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Ostendo
Continuum Edition

AWS Instance Guide Spec for

Ostendo Continuum Servers

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This brief guide provides our recommendations for Amazon Web Services (AWS) Elastic Compute Cloud (EC2) instances to host your Ostendo Continuum ERP server.

Ostendo Continuum supports flexible cloud deployment, including both AWS and Microsoft Azure, each offering quick setup, reliable performance, and competitive pricing for virtual servers. Many small to medium-sized businesses choose AWS due to its broad service availability, strong regional presence in Australia and New Zealand, and proven scalability for ERP workloads.

This guide focuses on AWS because it is a popular and well-supported option among our customers. It is *not* an exclusive recommendation—onsite servers, Azure or other providers may suit your needs equally well. These suggestions are based on database performance, connection testing, and real-world usage patterns to ensure reliable operation while taking full advantage of AWS's on-demand scalability.

Minimum Instance Recommendations

For a standard 5 user site

Instance Type:

- **T3.medium** Specs: 2 vCPUs, 4GB RAM
- **Why this?** Provides sufficient processing power for core ERP operations, including transaction processing, reporting, and multi-user access. Burstable instances like t3.medium offer cost-effective performance with CPU credits for handling peak loads.

Storage Configuration:

- **Root Volume:** General Purpose SSD (gp3) with at least 40GB (20GB OS + 10GB Database + 10GB Headroom)
- Document Storage: Add an additional EBS volume (recommended) or add to the Root Volume 50-100GB for PDFs, office documents, pics and other operating attachments. Use Amazon S3 integration for scalable, cost-efficient long-term storage if volumes exceed local needs.

Start with these baseline specs to keep costs low while providing headroom for initial growth. Monitor performance metrics via AWS CloudWatch to identify any bottlenecks early.

Leveraging On-Demand Expandability

One of AWS EC2's key advantages is its flexibility—scale resources without downtime or hardware procurement.

- **Start Light with Headroom:** Begin with a t3.medium instance and modest storage. This setup handles 5 users efficiently, with burstable CPU for occasional spikes.
- **Expand as Needed:** If performance (e.g., slow response times) or storage becomes an issue:
    - Upgrade to larger instances (e.g., t3.large or m5.large) for more vCPUs/RAM.
    - Increase EBS volumes dynamically—expand from 10 GB to 100 GB+ without rebooting.
    - Switch to provisioned IOPS storage for database-intensive workloads.
      This approach minimizes upfront costs (e.g., t3.medium starts at ~$0.04/hour) while allowing seamless growth to support more users or data.
- **Requirements for Expansion:** Be sure to set up an Elastic IP (Static IP address that can attach to any instance) and attach it to your continuum server instance. Server restarts are required to upgrade or downgrade the instance type (e.g. changing from t3.medium to t3.large). An elastic IP attached to your EC2 instance (t3.medium) ensures that the same IP persists to the t3.large upgrade. An instance upgrade of this size typically takes 5 minutes.

Choosing The Right Data Centre

Selecting the optimal AWS Region to minimize latency for users in areas such as Australia and New Zealand can ensure lower latency which improves responsiveness for your Continuum ERP application, especially for real-time data entry, reporting, and multi-user access.

Recommended Regions for Australia and New Zealand

To achieve the lowest possible latency:

- **Australia (most locations):** Use Asia Pacific (Sydney) – code: ap-southeast-2
  This is the primary, well-established region for Australian customers, offering excellent

performance across the continent. Asia Pacific (Melbourne) code: ap-southeast-4 is a good option for those businesses located in Victoria.

- **New Zealand**: Use Asia Pacific (New Zealand) – code: ap-southeast-6
  Launched in 2025, this dedicated region provides the best latency for NZ-based users and operations.

- **Alternative for mixed AU/NZ or specific needs**: Asia Pacific (Sydney) remains viable for New Zealand (with acceptable cross-Tasman latency of ~30-60 ms depending on location), especially if you need broader service availability or are already established there.

Key Tip: For a 5-user site (or similar scale), start in the region closest to your primary user base. Test latency from your actual locations using tools like AWS CloudPing or browser-based ping tests to confirm.

Full list of AWS Regions (as of Jan 2026)

AWS operates in 39+ geographic regions worldwide (with ongoing expansions). If you are outside New Zealand or Australia be sure to choose the location nearest to you, even if it is in another country. Here is the current comprehensive list grouped by area:

Asia Pacific:	**Europe:**
Asia Pacific (Sydney) – ap-southeast-2	Europe (Ireland) – eu-west-1
Asia Pacific (Melbourne) – ap-southeast-4	Europe (Frankfurt) – eu-central-1
Asia Pacific (New Zealand) – ap-southeast-6	Europe (London) – eu-west-2
Asia Pacific (Singapore) – ap-southeast-1	Europe (Paris) – eu-west-3
Asia Pacific (Tokyo) – ap-northeast-1	Europe (Stockholm) – eu-north-1
Asia Pacific (Osaka) – ap-northeast-3	Europe (Milan) – eu-south-1
Asia Pacific (Seoul) – ap-northeast-2	Europe (Spain) – eu-south-2
Asia Pacific (Mumbai) – ap-south-1	Europe (Zurich) – eu-central-2
Asia Pacific (Hyderabad) – ap-south-2	
Asia Pacific (Jakarta) – ap-southeast-3	**Middle East & Africa:**
Asia Pacific (Malaysia) – ap-southeast-5	Middle East (Bahrain) – me-south-1
Asia Pacific (Hong Kong) – ap-east-1	Middle East (UAE) – me-central-1
Asia Pacific (Taipei) – ap-east-2	Africa (Cape Town) – af-south-1
Asia Pacific (Thailand) – (recent/expanding)	Israel (Tel Aviv) – il-central-1

North America:	**South America:**
US East (N. Virginia) – us-east-1	South America (São Paulo) – sa-east-1
US East (Ohio) – us-east-2	
US West (N. California) – us-west-1	**Other:**
US West (Oregon) – us-west-2	Mexico (Central) – mx-central-1
Canada (Central) – ca-central-1	AWS GovCloud (US) regions (restricted)
Canada West (Calgary) – ca-west-1	China regions (separate)

Additional Considerations for Latency and Future-Proofing

- **Local Zones** (extensions of regions for ultra-low latency): AWS has deployed or announced Local Zones in Perth, Brisbane (parent: Sydney), and potentially Auckland-linked options. These can further reduce latency in specific metro areas if your users are concentrated there.
- **Testing & Migration**: When launching your EC2 instance, select the region during setup. You can later migrate (with planning) if needs change. In most cases a change of region will necessitate a change of IP address, even if an elastic IP address has been set up.
- **Combine with Previous Advice**: Pair your chosen region with the t3.medium (or better) instance type, scalable EBS storage, and monitoring practices outlined earlier.