Executive Brief

ALTCHA® Sentinel for Enterprises

Overview

ALTCHA Sentinel is **an enterprise-grade, fully self-hosted bot-protection and anti-spam platform** designed for organizations that require **maximum control, compliance, and operational independence**. Unlike cloud-based CAPTCHA services, Sentinel runs entirely within your infrastructure, **ensuring full data ownership, predictable costs, and zero reliance on external providers** such as Google, Cloudflare, or hCaptcha.

Sentinel combines a modern, **frictionless CAPTCHA** with **advanced detection capabilities** — including **machine-learning classifiers, threat intelligence, similarity analysis, and adaptive risk scoring** — to protect forms, APIs, authentication flows, and user-generated content at scale. Its architecture **supports high-availability deployments, multi-region clusters**, and **strict data-residency requirements**, making it **suitable for regulated industries and government environments**.

Organizations choose ALTCHA Sentinel to eliminate:

- **External dependencies** that cause outages when cloud providers fail
- **Compliance risks** from third-party data transfer
- **Unpredictable per-request billing** from cloud CAPTCHA vendors
- **Legacy CAPTCHA frustration** that harms accessibility and user experience

With clear licensing, enterprise support options, and the ability to run anywhere (cloud, on-prem, hybrid, air-gapped), **ALTCHA Sentinel provides a future-proof, transparent alternative to proprietary CAPTCHA ecosystems**.
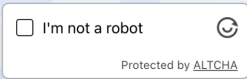
ALTCHA Sentinel Dashboard

Real-time insights and analytics at a glance. Monitor traffic, verifications, and security events with an intuitive, easy-to-use interface.
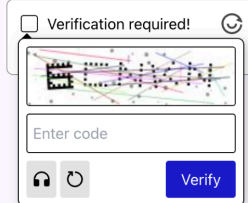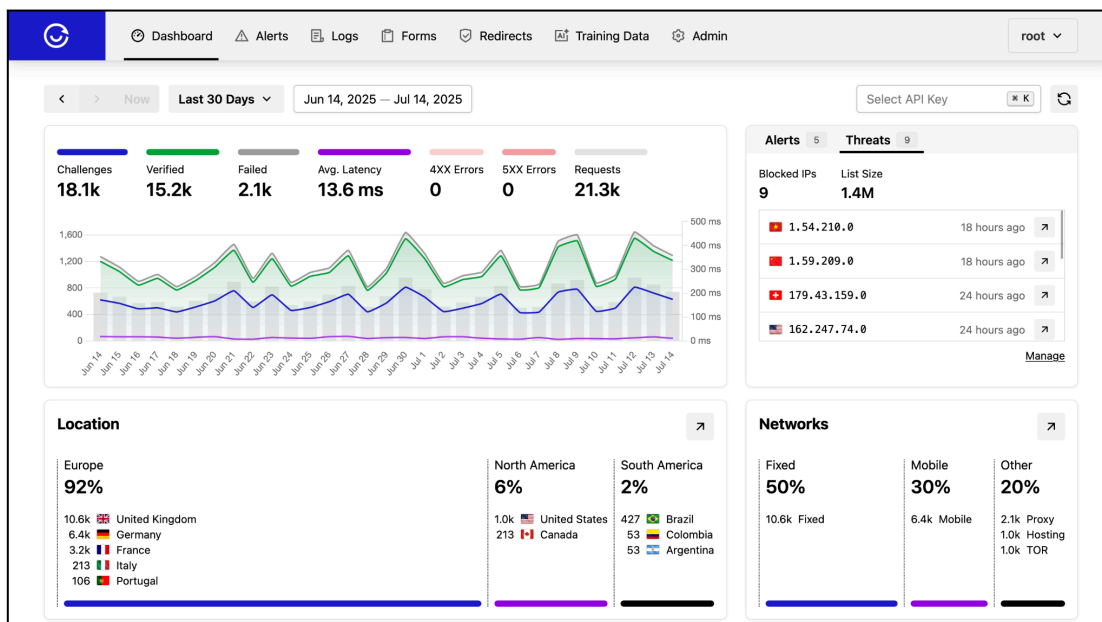

ALTCHA Widget

Fully customizable anti-bot widget that adapts to your site's look and feel. Supports 50+ languages, making it perfect for global audiences while keeping spam at bay.

Frictionless Captcha

The system defaults to a Proof-of-Work (PoW) verification method, eliminating visual puzzles or disruptive challenges. This approach balances security with accessibility, offering an unobtrusive Captcha solution suitable for most users.

Code Captcha

For cases flagged as high-risk, the protection escalates to a secure code challenge. This includes an audio component, ensuring adherence to accessibility regulations like EAA and WCAG without compromising security.

1. What Is **ALTCHA Sentinel**

- Originating from ALTCHA's open-source core, Sentinel **builds on the open-source offering with advanced security features**.
- Instead of relying on cloud services, Sentinel can be **deployed on-premises, providing full data ownership and removing external dependencies**.
- It intelligently adapts to risk — using *adaptive Captcha*, *machine learning classifiers*, *threat intelligence*, and more — to **block abuse without degrading the user experience**.

2. Strategic Advantages

Data Ownership & Control

➔ Fully self-hosted — your data stays in your infrastructure; no external services; no third-party calls.

Regulatory Compliance

➔ Compliant with major global regulations: GDPR, CCPA, HIPAA, LGPD, PIPL, and more.

Operational Reliability

➔ Engineered for high-availability deployments and clustering; no surprise downtime from third-party APIs.

Transparency & Auditability

➔ Open-source components and integration libraries enable full code transparency and audit; vital for security-sensitive environments.

Trusted by Enterprises

➔ Used by large organizations and government agencies in the E.U. and worldwide, demonstrating scale and trust.

3. Compliance & Legal Considerations

ALTCHA Sentinel is designed for organizations with strict regulatory, privacy, and accessibility requirements. Because Sentinel is fully self-hosted, **no data leaves your infrastructure, simplifying compliance** and eliminating the need for a Data Processing Agreement (DPA).

Self-Hosting & Data Control

- All processing occurs inside your environment — your servers, your network, your security perimeter.
- No user data, telemetry, or request metadata is sent to ALTCHA or elsewhere.
- This architecture **eliminates third-party data exposure risks and supports strong governance policies**, including internal audit requirements and industry-specific compliance mandates.

Data Residency & Sovereignty

- **Full control over where data is stored** and processed.
- Supports **regional or in-country deployments** (EU, US, APAC, etc.).
- Suitable for **strict jurisdictions** where external cloud CAPTCHA solutions are non-compliant.

Regulatory Alignment

ALTCHA Sentinel's design helps organizations **meet key global regulatory obligations**, including:

- **GDPR** (EU)
  No personal data is transferred to third parties; processing remains fully on-prem.
- **CCPA / CPRA** (California)
  No "sale" or "sharing" of user data; reduces legal exposure.

- **HIPAA** (US)
  Suitable for healthcare environments because no PHI is transmitted externally.
- **LGPD** (Brazil), **PIPL** (China), and other data-protection laws
  On-prem architecture supports strict localization requirements.

Because ALTCHA does not act as a cloud service processor, most traditional data-processing concerns (DPA, SCCs, cross-border restrictions) do not apply.

Accessibility & EAA Compliance

ALTCHA Sentinel is engineered to ensure inclusivity and compliance with accessibility standards:

- **WCAG 2.2 AA**:
  ALTCHA designs its challenge and fallback systems to be operable without vision, sound, or fine motor skills.
- **European Accessibility Act (EAA)**:
  Provides a compliant alternative to image- or puzzle-based CAPTCHAs, making digital services accessible to all EU users.
- **Keyboard-only operation**, screen-reader compatibility, and non-visual challenge mechanisms ensure equitable access.

This makes Sentinel suitable for public-sector deployments, financial services, healthcare, and other sectors with strict accessibility mandates.

4. Deployment & Support Models

a. On-Premises Deployment

- Your IT team deploys and operates Sentinel (e.g., via Docker, Kubernetes).
- Full operational control: scale, cluster, integrate with SSO, logging, etc.

b. Managed Deployments

- ALTCHA's team operates a fully managed Sentinel cluster on infrastructure of your choice (AWS, private cloud, etc.).
- Suited for organizations that prefer to offload the operational burden but retain data control.

5. Technical & Integration Highlights

- The engineering team can leverage a **rich technical documentation**: integration guides, libraries and plugins, migration guides (e.g., from reCAPTCHA/hCaptcha).
- Sentinel **supports advanced features**:
    - Adaptive Captcha
    - Autopilot (dynamic risk-based policies)
    - Classifier (ML / NLP-based spam detection)
    - Threat Intelligence (blocklists, live IP analysis)
    - Similarity detection & training data (pattern recognition for spam)
    - Rate limiting (contextual, multi-layer)
    - Phishing detection, language detection, link/redirect protection.
    - Analytics and reporting powered by ClickHouse, enabling fast, high-volume data analysis and detailed insights.
- Contains **well-documented installation pathways**: **Docker, Kubernetes, Azure, AWS, SSO, clustering**, etc.
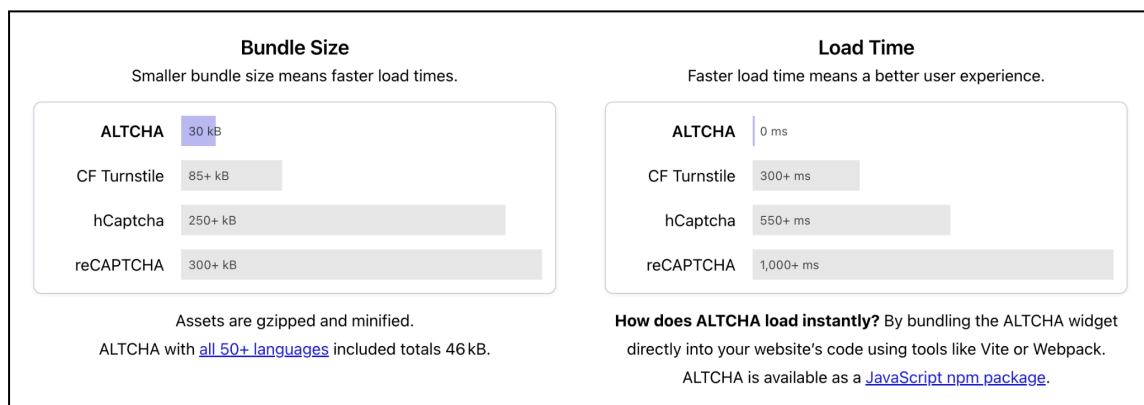
6. Integration Options

ALTCHA Sentinel integrates seamlessly with your existing applications, giving your teams flexibility without adding complexity. Our solution supports a **wide range of platforms**, including traditional websites and mobile apps, through simple, pre-built connectors.

Key Highlights:

- **Web & Mobile Ready** – Easily add ALTCHA to web pages with JavaScript or integrate into mobile apps built with React Native or Flutter.
- **Server-Side Support** – Libraries available for popular backend languages, allowing smooth integration with your infrastructure.
- **Fast & Lightweight** – Designed to minimize impact on user experience while ensuring enterprise-grade protection.
- **Flexible & Future-Proof** – Supports multiple frameworks and languages, enabling adoption across diverse development environments.

ALTCHA's integration options ensure that deploying enterprise-grade anti-spam is straightforward, scalable, and consistent across all your digital channels.

Bundle Size Smaller bundle size means faster load times.		**Load Time** Faster load time means a better user experience.	
ALTCHA	30 kB	ALTCHA	0 ms
CF Turnstile	85+ kB	CF Turnstile	300+ ms
hCaptcha	250+ kB	hCaptcha	550+ ms
reCAPTCHA	300+ kB	reCAPTCHA	1,000+ ms

Assets are gzipped and minified.
ALTCHA with all 50+ languages included totals 46 kB.

How does ALTCHA load instantly? By bundling the ALTCHA widget directly into your website's code using tools like Vite or Webpack. ALTCHA is available as a JavaScript npm package.

Lightweight & Fast – Small bundle size ensures minimal impact on page load, delivering faster performance and a smoother user experience.

7. Onboarding & Go-To-Market

- **Onboarding Process:** Quick, low-friction — self-service + documentation + optional expert assistance.
- **Trial Option:** Free 30-day trial available, enabling proof-of-concept within your environment.
- **Purchase:** Enterprise license available via ALTCHA's customer portal.

8. Risk & Considerations

While Sentinel removes many risks of external CAPTCHA services, adopting a self-hosted solution requires awareness of the following:

Operational Responsibility

- Your team manages deployment, updates, monitoring, and uptime (unless using Managed Deployment).
- Requires baseline DevOps/SRE capability.

Infrastructure Footprint

- Sentinel adds a small but predictable infrastructure cost (servers/Kubernetes resources). Needs to be factored into capacity planning.

Integration & Migration

- Replacing existing CAPTCHA services may require minor code changes and coordination across product, security, and compliance teams.

Security Ownership

- Access control, network security, and patching must follow internal best practices.
- Managed Deployment is available for organizations wanting reduced operational burden.

Support Expectations

- Selecting the correct support tier is important for aligning response times to business-critical workloads.

9. Business Case Highlights

- **Cost saving**: For high-volume verification, Sentinel is dramatically cheaper than cloud CAPTCHA services (e.g., €600 vs €3,500+ for 3 million verifications).
- **Brand trust & user experience:** No more jarring puzzles for users; smoother UX and invisible verification improves conversions.
- **Compliance & security:** Helps drive your data sovereignty and risk mitigation goals.
- **Future-proofing:** The model supports clustering, scaling, and policy automation as threat landscapes evolve.

10. Pricing & Support

ALTCHA Sentinel uses a fixed monthly (or annual) license with unlimited verifications, making it **fundamentally different from consumption-based CAPTCHA services**.

License Structure

- **Enterprise License** (Core Offering)
  - **Fixed price €600 / US$700 per month**
  - Unlimited deployments, clusters, and environments (dev/stage/prod).
  - Unlimited verification volume — no per-request billing.
  - Includes all Sentinel enterprise features, updates, and security enhancements.
- **Managed Deployment** (Optional Add-on)
  - ALTCHA team operates and maintains a dedicated cluster on infrastructure of your choice (AWS, private cloud, etc.).
  - Billed as an additional service fee on top of the license.
  - Ideal for organizations that prefer to offload operational overhead.

- **Billing**
  - Monthly automated billing (card or preferred method).
  - For longer terms, procurement-friendly invoicing via bank transfer.
  - Discounts available for annual (20% off), and bi-annual (10% off) terms.
  - Perpetual licensing options available.

Support Plans

- **Basic Support**
  - Included in the price of the license
  - Best-effort response time, no SLA
  - Email only support channel
- **Enterprise Support** (€300 / US$350 per month)
  - 8-hour response time SLA
  - Within hours avg. resolution time
  - Email only support channel
- **Enterprise Live Support** (€600 / US$700 per month)
  - 4-hour response time SLA
  - Within hours avg. resolution time
  - Email and live chat support channels

Support covers: installation/configuration help, general usage guidance, bug fixes, security patches. Excluded from support: custom development or feature requests, on-site work or consulting, remote direct access to your infrastructure.

Cost Comparison Example

- Traditional CAPTCHA (e.g., reCAPTCHA Enterprise):
  ~€3,500+ per month for ~3 million verifications.
- ALTCHA Sentinel Enterprise:
  ~€600 per month for the same scale (plus minimal infrastructure cost).

This provides stable budgeting, eliminates unpredictable traffic-related spikes, and drastically reduces total cost of ownership.

Who This Pricing Model Benefits Most

- High-traffic platforms
- Enterprises seeking predictable OPEX
- Regulated industries requiring data residency without cloud vendor lock-in
- Organizations consolidating multiple CAPTCHA or anti-spam systems into a single on-prem solution

11. Summary

ALTCHA Sentinel gives enterprises complete control over bot protection by running entirely within their own infrastructure — eliminating third-party data exposure, unpredictable billing, and dependency on external CAPTCHA providers. It offers modern, accessible, high-accuracy detection powered by advanced security features, all with a fixed, transparent licensing model.

For organizations prioritizing security, compliance, reliability, and user experience, Sentinel provides a future-proof, high-trust alternative that scales effortlessly across applications and regions.

12. Contact

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13. Links

- General Information: https://altcha.org/docs/v2/enterprise/
- Sentinel Documentation: https://altcha.org/docs/v2/sentinel/
- Pricing: https://altcha.org/docs/v2/sentinel/pricing/
- EULA: https://altcha.org/docs/v2/sentinel/eula/
- Support Policy: https://altcha.org/docs/v2/sentinel/support-policy/