

Preservica APIs



Preservica
Active digital preservation

Agenda

- What are APIs and why would you use them?
- Where do I Start?
- Making API calls in Swagger and in Postman
- Demo - Preservica APIs and Python
- Summary

What are APIs and why would you use them?

- “API” stands for Application Programming Interface. Software developers create web interfaces so that functionality provided within an application can be accessed from outside the application.
- Consider using APIs for frequently repeated, or complex tasks comprising many individual steps
- Make API calls within your preferred "API platform application" or scripting language
- Start simple, and add complexity over time

Where do I Start?

- Review the various resources provided by Preservica
 - <https://demo.preservica.com/api/documentation.html> (RESTful APIs)
 - <https://developers.preservica.com>
 - <https://community.preservica.com> (OAI-PMH, CMIS)
- Explore Swagger
- Choose an API platform that supports Restful APIs
 - Postman – free download, used by many at Preservica
- Build simple API based applications using Python (or similar) to complete frequent tasks

Making API calls in Swagger

- Explore an "asset"
 - Log into your Preservica environment
 - Retrieve the UUID for an asset within Preservica
 - Open Swagger
 - <https://demo.preservica.com/api/documentation.html>

GET

PUT

POST

DELETE

Preservica Access Tokens

- What is an Access Token?

- A reusable token that may be requested from your Preservica environment
- Provides a mechanism for authenticating API calls without sending username and password credentials
- An Access Token may be acquired by POSTing to the below API call

`"https://demo.preservica.com" + /api + /accesstoken + /login`

- Username and password credentials are passed in the "body" of the request
- A token expires after 15 minutes

Making API calls in Postman

- Download and then install “Postman”
 - <https://www.postman.com/downloads/> (or try Postman on the Web)
 - <https://learning.postman.com/docs/getting-started/introduction/>

Demo - Preservica APIs and Python

- Download and then install “Python”
 - <https://www.python.org/downloads/>

Preservica Versions and API Entitlement

CE Essentials

- OAI-PMH and CMIS content query API

CE Professional

- OAI-PMH and CMIS content query API
- REST API for content read & write (*transaction limits apply*)

Enterprise

- OAI-PMH and CMIS content query API
- REST API for content read & write (unlimited transactions)

Summary

- Read the documentation
- Perform initial tests in Postman or Swagger
- Learn how to acquire a Preservica-Access-Token
- Focus on request syntax (especially json “q” syntax for Content API queries)
- Have a look at some of the examples on <https://developers.preservica.com>
- Preservica APIs will provide results in http link format, in json or in xml
- Ask Preservica!

Thank You

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