

How 5centsCDN Improved Live Streaming QoS and Introduced Cloud-Based Security



5centsCDN provides live streaming and VOD services to government agencies, NGO companies, and major TV channels worldwide.

“We offer our customers the performance benefits of a multi-CDN and the ease of use of a single CDN. To do this the CDNs we partner with must have a real-time platform, robust API, and features we can use to add value to our customers. StackPath exceeds all these requirements.”

AMRU KOMALATH, CEO

Summary

5centsCDN uses a multi-CDN approach to give its customers’ users a seamless viewing experience no matter where they are in the world. They do this by routing requests to the best performing point of presence (PoP). The PoP that is used is determined by DNS load balancers and video players that measure buffer loss and other metrics. To remove false positives, 5centsCDN complements these services with a traffic-shaping system developed in-house.

Challenge

After experiencing success in Asia and the Middle East, Komalath wanted to expand his business. To do this he needed a CDN to handle requests for clients with audiences in the US and Europe. But high performance and cost were only two factors. The CDN would also need to have a robust API, real-time purging/propagation, and HLS/RTMP support so his engineering team could customize their video delivery solution.

Solution

PART 1

API and Real-Time Platform

The StackPath API is a standard feature that makes features and stats accessible for customization by developers. The engineering team at 5centsCDN uses the API to make StackPath features accessible inside its own user interface (UI). This includes features like instant purging, instant site creation, instant SSL activation, and real-time stats like bandwidth usage.

PART 2

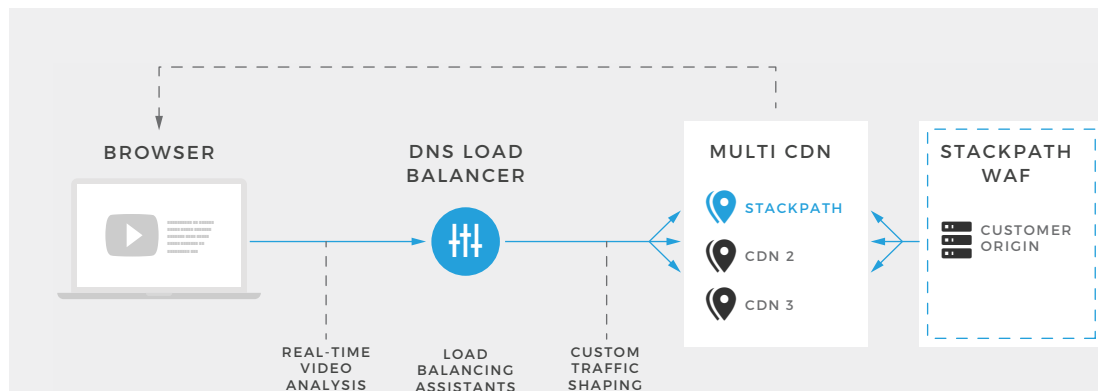
HLS and RTMP Support

The majority of 5centsCDN's clients use HLS for live streaming and RTMP for video on demand. StackPath supports both of these popular protocols and works alongside Komalath's engineering team to explore other solutions to better serve the needs of 5centCDN's customers and their customers' viewers.

BONUS

Cloud-Based WAF

Komalath wanted the new CDN to fulfill all his requirements, and then exceed them. StackPath did this by offering a cloud-based WAF solution at no extra charge that 5centsCDN could offer to its customers. With web security a huge concern for companies nowadays, the ability to offer WAF to customers at no extra charge is a value add that helps 5centsCDN attract new, security-conscious customers.



A visualization of the 5centsCDN architecture and how StackPath plays multiple roles in it.

Results

- 5centsCDN has added new features and controls to its user interface with the StackPath API
- Engineering teams from both companies have worked together to develop a custom solution at no extra cost
- In addition to gaining great performance in the US and Europe, 5centsCDN also acquired the ability to offer a cloud-based WAF to customers