the peer from the Action Menu:

- a) If you accept the request, you may "Mark Approved" and Peering is established (becomes current peer).
- b) You may "Mark Rejected", in which case a peer status is marked rejected.
- c) "Reset Status" is available at various points in the communications process, if you want to reset the peer back to the beginning state and re-establish a different status condition. This reopens the initial options from which you may select a different peer mark.
- d) "Resend Request" may be available to resend a request

If [Peering Emails are set up in ProVision](#), and the message was sent to the account as set there, the incoming request will be recieved to the ProVision inbox.

6) Repeat for new Routers, Sessions, and Peers.

To add additional Routers, Sessions, and Peers repeat steps 1, 2, or 3, and manage your newly added sessions and peer communications similarly with steps 4 and 5.

Additional Information

- Peering Exchanges
- Peering Routers
- Peering Sessions
- Managing Peers
- AS Set
- Peering Emails