

Enhanced DNS

A Web site's Domain Name Service (DNS) is critical to making the site continually available to end users. However, most enterprises underestimate its importance, under-deploying their DNS infrastructure and often depending on just two or three name servers to support this essential element of their Web infrastructure. Further, if these servers are resident in the same telecommunications network — or even in the same data center, the enterprise is exceedingly vulnerable to unplanned downtime during name server failures, power losses, or telecommunications network outages, as well as DNS-based attacks.

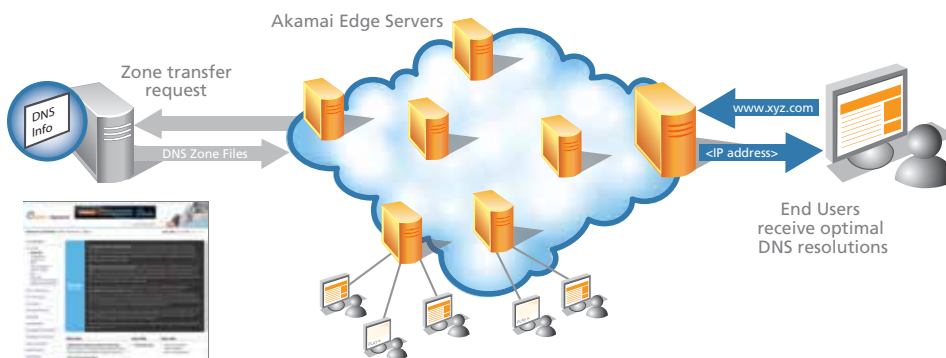
Akamai's Enhanced DNS provides a robust, reliable, and scalable solution to dependably direct end users to your Web sites. It is the only outsourced DNS solution that leverages the globally-distributed Akamai Platform, requires no change to existing DNS administration processes, and provides unparalleled reliability, scalability, and performance of DNS resolution.

Using EDNS, the customer's primary DNS servers are not directly exposed to end users, so the risks of cache-poisoning and denial-of-service attacks are mitigated. EDNS leverages a number of best-in-class technologies, including IP Anycast, secured zone transfers, router-protected name servers and non-BIND-based DNS to provide a highly secure and fault-tolerant solution.

How Enhanced DNS Works

You start by provisioning DNS zones to Akamai's Enhanced DNS using the user-friendly EdgeControl Management Center. Once configured, Enhanced DNS will start performing secured zone transfers from your master name server and upload the zones to multiple Akamai-administered name servers.

You then instruct the Domain Registrar that the Akamai name servers will resolve your zone authoritatively. When this change takes effect, Akamai name servers in multiple geographies and networks will provide name resolution to end users. The Akamai system will continue performing zone transfers on an ongoing basis as instructed by usual refresh and retry parameters in the Start Of Authority (SOA) DNS record.



Akamai customer provisions and administers the service through the Akamai Customer Portal

BENEFITS TO YOUR BUSINESS

Protects Your Customers And Content

Akamai name servers do not run BIND and so are not susceptible to its known security vulnerabilities. Further, Enhanced DNS leverages Akamai's significant in-house expertise in developing, administering, managing, and monitoring name servers, in order to ensure the integrity of the Enhanced DNS infrastructure.

Guarantees 24/7 Availability

Akamai's Enhanced DNS service is a critical piece of an always-available infrastructure. By combining this service with Akamai's Site Failover and Content Delivery services, you're guaranteed that your site will remain on the air around the clock. Our platform of more than 50,000 servers in countries and networks around the world provides an unmatched platform for site availability.

Improves Global Performance

Using IP Anycast, each advertised name server's IP address is backed with multiple physical machines located across multiple networks and continents, so users are directed transparently to the closest name server. Enhanced DNS improves DNS resolutions dramatically and globally, resulting in a positive user experience, every time.

Streamlines Integration

Enhanced DNS provides secondary DNS hosting, so you can maintain complete administration of zone data on your primary name servers. You can choose to retain your existing business processes for change management of zone data while leveraging the Akamai Platform to deliver DNS resolutions to end users.

The Akamai Difference

Akamai® provides market-leading managed services for powering video, dynamic transactions, and enterprise applications online. Having pioneered the content delivery market one decade ago, Akamai's services have been adopted by the world's most recognized brands across diverse industries. The alternative to centralized Web infrastructure, Akamai's global network of tens of thousands of distributed servers provides the scale, reliability, insight and performance for businesses to succeed online. Akamai has transformed the Internet into a more viable place to inform, entertain, advertise, interact, and collaborate. To experience The Akamai Difference, visit www.akamai.com.

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