



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 reside 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.

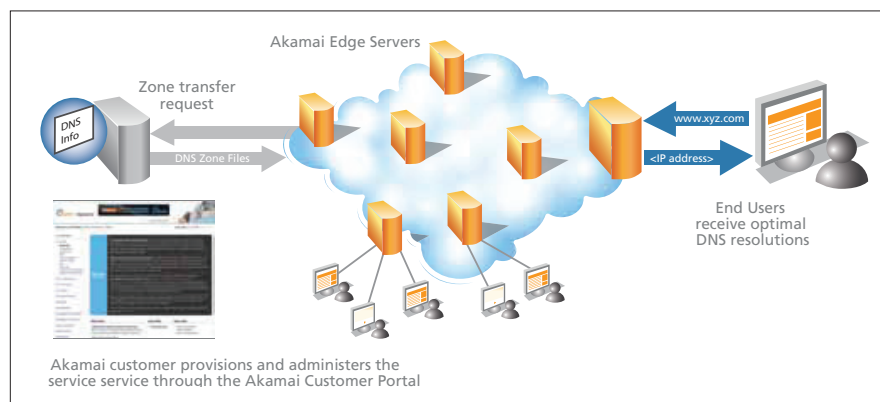
Akamai's Enhanced DNS provides a robust, reliable, and scalable solution to dependably direct end users to your Web sites. It is the only outsourced DNS solution that leverages the globally-distributed Akamai Intelligent Platform™, requires no change to existing DNS administration processes, and provides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



BUSINESS BENEFITS

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.



DNSSEC for EDNS

DNSSEC support is now available for Enhanced DNS. DNSSEC is a fully managed service and existing Enhanced DNS customers can implement the DNSSEC solution, by simply checking the “sign and serve DNSSEC” box on the Akamai customer portal.

The Akamai Difference

Akamai® is the leading cloud platform for helping enterprises provide secure, high-performing user experiences on any device, anywhere. At the core of the company's solutions is the Akamai Intelligent Platform™ providing extensive reach, coupled with unmatched reliability, security, visibility and expertise. Akamai removes the complexities of connecting the increasingly mobile world, supporting 24/7 consumer demand, and enabling enterprises to securely leverage the cloud. To learn more about how Akamai is accelerating the pace of innovation in a hyperconnected world, please visit www.akamai.com and follow @Akamai on Twitter.

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