

95th PERCENTILE BURSTABLE BILLING



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COMFLUENT
where the networks meet

Have the world at your server's doorstep...

Burstable billing is a method of billing for bandwidth based on peak utilization. Comfluent uses the 95th percentile utilization when calculating usage.

What does this mean?

The 95th percentile is a widely used mathematical calculation to evaluate the regular and sustained utilization of a network connection. It is commonly used among all major internet transit and peering networks, as well as datacenters and ISPs for both capacity planning and/or calculating usage. It roughly means 'for most of the time this was the throughput on the line'.

This makes it excellent for billing because allows you, the customer, bursts above your committed bandwidth without additional cost.

How does it work?

Bandwidth is measured (or sampled) from your port on our network and recorded in a log file every five minutes. At the end of the month, the samples are sorted from highest to lowest, and the top 5% (which equal to approximately 36 hours of a 30-day billing cycle) of data is thrown away. The next highest measurement becomes the 'billable utilization' for the month.

Based on this model, the top 36 hours (top 5% of 720 hours) of peak traffic is not taken into account when billed for an entire month. Bandwidth could be utilized at a higher rate for up to 65 min a day with no financial penalty.

The freedom to burst.

In today's world, you don't want to get caught with your pants down. With burstable billing, you won't. Ports than won't burst clog when there's too much data. That results in packet loss and latency, destroying your Quality of Service. With burstable billing, as demand increases, you have the pipe to meet it, without getting a surprise in the mail because of those few hours you needed a bigger pipe.

Plus, at Comfluent, we're ideally located for burstable connections. With a direct, physical cross connect, you can burst to almost any rate you can imagine, without having and having to pay for a non-bursting local loop.

It just makes sense.

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