Distributed Cloud Services
Release Notes

September 2023

Welcome to the product release notes for F5® Distributed Cloud Services. Each month, the product team provides additional details on key features and enhancements in this release.

APPLICATION SECURITY

Web Application and API Protection (WAAP)

Enhanced API Spec Enforcement for Responses
We've enhanced OpenAPI Validation', allowing precise validation for responses. This is an expansion of the existing OpenAPI Validation feature. With this update, you can now validate not only requests but also responses with precision and confidence. This expansion encompasses the validation of crucial response properties, including Content-Type, HTTP Headers, HTTP Body, and Response Code.

Change in Geo-IP Provider
We have changed the Geo-IP provider for the platform to one that is more accurate for greater performance of Geo-IP rules. There is no customer action required to take advantage of these new Geo-IPs, any existing Service Policies with Geo-IP rules will operate as they do now.

Updated WAAP Trends Dashboard – New Performance Trends Additions
The performance dashboard now supports trends for Traffic Overview and Throughput widgets. This will enable users to view the change in metrics (up or down) for the selected date time range compared with the previous period, along with the sentiment (positive, negative, or neutral), allowing users to more clearly understand how their applications' performance is evolving over time.
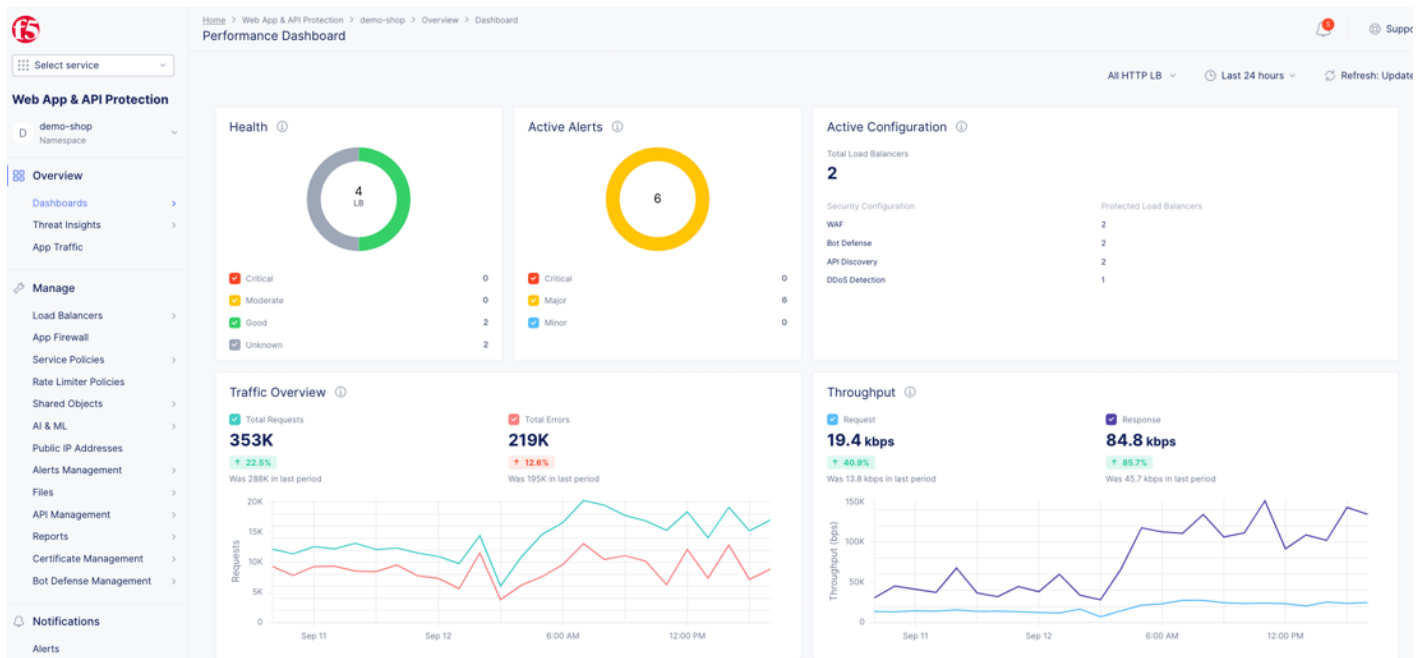

Figure 1: *A screenshot of the updated Performance Dashboard with new trends functionality for traffic and throughput.*

Global Log Receiver Now Supports Google Cloud Storage S3
F5 Distributed Cloud Services continues to enable integration with external log collection systems. This release adds support for Google Cloud Storage with F5 Distributed Cloud Global Log Receiver, allowing customers of Google's S3-compatible Object Storage to send their F5 Distributed Cloud logs and events.

Bot & Risk Management

Self-Service Signup for Automated Threat Briefings
The Automated Threat Briefings (ATB) available to customers of Bot Defense are now available for self-service sign up within the native Distributed Cloud report scheduling system, which makes it easier for customers to configure their reporting preferences in one location. The ATB reports provide a visually compelling summary of bot and human traffic over the month broken down by types of good and malicious bots.

Your Dashboard Highlights   A quick glance about the highlights of your F5 Bot protection

67%

Total automated traffic tracked this month, including good and bad entities

67% Previous Month

526.6K
Good bots discovered

Good bots may create a healthy ecosystem for your network functions

148.7K Previous Month

789.9K
Malicious bots detected

224.8K Previous Month

625.3K
Human visitors to your protected applications

177.5K Previous Month

Figure: Dashboard displaying percentage of bots within overall traffic, numbers of good bots, bad bots, and human visitors.

SECURE MULTI-CLOUD NETWORKING

Network Connect

Custom Security Groups for AWS Sites on Existing VPC
This release introduces the capability for AWS Sites located on existing VPCs to utilize user-provided security groups. Users can now specify their own existing security groups for AWS VPC Sites and AWS TGW Sites. Simplifies brown field insertion of CEs.

APPLICATION PERFORMANCE

DNS

Customizable DNS Refresh Interval for Origin Pool
Users can now set the DNS refresh interval (in seconds) for specific origin server types, providing enhanced control over DNS caching and resolution.

Figure: *Customizable DNS refresh interval configurations*

Import DNS Zones from a Primary Zone
Using a zone transfer (AXFR) you are now able to import DNS zones using the API.

Expanded DNS Record Types Support
New DNS Resource Records (RR) types are now supported: DNSKEY, CDNSKEY, SSHFP, TLSA, CERT, and DLV. These records can now be created using the API, or from the console using validation forms.

Figure: *Expanded record set types for DNS records*

New DNS Dashboards

Improved observability is now available for DNS, which provides a better understanding of DNS traffic in the console. The new dashboard provides details such as the geolocation of requests, top requested DNS records and the distribution of DNS traffic by query type or return code.
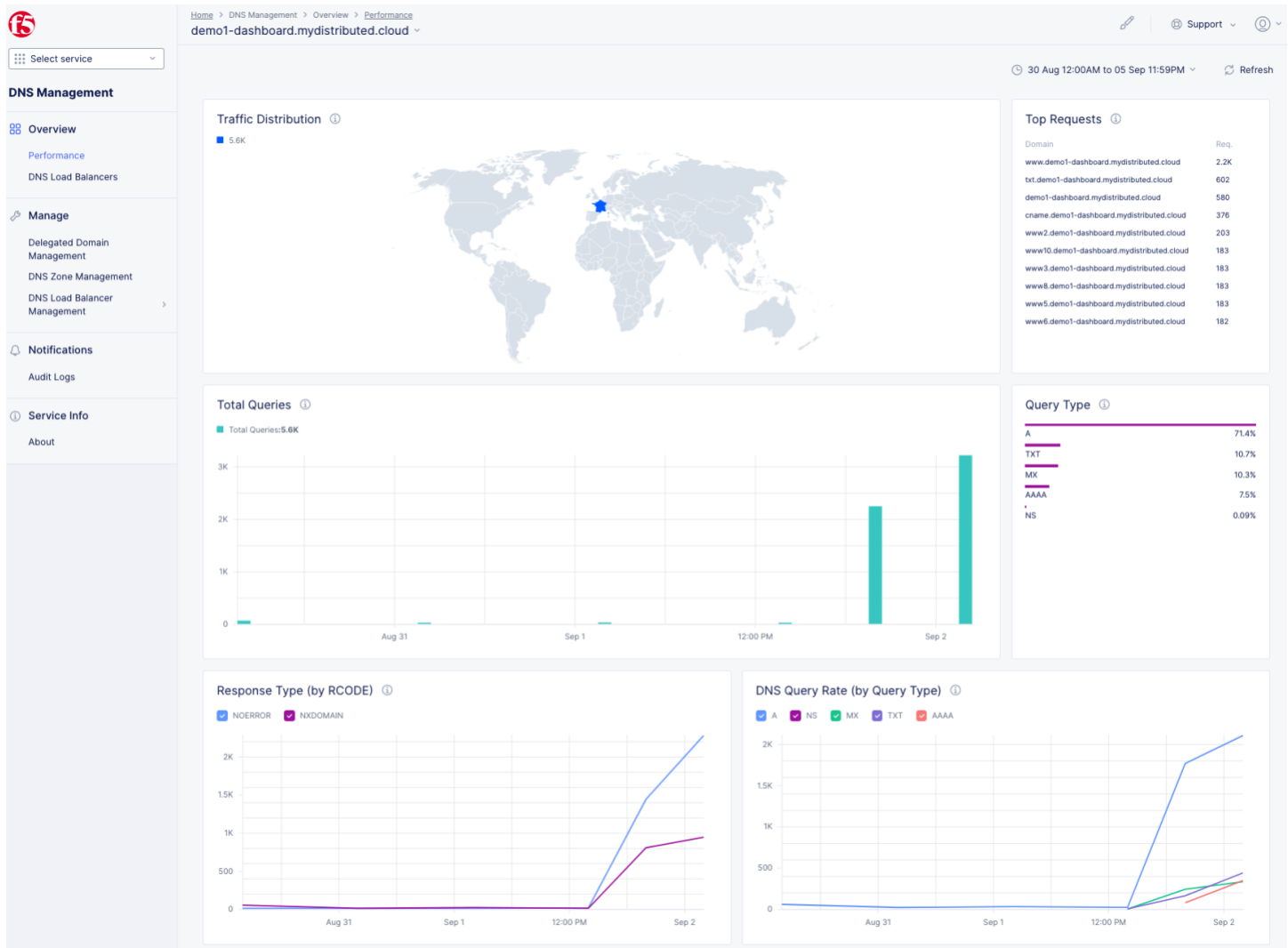
Figure: New DNS dashboard providing visibility for traffic hitting DNS zones on the platform

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Please see the full F5 Distributed Cloud Changelog for additional information, including more new enhancements plus known issues and caveats. We hope you find the information contained in these release notes useful. If you have any feedback, please email: CS_DistributedCloudTeam@f5.com