AKAMAI SOLUTION BRIEF

Akamai GovShield for Protective DNS

Protective DNS (PDNS) is a fundamental pillar in any organization's security posture, blocking users from connecting to malicious domains during DNS resolution. When it comes to organizations as large as the Department of Defense (DoD), that pillar needs broad adoption across the Defense Industrial Base's (DIB) many contractors to be truly effective.

Enter the NSA Cybersecurity Collaboration Center (CCC), which scales intel-driven cybersecurity through open, collaborative partnerships with industry, interagency, and international partners to harden the DIB.

The NSA partners with Akamai to provide GovShield PDNS at no cost to small and medium-sized companies to help protect critical DoD information.

What is protective DNS?

As a security service — not a protocol — PDNS blocks users from connecting to malicious domains during DNS resolution, before the user connects to a malicious server.

GovShield PDNS is built on Akamai's commercial Secure Internet Access solution for small and medium-sized businesses, and customized for military and intelligence use. It blocks connections to botnets, malware injection sites, phishing and command and control domains, and more.

Better threat intel. Better security.

GovShield PDNS uses Akamai's massive security intelligence, gleaned from our commercial customers worldwide. In fact, on the day this document was published, Akamai was analyzing more than 600 TB of data on average, every day.

But GovShield does more. It also integrates NSA's unique threat intel with our own commercial data to provide you even broader threat protection. That translates into stronger security for you and your Defense and Intelligence customers.

Easy to implement. Easy to use. Easy to monitor.

The scope of GovShield's threat intel does not mean it is hard to set up or use. You simply update your DNS resolver to forward queries to our PDNS infrastructure. The GovShield service then filters those requests in real time, using lists of known and suspected malicious domains, as well as domains that fall outside of your acceptable use policy (AUP), which you can easily update and customize with personalized block/allow lists.

Benefits

- Delivers **broad threat protection** via robust threat intelligence
- Implemented **easily and quickly**
- Satisfies the DoD's **CMMC Level 3 standard**
- Helps secure government contracts by **securing yourself**
- Provided by the NSA at **no cost** to small and medium-sized DIB contractors

Akamai

Here's what one DIB IT security manager had to say: "The onboarding team was very helpful and willing to support our organization with these services, and I appreciate their knowledge and expertise. I look forward to future work with the team."

In addition, GovShield provides easy-to-understand dashboards and reports with details of blocked hostnames and requests. Subscribers can optionally request access to a data lake for detailed analysis and integration with your native SIEM tools.

Satisfy the CMMC Level 3 standard

For contractors seeking to satisfy the third level of the DoD's Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) standard (SC.3.192), Level 3 requires a DNS filtering service like GovShield PDNS.

> “
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> This has been a fantastic service, and the people associated with it could not be more helpful.
>
> **– Research Scientist, DIB contractor**

GovShield PDNS: By the Numbers

Since launch:

- More than 20 million potential threats blocked
- More than 2.8 billion AUP violations blocked
- More than 74 billion DNS queries processed
- More than 15,000 indicators of compromise (IOC) processed
- More than 325 contractors onboarded

Ready to do more with your Defense customers?
Mission owners rest easier knowing their contractors are secured by Akamai.

Find out how we can help by contacting the Akamai Defense sales team.

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