Connect an RTMP encoder to Wowza Streaming Cloud

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The Wowza Streaming Cloud™ service can connect to any H.264 encoder that supports the RTMP network protocol. This article describes how to use an RTMP-based encoder as the video source for a Wowza Streaming Cloud live stream.

You can set up the encoder first, or set up the live stream in Wowza Streaming Cloud first. Either way, when you start the live stream in Wowza Streaming Cloud, it will periodically try to connect to the encoder until the encoder comes online.

Video tutorial: Send an RTMP Stream to Wowza Streaming Cloud with OBS Studio

Create a live stream that uses an RTMP-based encoder as the video source
1. Sign in to Wowza Streaming Cloud.

2. Click the **Live Streams** menu, and then click **Add Live Stream**.

![Add Live Stream](image)

3. On the **Live Stream Setup** page, enter a **Live Stream Name**, choose a **Broadcast Location**, and then click **Next**.

4. On the **Video Source and Transcoder Settings** page, select **Other RTMP** as the camera or encoder you want to use to connect to Wowza Streaming Cloud.

![RTMP](image)

5. Specify how the encoder will communicate with Wowza Streaming Cloud: Select **Push Stream** if your encoder will push the stream to Wowza Streaming Cloud or select **Pull Stream** if your encoder requires that Wowza Streaming Cloud pull the stream the encoder.

6. Do one of the following:

   - For push streams, select **Push directly to Wowza Streaming Cloud** to send the stream to the transcoder at the live stream’s **Broadcast Location**.

     If you have problems with the direct connection to Wowza Streaming Cloud, select **Push to a stream source** to route the stream through a CDN endpoint as an alternative.

   - For pull streams, enter the encoder’s **Source URL**. See the encoder’s user guide for information about its URL. The hostname or IP address in the URL must be publicly accessible. If authentication information, such as username and password, is included in the source URL, it can only contain alphanumeric, period (.), underscore (_), and hyphen (-) characters.
7. Specify other video source settings, and make sure to select the same Aspect Ratio that you use in your encoder.
8. Click Next, and complete the steps to finish creating the live stream.

**Note:** For more information about live stream settings, see the Help panel on the right side of each page.

Wowza Streaming Cloud creates the live stream and displays the Overview tab of the live stream detail page.

**Set up the encoder**

Make sure you have the latest firmware for your encoder installed. See the encoder’s user guide for details about how to update firmware as well as how to operate the device and how to specify settings such as resolution, bitrate, and frame rate.

See the Source Connection Information on the Overview tab of the live stream detail page for server, port, and other details your encoder may need to connect to Wowza Streaming Cloud.

**Note:** Wowza Streaming Cloud accepts streams over RTMPS on port 443, if your camera or encoder can deliver over it.

**Test the connection**

1. In Wowza Streaming Cloud, select the live stream that uses the RTMP encoder as its video source.
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 encoder.
4. Start the encoder.
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.

6. Click Stop Live Stream at the top of the live stream detail page to end your test stream, and then stop the encoder.

More resources

- Get started with Wowza Streaming Cloud
- Wowza Streaming Cloud user guide
- Encoding best practices for Wowza Streaming Cloud