Stream in 4K with Wowza Streaming Cloud

The Wowza Streaming Cloud™ service supports ultra high definition (UHD) streaming. UHD refers to any stream, video, or display that’s capable of a horizontal resolution of approximately 4,000 pixels. As a result, UHD is often called 4K resolution. Because it contains about four times the pixels, 4K resolution offers a much sharper, clearer picture than 1080p.

To stream in 4K with Wowza Streaming Cloud, you need a camera or encoder that’s capable of producing source video that’s 3840 x 2160 pixels, the 4K UHD standard for television and video games. Then in Wowza Streaming Cloud, create a live stream at 3840x2160 resolution.

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Add the live stream

Start by adding a live stream that receives a 4K stream from an encoder or camera.

1. In Wowza Streaming Cloud, click the Live Streams menu and then click Add Live Stream.
2. On the Live Stream Setup page, enter a Live Stream Name.
3. Choose a Broadcast Location that supports 4K streaming and is as close as possible to where your stream will originate.

4K streaming isn’t available in locations that support 24x7 billing or passthrough streaming.

4. On the Video Source and Transcoder Settings page, select the encoder or camera you want to use to connect to Wowza Streaming Cloud.
5. For Aspect Ratio, choose 3840 x 2160.

6. Specify other video source settings, click Next, and complete the steps to finish creating
Wowza Streaming Cloud creates the live stream and displays the **Overview** tab of the live stream detail page.

**Test your setup**

When your live stream is complete, configure your source encoder or camera and test the entire setup.

1. Select your live stream.
2. Click **Start Live Stream** at the top of the live stream detail page.
3. Click **Start** to confirm that you want to start the stream.

   Wowza Streaming Cloud opens the stream and connects with the source.

4. Start your video source.
5. In Wowza Streaming Cloud, confirm that the stream is working by looking at the **Video Thumbnail** on the **Overview** tab of the live stream detail page.

   The **Video Thumbnail** displays a frame from the live stream every five seconds. The started date and time appear at the bottom of the thumbnail. Connection, transcoding, and delivery metrics begin to update in the **Statistics** panel.

   In addition to the usual metrics, the statistics for 4K streams show GPU encoding and decoding usage.

6. Check playback on various devices, browsers, and platforms to confirm the 4K stream is playing as expected.
7. Click **Stop Live Stream** at the top of the live stream detail page to end your test stream, and then stop the video source.