



## A Brief Introduction to **Global Zone**

We live in a highly interconnected world with over 50 billion devices. The explosion of data has given rise to a global digital economy, which is supported by evolutionary business models. At the heart of this global digital revolution is Global Zone, a carrier-neutral digital business platform offering connectivity, colocation and interconnection services based on a highly secure and certified Tier III Data Centre, which helps customers to operate their digital business in a robust ecosystem.

Global Zone is designated within Batelco's Data Centre facilities in the Kingdom of Bahrain enabling traffic growth by serving as the regional carrier-neutral data transit-and-hub. This brings together both regional and international interconnections to create a global data exchange and positions the Kingdom of Bahrain as the regional data hub.

Metaphorically speaking, Global Zone can be described as a dock for 'ships' of inbound data that are then anchored in order to dispatch and export the data via partners and digital channels, which creates an international data economic highway extending from the Kingdom to the region and beyond.

In terms of connectivity services, Global Zone connects customers to the rest of the world through a resilient network with guaranteed lower latency and optimal network performance. These services include the Global Zone Access Service (GZ-Access), which is an active Point-to-Point transport providing symmetric, synchronous, dedicated and uncontended data connectivity to the Global Zone (Neutral Transit Zone). Additionally, Global Zone includes colocation services offering enhanced and resilient connectivity, greater security, and bursting capabilities. Global Zone further includes our IP-Transit Service, which is a service of Internet and transmission designed for service providers that resell internet service requiring a high quality dedicated access to the global internet backbone. Within Global Zone, our Global Multiprotocol Label Switching (GMPLS) Layer-2 service offers your

business the basic fiber interconnectivity to tie company locations across the globe and allow the transfer of data in a private and secure way over a reliable and robust network infrastructure. Global Zone also entails our Cloud Connect service, which is designed to provide a direct and secure low latency connection to cloud providers, enabling our customers to enjoy a private, secure, and high-performance connection to multiple cloud platforms.

Global Zone uses a highly secure and diverse network connection to improve IP network resiliency and reliability and is essentially a dynamic "meet and exchange" data service platform for mobile operators, cloud providers and internet service providers to connect literally and physically to allow free flow of data.





The certified design-and-built facility, which contains Global Zone, is fully equipped with scalable technical space and provides around-the-clock multi-layer security measures. The climate-controlled facility provides efficient power usage and delivers leading uptime record of 99.982% through Data Center Infrastructure Management (DCIM). This facility is supported by a Networks Operations Center (NOC), which offers full service assurance, fault handling and remote hands-and-eyes services. Additionally, Global Zone's colocation services help you to protect your data with maximum security and guaranteed Service Level Agreements (SLAs).

In line with the vision of becoming the leading regional digital hub, Batelco has partnered with Amsterdam Internet Exchange (AMS-IX) to introduce Manama Internet Exchange (MN-IX) within Global Zone as a neutral internet traffic exchange platform. MN-IX works on a fully redundant switching platform and serves as an interconnection environment to facilitate Global Zone that will help accelerate growth by means of cloud-based services and high implementation of the Internet of Things (IoT). As a result of this partnership,

carriers, content providers and cloud providers are now able to interconnect with one another and will have access to the data exchange within Global Zone as well as Batelco's global infrastructure and cable systems, specifically its new fully-owned and managed terrestrial cable, Batelco Global Network (BGN).

Manama-IX can scale to any customer need from single 1Gb port to multiple 100 Gb ports. Once you connect to Manama-IX over an internet peering service, you are immediately connected to all internet peering participants. A private interconnect between two parties enables direct traffic exchange over a dedicated virtual local area network (VLAN).

Global Zone supports digital business development and drives the growth of the digital economy by providing endless opportunities to meet and exchange data. By bridging global networks together, supporting businesses by enabling them to extend their reach into new markets, and eliminating integration barriers to foster a thriving business ecosystem, Global Zone is an opportunistic utopia for carriers, content providers, and cloud providers.

The ultimate benefits of Global Zone include offering customers rapid access to interconnected partners regionally and globally, bringing content closer to consumers and emerging as the gateway to high-growth markets within a scalable digital ecosystem.



