

# Site Shield



Defends the origin by cloaking web infrastructure and reducing vulnerability

The rapid pace of online innovation and connectivity has been matched by an equally rapid increase in the scale, severity, and diversity of attacks on websites and cloud-based applications. Site Shield is an extra layer of defense to strengthen cloud-based protection.

To protect websites and applications, organizations need the ability to stop attacks in the cloud and prevent attackers from reaching the application infrastructure directly

## What It Does

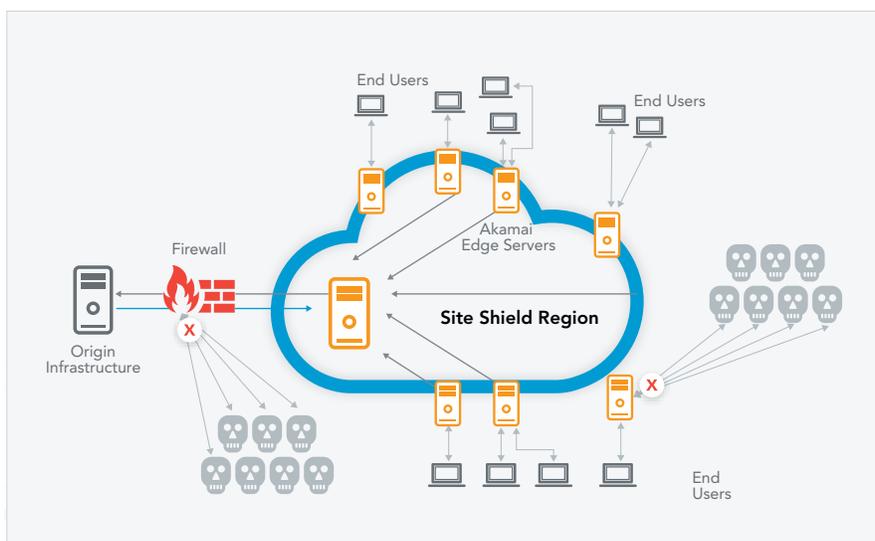
Site Shield provides an additional layer of protection that helps prevent attackers from bypassing cloud-based protections and targeting the application origin. Site Shield cloaks websites and applications from the public Internet and restricts clients from directly accessing the origin. It is designed to complement the existing network infrastructure as well as advanced cloud security technologies available on the globally distributed Akamai Intelligent Edge Platform™ to mitigate the risks associated with network and application-layer threats that directly target the origin infrastructure.

### BENEFITS TO YOUR BUSINESS:

- **Enhance site security and mitigate risk** by restricting direct access to the application origin
- **Gain an additional security layer** that increases the effectiveness of other Akamai edge security solutions
- **Reduce infrastructure costs** by consolidating global connections to the origin

“ Akamai guarantees that our site is always available and that our users will have as good an experience as possible.

— **Stephen Schillinger**,  
Chief of Web Services Branch,  
U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services



## Site Shield

### How It Works

Site Shield provides organizations with a defined list of Akamai source addresses that are allowed to communicate with the application origin. Organizations can then whitelist the Site Shield servers and block all other incoming connections on standard HTTP and HTTPS ports (80 and 443), either at their network firewall or by working with their Internet service provider (ISP). Site Shield is designed to be deployed in conjunction with other Akamai edge security solutions. By restricting clients from directly accessing the origin, Site Shield forces web traffic to go through the Akamai Intelligent Edge Platform, where Kona Site Defender, Web Application Protector, or Bot Manager can inspect the traffic for threats and mitigate detected attacks. APIs allow for easy integration into DevOps processes to automatically update security configurations.

### Additional Benefits

In addition, Site Shield can help protect applications from connection exhaustion at the origin. By consolidating connections through a smaller number of Akamai servers, Site Shield reduces the number of connections made to the origin. This both increases performance and reduces the impact on the origin infrastructure.

“ Akamai allows us to consider doing things on our websites that were not possible before — we no longer have to worry about distribution capacity and spend less time responding to the impact of denial-of-service attacks.

— Terry Davis,  
 Manager, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Public Web Program



Akamai secures and delivers digital experiences for the world's largest companies. Akamai's intelligent edge platform surrounds everything, from the enterprise to the cloud, so customers and their businesses can be fast, smart, and secure. Top brands globally rely on Akamai to help them realize competitive advantage through agile solutions that extend the power of their multi-cloud architectures. Akamai keeps decisions, apps, and experiences closer to users than anyone — and attacks and threats far away. Akamai's portfolio of edge security, web and mobile performance, enterprise access, and video delivery solutions is supported by unmatched customer service, analytics, and 24/7/365 monitoring. To learn why the world's top brands trust Akamai, visit [www.akamai.com](http://www.akamai.com), [blogs.akamai.com](http://blogs.akamai.com), or @Akamai on Twitter. You can find our global contact information at [www.akamai.com/locations](http://www.akamai.com/locations). Published 02/19.