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How Catch uses AWS WAF Bot Control on their ecommerce platform

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Speakers



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Agenda

- **01** Threat landscape
- **02** How AWS WAF helped **Catch** improve their security posture
- Ø3 How you can protect your web applications today



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212k Total DDoS attacks

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155M RPS

Largest request flood attack

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212k Total DDoS attacks

155M RPS Largest request flood attack



842 Gbps

Largest bandwidth heavy attack



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212k Total DDoS attacks

155M RPS Largest request flood attack



842 Gbps

Largest bandwidth heavy attack



221M PPS Largest packet attack



Largest request flood events by year, as seen by AWS

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Application (HTTP) layer DDoS events rising

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aws





Application (HTTP) DDoS events 526,000 events detected in 2023 52.1% YoY increase

Performance matters

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70%

Influenced by page speed¹

17%

Decreased conversion every additional second¹ 15%

Frustrated with slow checkout ²

1 Tooltester. (2023, Aug). <u>Website Loading Time Statistics (2023).</u> 2 PYMNTS, Checkout.com (2022) <u>Checkout Conversion Index (2022)</u>



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More than **47%**

of all internet traffic is bots

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Common Bad bot activity Impacting user experience and reputation

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Content scraping

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Content scraping



Credential stuffing / Account takeover fraud

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Card Cracking

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Account creation fraud

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Scalping

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Scalping



Denial of Service



A busy day in October



Impact to the website and APIs

11x EXPECTED TRAFFIC REQUEST VOLUMES



Requests per second (RPS) Errors per second Previous day RPS

How Catch improved their security posture

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Incident response



Implemented a generous rate limit and reduced the threshold as we analyzed traffic patterns

Created a simple IP blocklist rule and created a related playbook



Creating a "break-glass" Geo-Block rule to restrict traffic to Australia and New Zealand



Post-incident review









Post-mortem

Went to market

Proof of concept

Operating model

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It's not just about request costs





Migration state



End-state architecture

	AWS Edge Services	AWS Region	
Amazon Route 53	AWS Shield Advanced Protected Routes AWS WAF ✓ Amazon CloudFront (public endpoints)	Image: Arrow of the end of the en	EKS (website)

aws

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How did we implement new rules?



Understanding traffic patterns

	★ AWS WAF & Shield ~ Saved Views ★ (***) (***) (****) * * * * *	omethod +					☆ Share 🔗 Show Overlays 4	¢ Configure + Add Widgets
Q, Go to 😠 • K	∽ 👍 🍣 WAF Overview			∽ ♥ Shield				
 Recent Dashboards Monitors Watchdog Service Mgmt 	Most frequently blocking rule SignalKnownBotDataCenter CategoryAI NoUserAgent_HEADER CategoryScrapingFramework CategoryScrapingFramework CategoryMiscellaneous CategoryHitpLibrary	Most frequently blocking ruleset AWS-AWSManagedRulesBotControlRuleSet RateLimit-Global Block AWS-AWSManagedRulesCommonRuleSet AWS-AWSManagedRulesPHPRuleSet AWS-AWSManagedRulesPHPRuleSet AWS-AWSManagedRulesPHPRuleSet	Compared to yesterday 0% 250 % RateLimic-POST 0% 45.5 % 250 % AWS-M/CManag 48.0 % 45.1 % 45.1 % AWS-M/CManag 0 % 48.0 % 11.6 % Block +1.6 % 8 11.6 %	Shield DDOS Detected		Shield Packet Volume 1 0.8	Monthly Shield and WA	F Costs Ima
약 Infrastructure 팩 APM	CategoryContentFetcher AnonymousIPList CategoryMonitoring	AWS-AWSMAnagedRulesn Pruleset AWS-AWSManagedRulnownBadInputsRuleSet GeoBlock-Session-Create RateUmit-POST	AWS-AWSManag	64		6.4 6.2	Cost Breakdown	ataTransfer-Shield-Bytes
 Software Delivery Security Metrics 	WAF Blocked Requests	WAF Counted Requests	WAF Allowed Requests	0 1800 Thủ 16 0500 Ta Avg Min Max • 0 0 0	1200 Sum Value 0 0	0 1850 Thủ 16 08500 📑 avg.aws.ddosprote 📑 avg.aws.ddosprot	1200 Shield-M	taTransfer-Shield-Bytes Ionthly-Fee
驹 Logs	18:00 Thu 16 06:00 12:00	18:00 Thu 16 06:00 12:00	18:00 Thu 16 06:00 12:00	↓ DATE CLIENT IP	COUNTRY ISO CODE	METHOD URL PATH	WAF RULE	ACTION CONTENT
	r Avg Min Max Sum Valu	r Avg Min Max Sum Valu	r Avg Min Max Sum Valu	May 16 16:34:56.359	us	GET /product/bring-me-the-horizon	-suicide-s_	CAPTCHA {*captchaResponse
				May 16 16:34:55.787	US	GET /product/irresistible-the-sev	en-secrets_	CAPTCHA ("captchaResponer
				May 16 16:34:55.356	US	GET /product/christopher-marlowe-	a-renaissa_	CAPTCHA {"coptchaResponse
				May 16 16:34:54.868	US	GET /product/blusteele-heavy-duty	-clutch-k1_	CAPTCHA {"captchaflespons
				May 16 16:34:53.198	US	GET /product/solar-panel-6w-6v-mo	nocrystall_	CAPTCHA {"captchaResponsi
				May 16 16:34:52.838	IN	GET /product/2-x-lynx-dark-tempta	tion-total_ TGT_SignalAutomatedBrowse	er CAPTCHA {"ceptchaResponsi

AWS WAF bot mitigation

AWS WAF offers two levels of bot to help manage how our application responds to bots

	Common bots	Targeted bots
Use cases	Detects self-identifying and simple bots. Allow listing of known good bots	Detects bots that try to evade detection by mimicking human behavior
Detection capabilities	Signature-based detection	Behavior-based and ML detection
Detection techniques	IP reputation lists, request headers, reverse DNS lookup, user agent validations	Browser fingerprinting and interrogation, dynamic rate-limiting, automation detection and fallback to CAPTCHA

Managed bot protection



Managed bot protection





Lesson learned





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Use count actions when testing new rules

Address false positives by using scope down statements

Ensure you're ingesting and analyzing the WAF logs

How you can protect your website today

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Work toward well-architected applications



Block lists

IP reputation lists

Shield auto mitigation

Block lists

IP reputation lists

Shield auto mitigation

Baseline & use-case specific rule groups

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Rate-based rules

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Rich metadata added based on detections

Multiple labels are provided, based on categories and the specific bot detected:

For example:

awswaf:managed:aws:bot-control:bot:category:search_engine

awswaf:managed:aws:bot-control:bot:name:duckduckbot

awswaf:managed:aws:bot-control:bot:name:duckduckgo_favicons_bot

Category	
advertising	
archiver	
chatbot	
content_fetcher	
http_library	
link_checker	
miscellaneous	
monitoring	
scraper	
search_engine	
seo	
social_media	
tools	
bot_signals	

Name petalbot googlebot bingbot vandexbot applebot duckduckbot vahoo baidu sogou pinterest twitter linkedin telegram

You can start detecting bots today

01 One-click AWS WAF deploy

O2 Add bot control for targeted bots in count mode

If protecting authentication pages, add account takeover protection ruleset 04 Use the AWS WAF dashboards to review risks detected

O5 Change to blocking, challenge and CAPTCHA actions for categories of bots

OG Create scope down statements to limit inspection to specific URLs or dynamic content

AWS bot control prescriptive guidance

Contract the registery of the regis
Ave: S becametation & Visio Preceiptive Cubica & Implementing a bet control strategy on Wise Ave: S becametation & Visio Preceiptive Cubica & Visio
AWS Prescriptive * BWS Prescriptive * Bus de metal status Mice Maximum
Static controls IP-based, intrinsic checks

Additional resources

BOOKMARK THESE FOR LATER

Amazon CloudFront Pricing and Cost Optimization Guide Cost-effective ways for securing your web applications using AWS WAF CloudFront security savings bundle

AWS best practices for DDoS resiliency

