

Phased Release Cloudlet



Phased Release is an Akamai Cloudlet, a value-added application which complements Akamai's core delivery solutions to solve specific business challenges. Cloudlets bring a site's business logic closer to the end user by placing it on the edge of the content delivery platform.

The Phased Release Cloudlet can help facilitate a fast rollout of code changes to production with real users, allowing you to move some visitors to a new experience or deployment while retaining the flexibility to roll back immediately should you encounter challenges. This Cloudlet provides a mechanism to define a percentage of your visitors and direct them to a different origin while maintaining visitor stickiness. Phased Release provides:

- **Failover:** Requests can continue to your original origin if your alternate origin fails to serve the request.
- **Self-Service:** An easy-to-use user interface and Cloudlets API provide self-service capabilities. You can create custom rules that meet your business needs.
- **Fast Propagation Times:** The Cloudlets Policy Manager allows you to make changes to your configurations on the fly and then propagate those changes quickly.

How Phased Release Works



This diagram shows how Phased Release works when transitioning from an existing application to a newly-deployed application. To create this scenario, first define which visitor populations should be transitioned to the alternate origin.

Once visitors start using the alternate origin, you can then manage the percentage of visitors sent to the alternate origin, or fail back in case errors occur with the alternate origin.

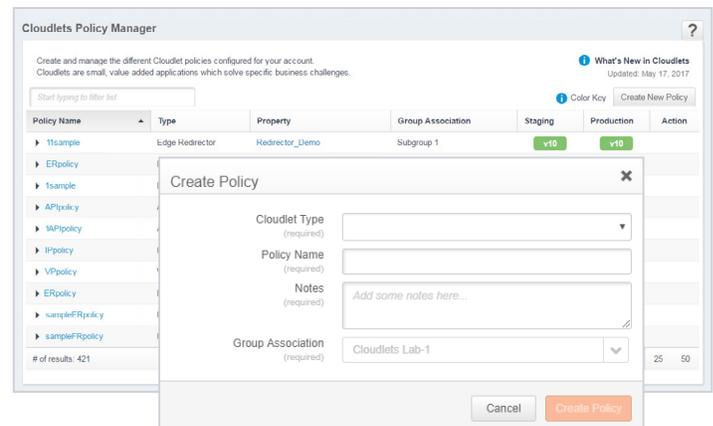
In this example, two populations are defined: one with 100% of users being sent to Origin 1, and another with 15% of users being sent to Origin 2, and the rest being sent to Origin 1. If no issues are found with Origin 2, you can increase the percentage of visitors to Origin 2.

Phased Release Configuration Overview

Once the Phased Release Cloudlet has been added to your contract, complete these tasks:

1. If you are configuring Cloudlets Origins, complete the setup instructions in the Phased Release User Guide. If not, continue with the next step.
2. In Cloudlets Policy Manager:
 - a. Configure a Phased Release policy and rules.
 - b. Activate the policy version.
3. In Property Manager:
 - a. Select the appropriate property.
 - b. Set up the Phased Release behavior.
 - c. Activate the property version.

Create a Phased Release Policy

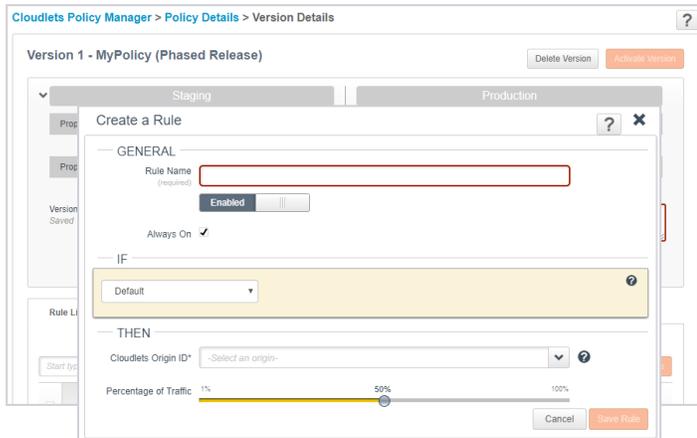


To create a policy for Phased Release:

1. From the Luna Control Center, select **Configure** > **Cloudlets** > **Cloudlets Policy Manager**.
2. Click **Create New Policy**.
3. Complete the following fields:

Field	Entry
Cloudlet Type	Select Phased Release.
Policy Name	Enter the name of the policy.
Notes	Enter a meaningful description for this policy.
Property	Select the property in Property Manager to associate with the policy.

4. Click **Create Policy**. The Policy Details page displays for the new policy.



Configure Rules for Phased Release

Note: There is a limit of 5,000 rules per policy. There is no limit to the number of policies you can create.

To configure rules for Phased Release:

1. From the Luna Control Center, select **Configure > Cloudlets > Cloudlets Policy Manager**.
2. Click the name of the policy you want to add a rule to.
3. Click the policy version number you are adding rules to.
4. Select **Add Rule**.
5. Complete the following fields:

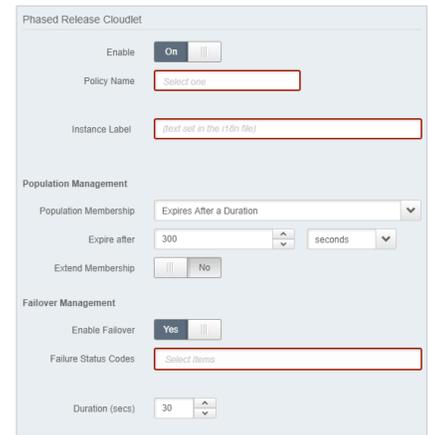
Field Name/Type	Entry
Rule Name	Enter a descriptive name for this rule.
Always On	Select if the rule is always applied. If deselected, start and end date fields display.
Start Date/Time	If the rule is for a fixed time, enter the start date and time.
End Date/Time	If the rule is for a fixed time, enter the end date and time.
Match Type	Select the type of match to use for this rule.
Operator	Select whether to use positive match criteria or negative match criteria.
Match Criteria	Enter the match criteria for this rule.
Case Sensitive	Select if the match criteria is case sensitive.
Cloudlets Origin	Change the incoming request to use the origin you select. You have the option of choosing a Cloudlets Origin configured for the associated property, or letting the property decide which origin to use. Note: Only Cloudlets Origins defined within activated properties will display.
Percentage of Traffic	Select the percentage of traffic that will be sent to the Cloudlets Origin. You can select a value from 1% to 100%.

6. Click **Save Rule** when all your changes are complete, then click **Save Changes** on the Version Details page.

Enable Phased Release in Property Manager

To enable Phased Release in Property Manager:

1. From the Luna Control Center, select **Configure > Manage Properties (under Property Manager)**.
2. Navigate to the property you will be adding Phased Release to.
3. Open the version of the property configuration, then select the rule you want to add this Cloudlet to.
4. Click **Add Behavior**, then select Phased Release from the list of available behaviors.
5. Complete the following fields:



Field	Entry
Enable	Set to On to enable Phased Release.
Policy Name	Specify the name of the appropriate policy.
Instance Label	Enter the label to distinguish this Phased Release policy from others in the same property.
Population Membership	Select whether to store population data in a cookie. Options include: Is Random Every Time (default), Is Permanent, Expires On Browser Close, Expires at Fixed Date/Time, and Expires After a Duration.
Expires After	If Expires After a Duration is selected in the Population Membership field, select when membership will expire.
Extend Membership	If Expires After a Duration is selected in the Population Membership field, choose whether to refresh the population cookie with each request. Selecting Yes extends the duration of population membership.
Enable Failover	Select whether to fail over from the alternate Cloudlets Origin to the origin determined by the property. The failover will occur if the alternate origin returns an error code.
Failure Status Codes	Enter the HTTP response code(s) that signal a failure at the alternate Cloudlets Origin. These codes will initiate the failover process. When entering multiple codes, use a space or comma as a delimiter.
Duration (secs)	Select the number of seconds to stay on the primary origin, when the alternate Cloudlets Origin reports a failure.

6. Save your changes to the rule, then activate the newly-updated property.