

Secure Content Delivery

In today's world, more and more business transactions are moving to the Web, including business and consumer e-commerce, financial services, and other transactions requiring the transmission of personal or confidential information. Ensuring the security of these transactions and the data they contain is of the utmost importance.

Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) is the industry standard for reliable encrypted and authenticated communications between clients and servers on the Internet. But, SSL processing is extremely slow. The more transactions performed on a Web site, the slower the site becomes. Offloading SSL processing to specialized hardware can help, but increasing infrastructure is difficult to scale and manage. In addition, more infrastructure means more security requirements—which may include both physical and operational security, such as hardened data centers and dedicated security staff.

Akamai Secure Content Delivery is a highly secure, outsourced solution that addresses the performance and security needs of your SSL content while reducing costs and complexity. It supports the reliable and secure delivery of SSL objects and pages, and runs on a specially dedicated and highly secure section of Akamai's global network. Akamai Secure Content Delivery offers the highest degree of physical security and is optimized for SSL traffic.

Akamai's focus on customer service is clearly demonstrated in its state-of-the-art Network Operations Command Center (NOCC). The Akamai NOCC enables proactive monitoring and troubleshooting of the world's largest distributed computing platform, creating the industry's most comprehensive view of the real-time condition of the Internet.

Benefits to Your Business

Security

Akamai's highly secure network meets the highest level of physical, network, software, and procedural security, ensuring that SSL certificates are properly protected, and that objects and pages are securely delivered.

Increased Performance

Using Akamai Secure Content Delivery can greatly improve secure Web site performance. SSL objects and cacheable content are delivered from servers closer to the end user, thereby avoiding congestion on the Internet. Additionally, the majority of computation-intensive SSL processing is performed on the Akamai network. Secure content is passed between the Akamai network and your origin servers over an already established secure connection. By offloading SSL processing and reducing the load on your infrastructure, your site will perform better.

Reduced Cost and Complexity

Traditionally, secure infrastructure solutions require a significant amount of physical and operational security, in addition to specialized hardware, to support the computation-intensive SSL processing. With Akamai Secure Content Delivery, the need for costly hardware and dedicated staff is greatly reduced.

Unlimited Scalability

With hardware-based solutions, scaling a Web site infrastructure can be difficult. With Akamai Secure Content Delivery, Web sites can instantly scale to meet enterprise growth and varying traffic needs.

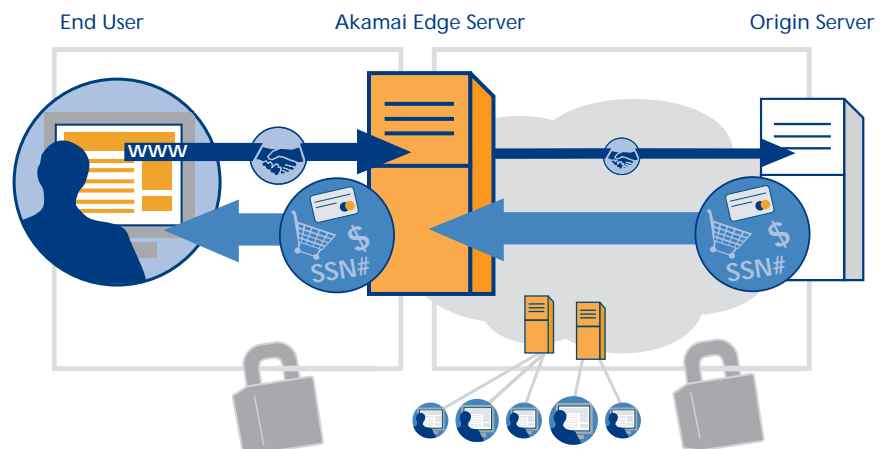


How Secure Content Delivery Works

An Akamai customer chooses to deliver either SSL objects or entire SSL pages over the Akamai network. If the customer wants to deliver only SSL objects (e.g. images), the designated objects are tagged for delivery from the Akamai network in much the same way as non-secure objects are delivered through Akamai Content Delivery, but are delivered using the SSL transport protocol. If an Akamai customer wants to deliver entire SSL pages, they do so by CNAMEing their Web site over to the Akamai network. The Akamai network serves SSL pages over a secure connection on behalf of the customer using a customer-provided SSL certificate. Because secure information never resides on any disk within the Akamai network,

the Akamai edge server must first retrieve secure content from the origin server over a secure connection before delivering it to the end user. SSL objects and non-secure content can be cached on the Akamai edge server, eliminating the need to retrieve content on every end-user request. The result is to move almost all SSL interactions as close as possible to the end user, drastically reducing load on the origin infrastructure.

Akamai Secure Content Delivery serves SSL content to end users over Akamai's secure network



About Akamai

Akamai provides products and services that enable the world's leading enterprises and government agencies to extend and control their e-business infrastructure. Having deployed the world's largest, globally-distributed computing platform, Akamai ensures the highest levels of availability, reliability, security, and performance of networked information and applications delivery between the origin and the destination of any e-business process. Headquartered in Cambridge, Massachusetts, with research and development centers around the world, Akamai's industry-leading products and services, matched with world-class customer care, are used by hundreds of successful enterprises, government entities, and Web businesses around the globe. For more information, visit www.akamai.com.



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