

FRANCE-IX LAUNCHES PEERING ESSENTIEL, A NEW LOCAL INTERCONNECTION SERVICE FOR BUSINESSES AND INTERNET PROVIDERS

According to Arcep, only 1.4% of French Internet traffic is exchanged through a national Internet exchange point. With a second, fully independent platform, France-IX is reinforcing the resilience of local interconnection and highlighting the strategic importance of data transport in digital sovereignty.

Paris, 3 June 2026 - According to the latest interconnection barometer published by Arcep in July 2025 and covering the year 2024, only 1.4% of Internet traffic exchanged with the four largest French ISPs (Bouygues Telecom, Free, Orange and SFR) passes through Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) located in France. **The remaining 98.6% is carried through private interconnections or IP transit services. Arcep states in its report that the traffic measured at these interconnection points “may originate from France, Europe or the rest of the world, without it being possible to determine its exact origin”, highlighting the complexity of assessing where data is actually exchanged and transported..**

A significant proportion of this traffic is driven by services and content provided by US-based platforms: according to the same ARCEP report, Netflix alone accounts for 12.3% of total traffic, while the five largest US digital players (Amazon, Google, Meta, Microsoft, Apple) account for a combined 25%. These figures highlight a blind spot in the debate on digital sovereignty: control over the paths through which data is exchanged and transported.

To address this challenge, France-IX, France’s leading Internet exchange point in terms of traffic volume and geographical coverage, today announces the launch of Peering Essentiel, a second peering platform. Operated from Telehouse Paris 2, this new peering platform is entirely independent of France-IX’s existing infrastructure, which has been renamed Peering Plus.

A blind spot in France’s digital sovereignty debate

In recent years, discussions around digital sovereignty in France have largely focused on data storage: sovereign cloud services, server location, and compliance with European regulations. Yet far less attention has been paid to how and where data is transported than data storage. The latest ARCEP interconnection barometer highlights this issue. With Peering Essentiel, France-IX is helping strengthen digital sovereignty through more resilient and diverse Internet interconnection in France.

“We have invested heavily in building digital fortresses, but we have left the drawbridge down. Digital sovereignty is not limited to data storage. It also depends on the routes the data takes,” emphasises Franck Simon, President of France-IX. “With Peering Essentiel, we are strengthening the resilience of the French interconnection whilst offering a simple and accessible solution to businesses and operators.”



France-IX, like any Internet Exchange Point is deeply committed to net neutrality: the platform remains open to all networks wishing to interconnect, without discrimination based on origin or usage. The sovereignty at stake is not about who connects to the platform, but about the infrastructure itself: where it is located, who operates it and under which jurisdiction it operates. With Peering Essentiel, France-IX is strengthening this critical Internet infrastructure in France.

A second independent platform to meet the standards for national critical infrastructure

With the launch of a second platform that is both physically and logically independent from the first, France-IX is adopting the resilience principles commonly applied to critical national infrastructure: full redundancy, independent paths, and guaranteed service continuity even in the event of a major incident affecting one of the two platforms. Customers can connect to both and benefit from two fully separate interconnection environments, following a model long established in sectors such as electricity transmission.

Peering Plus, France-IX's established interconnection platform, continues to serve operators, content providers and major digital players through 22 points of presence across six French cities: Bordeaux, Lille, Lyon, Marseille, Paris and Toulouse.

Peering Essentiel serves two complementary purposes. First, it provides businesses, regional operators and digital ecosystem players with a simple and cost-effective local interconnection service, based on port and bandwidth pricing. Second, it offers existing Peering Plus customers the opportunity to enhance their resilience by connecting to a second, fully independent interconnection platform.

France-IX currently exchanges over 3.5 Tbit/s of traffic on its infrastructure, a volume that places France-IX among the leading European interconnection infrastructures. At this scale, deploying a second, fully independent platform represents a natural step towards greater resilience and aligns with the standards typically applied to critical infrastructure. The Arcep report also highlights a "fairly significant" increase in peering ports at France-IX, now available up to 400G. This expansion has contributed to the continued growth of public peering capacity in France throughout 2024..

Availability, access and pre-sale

Peering Essentiel is available from today for existing France-IX customers and from 15 June 2026 for everyone. The platform offers capacities ranging from 1G to 400G, with simple pricing based on port size and subscribed bandwidth. Customers can order and manage their service entirely online. To mark the launch, the first 50 customers will benefit from France-IX's promotional launch offer.

About France-IX

France-IX is the leading French provider connecting businesses and Internet stakeholders in a fast, reliable and flexible manner. The company operates two independent peering platforms: Peering Plus, its long-standing service with 22 points of presence across six French cities (Bordeaux, Lille, Lyon, Marseille, Paris and Toulouse), and Peering Essentiel, a new open platform at Telehouse Paris 2.

Thanks to its national network and various exchange points, France-IX offers a range of customised services tailored to the specific needs of all its customers: peering (local peering, remote peering), Microsoft Azure Peering Service (MAPS), Google VPP, Multipass, Cloud Access, housing, IP transit...



The group interconnects several hundred players (telecommunications operators, ISPs, businesses, content providers and Cloud infrastructure providers) and all other internet networks worldwide with significant traffic on the French Internet market. Its services are aimed at all organisations wishing to optimise their costs and internet connection as part of their digital transformation. Founded in June 2010 with the support of the French internet community, France-IX now has over 600 customers.

The company is owned by the FRNIX association, which brings together the French Internet community.

For further information, please visit the France-IX website: <https://franceix.net/>.

Sources

Arcep, *Barometer of Data Interconnection in France for 2024*, published on 4 July 2025. Available at arcep.fr.

Press contacts

Agence Grayling pour France-IX

Raphaële Coulot-Brette : Raphaelle.Coulot-Brette@grayling.com

Sonia Bonvalet : Sonia.Bonvalet@grayling.com

France-IX

Astrid Moy : marketing@franceix.net