Control a transcoder with a Wowza stream source in Wowza Streaming Cloud

Originally Published on 12/13/2018 | Updated on 01/16/2020 12:37 pm PST

Learn how to use a Wowza stream source with a live stream or transcoder in Wowza Streaming Cloud™ to automatically detect broadcast location, automatically start a stream when the video source starts, and automatically stop a stream after the video source disconnects.

Associate a Wowza stream source with a live stream

If you prefer the live stream workflow, which automatically creates output renditions and a stream target for you, create a live stream that receives your encoded video at a stream source.

1. Sign in to Wowza Streaming Cloud.
2. Click the Live Streams menu, and then click Add Live Stream.
3. On the Live Stream Setup page, give your stream a name, and then click Next.

   You can leave Broadcast Location set to the default value. Wowza Streaming Cloud will override the selected value and use a DNS query to automatically detect the closest ingest location.

4. On the Video Source and Transcoder Settings page, choose Other RTMP as the encoder you’re using as your video source.

   Note: Wowza stream sources are compatible with video sources using the RTMP source protocol only.

5. Specify the delivery method for your source video: Click Push Stream and then select Push to a stream source.
6. Specify the aspect ratio of the encoded video you’re sending to Wowza Streaming Cloud as well as the other video source and transcoder setup options.

7. Complete the steps to create the live stream: Specify **Playback Settings** and **Hosted Page Settings**, and then review your choices and click **Finish**.

### Associate a Wowza stream source with a transcoder

If you prefer the transcoder workflow, which is more modular, you can create a transcoder at the same time as you associate it with a Wowza stream source. First add the stream source and then configure a transcoder to use it.

#### Add a Wowza stream source

1. In Wowza Streaming Cloud, click the **Advanced** menu, click **Stream Sources**, and then click **Add Source**.
2. Enter a **Stream Source Name**, and then click **Add**.

   **Note:** Wowza stream sources don’t support source authentication.

Wowza Streaming Cloud creates the stream source. Next, create a transcoder and associate it with the stream source.

#### Add a transcoder

1. In Wowza Streaming Cloud, click the **Advanced** menu, click **Transcoders**, and then click **Add Transcoder**.
2. On the **Transcoder Setup** page, give your transcoder a name and specify the transcoder type and billing mode.

   You can leave **Broadcast Location** set to the default value. Wowza
Streaming Cloud will override the selected value and use a DNS query to automatically detect the closest ingest location.

3. Select a source protocol. For ingest to a stream source, select **RTMP**.
4. For the source delivery method, choose **Push to an existing stream source** and then select the Wowza stream source you created.
5. Specify the remaining setup options and then click **Add**.

**Note:** For more information on the transcoder setup options, see the **Help** panel located on the right side of the page.

Wowza Streaming Cloud creates the transcoder and displays the **Outputs & Targets** tab of the transcoder detail page.

6. Complete the transcoder by creating at least one output rendition and one target for it. For instructions see **Create a custom transcoder with many outputs and targets in Wowza Streaming Cloud**.

**Test your connection**

1. Set up your video source using connection details from the live stream or transcoder’s detail page.
2. Start your video source.

Wowza Streaming Cloud receives the stream from the source, starts transcoding, creates output renditions for the stream, and sends each output rendition to the stream target assigned to it.

3. In Wowza Streaming Cloud, confirm that the stream is working by looking at the **Video Thumbnail** on the **Overview** tab of the live stream or transcoder detail page.

The **Video Thumbnail** displays a frame from the 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.
4. To end your test stream, stop the video source.

Once you disable the video source, the transcoder continues to run and accrue charges until it reaches the default idle timeout value of 20 minutes. The transcoder then stops automatically. You can edit the *Idle Timeout* value on the **Transcoder Setup** tab of the transcoder details page so that the transcoder stops sooner.

Alternatively, you can stop the transcoder manually by clicking **Stop Transcoder** at the top of the transcoder detail page. To stop the live stream manually, click **Stop Live Stream** at the top of the live stream detail page.

**More resources**

- Speed up the connection to a transcoder in Wowza Streaming Cloud