

Programmability Webinar Series with DevNet

Session 4: Adding API Skills to Your Networking Toolbox

Patrick Rockholz, Systems Engineer

Hostess: Kara Sullivan

Jointly presented by DevNet & NetAcad

22 January, 2019

reserved. Cisco Confidential

Welcome to the 4th session of the Programmability with Cisco DevNet webinar series

- Use the Q and A panel to ask questions.
- Use the Chat panel to communicate with attendees and panelists.
- A link to a recording of the session will be sent to all registered attendees.
- Please take the feedback survey at the end of the webinar.

The Webinar Series

Date	Topic	
Oct'18	Networking with Programmability is Easy	
Oct'18	A Network Engineer in the Programmable Age	
Nov'18	Software Defined Networking and Controllers	
Jan'19	Adding API Skills to Your Networking Toolbox	The state of
Feb'19	The New Toolbox of a Networking Engineer	1 A Table
Mar'19	Program Networking Devices using their APIs	
Apr'19	Before, During, and After a Security Attack	
May'19	Play with Linux & Python on Networking Devices	
Jun'19	Automate your Network with a Bot	

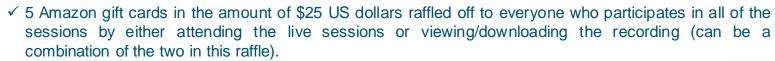
All Series Details can be Found @ http://bit.ly/devnet2

The Webinar Series - Raffle & Certificates

Raffle







^{*} Please note that this is a raffle and not everyone who qualifies will receive a gift card. There will be a total of 15 winners.

Certificate of Participation

- ✓ There will be an opportunity to sign up for a Certificate of Participation at the end of this series.
- ✓ To qualify, you must have participated in all sessions of the series.
- ✓ You can do this by attending the live sessions, viewing the recordings, or a combination of the two.
- ✓ Certificates will not be given out for individual sessions, but for the series as a whole.





CISCO

Session 4
Adding API Skills to Your Networking Toolbox

Patrick Rockholz Systems Engineer 22 January, 2019





Stone Age

Spanning Tree VLANs



Bronze Age

Routing Protocols
WAN Design
IP-magedon



The Renaissance

SDN

OpenFlow

Controllers

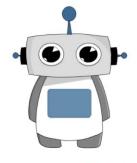
Overlays

MP-BGP

VXLAN

Micro-Segmentation

White Box



Programmable Age

Cloud

Python

REST / APIs

NETCONF / YANG

"Fabrics"

Network Function Virtualization (NFV)

Containers

DevOps

NetDevOps!

The Four Ages of Networking.....



Digital Organizations Embody Digitization

 A organization uses digital technology as a competitive advantage for all internal and external operations.

> Established Brands are rapidly transforming to a Digital Enterprise to catch up...















Disruptors or New Brands have beat established brands at becoming a Digital Enterprise...













... The Network!



Common Challenges



Difficult to Secure

Ever increasing number of users and endpoint types

Increase in complexity to increase scale



Difficult to Integrate and Manage

Multiple steps, user credentials, complex interactions

Multiple touch-points



Slower Issue Resolution

Separate user policies for wired and wireless networks

Unable to find users when troubleshooting

Traditional Networks Cannot Keep Up!

Network as a Platform Considerations Where to Start?



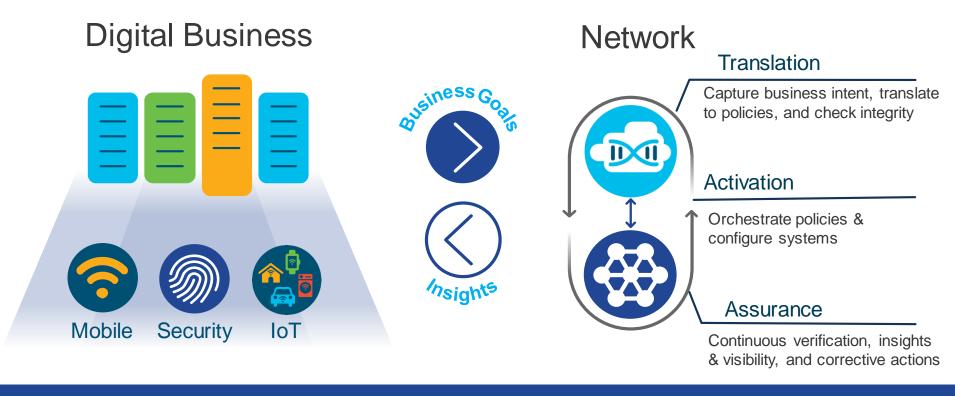








The Network Intuitive = Intent-based Networking



Powered By Intent. Informed by Context.

Cisco DNA Center

Central network management system

Complete network management system

- Single pane of glass for all devices
- · End-to-end health information in real time
- · Granular visibility
- · Simplified workflows

Automation for provisioning

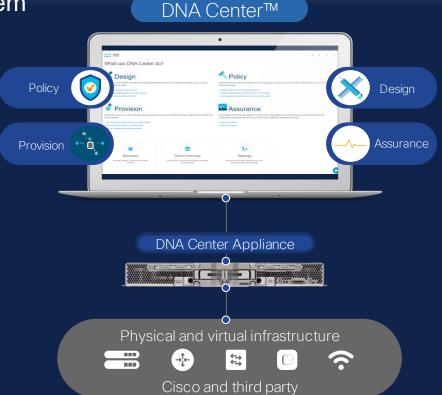
- Zero-touch deployment
- Device lifecycle management
- Policy enforcement

Analytics for assurance

- Verify intent of network settings
- Proactively resolve issues
- Reduce time spent troubleshooting

Platform for extensibility

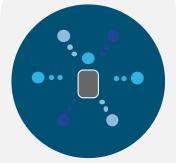
- Integrate APIs with third-party solutions
- Integrate and customize ServiceNow
- Evolve operational tools and processes





Cisco DNA Center Platform

Open **Platform**



- API Catalog
- 3rd party SDK
- Process Adapters

Partner **Ecosystem**



Partner Integrated Solutions

Developer **Enablement**



Developer's **DevNet Portal**

Agenda

- Introduction to APIs & Data Formats
- RESTAPIs
- APIs -> Postman -> Code!
- Summary and Close



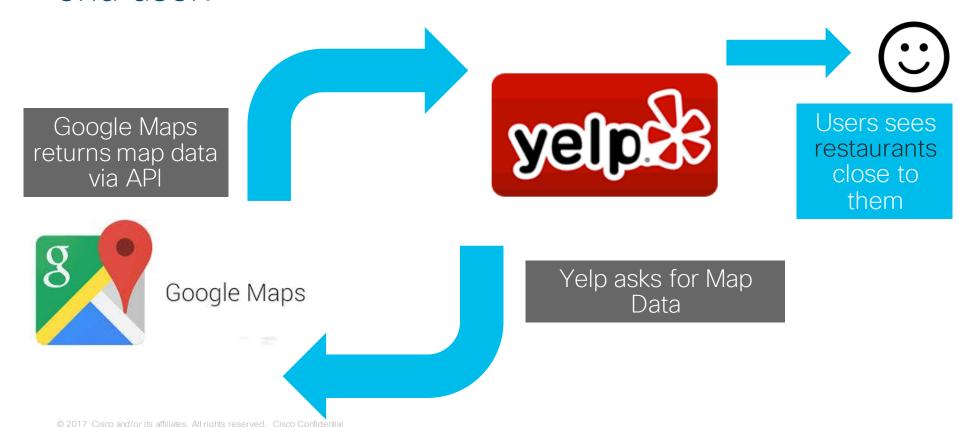
What's an API?

"...a set of clearly defined methods of communication between various software components" – Wikipedia

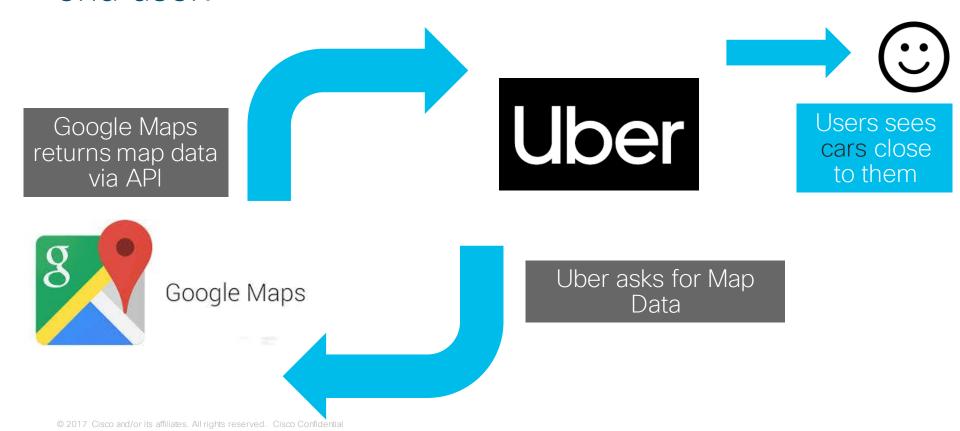
"It's a way for two pieces of software to talk to each other"

Application Programming Interface (API)

APIs help developers create apps that benefit the end user.

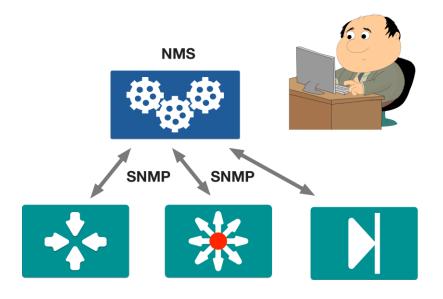


APIs help developers create apps that benefit the end user.



Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP)

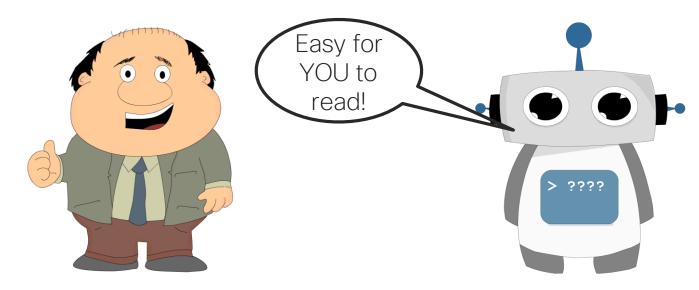
- "designed as a programmatic interface between management applications and devices"*
- Widely used for monitoring
- Limited use for configuration
- Network Management Systems primary consumer



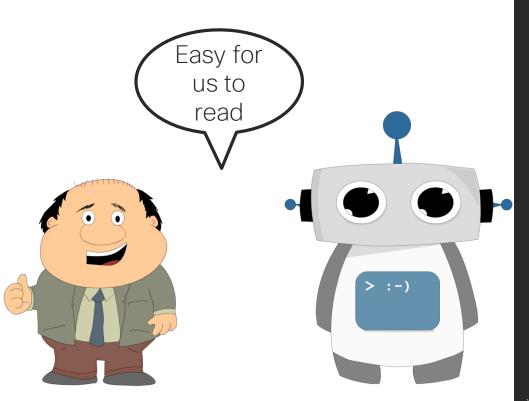
Importance of a Data Format

Know Your Audience

Interface	IP-Address	OK? Method Status	Protocol
GigabitEthernet1	10.0.2.15	YES DHCP up	up
GigabitEthernet2	172.16.0.2	YES manual up	up
GigabitEthernet3	172.17.0.1	YES manual up	up



Know Your Audience



```
"ietf-interfaces:interfaces": {
   "interface": [
            "name": "GigabitEthernet2",
            "description": "Wide Area Network",
            "type": "iana-if-type:ethernetCsmacd",
            "enabled": true,
            "ietf-ip:ipv4": {
                "address": [
                        "ip": "172.16.0.2",
                        "netmask": "255.255.255.0"
            "name": "GigabitEthernet3",
            "description": "Local Area Network",
            "type": "iana-if-type:ethernetCsmacd",
            "enabled": true,
            "ietf-ip:ipv4": {
                "address": [
                        "ip": "172.17.0.1",
                        "netmask": "255.255.255.0"
```

Common Data Formats in Programming

"ietf-interfaces:interface": { "name": "GigabitEthernet2", "description": "Wide Area Network", "enabled": true, "ietf-ip:ipv4": { "address": ["ip": "172.16.0.2", "netmask": "255.255.255.0"

XML

YAML

```
ietf-interfaces:interface:
  name: GigabitEthernet2
  description: Wide Area Network
  enabled: true
  ietf-ip:ipv4:
    address:
    - ip: 172.16.0.2
    netmask: 255.255.255.0
```

"Key" : "Value"

- "Key" identifies/labels a set of data
- · Left side of the colon
- Inside of "quotes"

```
"name": "GigabitEthernet2",
  "description": "Wide Area
Network",
  "enabled": true
}
```

- "Value" is the Data
- Right side of colon
- · Can be:
 - String
 - Integer
 - Array/List
 - Bool
 - Object

JSON - JavaScript Object Notation

A human readable data structure that applications use to store, transfer, and read data.

- A data-interchange text format
- Notated with {} for objects, [] for arrays
- Key/Value representation"key": value
- · Whitespace not significant

```
"ietf-interfaces:interface": {
  "name": "GigabitEthernet2",
  "description": "Wide Area Network",
  "enabled": true,
  "ietf-ip:ipv4": {
    "address": [
        "ip": "172.16.0.2",
        "netmask": "255.255.255.0"
```

JSON Object

- Data surrounded by { }
- An object can contain other objects or data entries
- Key/Value set separated by comma
 - No comma at the end!

```
"ietf-interfaces:interface": {
  "name": "GigabitEthernet2",
  "description": "Wide Area Network",
  "enabled": true,
  "ietf-ip:ipv4": {
    "address": [
        "ip": "172.16.0.2",
        "netmask": "255.255.255.0"
```

JSON List

- List of data
 - Can be composed of JSON objects
- Notated with brackets
- Comma Separated

```
"addresses": [
   "ip": "172.16.0.2",
    "netmask": "255.255.255.0"
   "ip": "172.16.0.3",
   "netmask": "255.255.255.0"
   "ip": "172.16.0.4",
    "netmask": "255.255.25.0"
```

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The Value-Proposition for APIs



The API is the User Interface for the software system



Just Another Use for the HTTP Protocol

- Representational state transfer (REST)
- API framework built on HTTP
- APIs often referred to as web services
- Popular due to performance, scale, simplicity, and reliability

GET

POST

PUT

DELETE

{REST}

The URI: What are you Requesting?

http://maps.googleapis.com/maps/api/geocode/json?address=sanjose

Server or Host Resource Parameters

- http:// or https://
 - Define whether secure or open http
- Server or Host
 - Resolves to the IP and port to connect to

- Resource
 - The location of the data or object of interest on the server
- Parameters
 - Details to scope, filter, or clarify a request. Often optional.

URI = Uniform Resource Identifier

HTTP Methods: What to do?

HTTP Verb	Typical Purpose (CRUD)	Description
POST	Create	Used to create a new object, or resource. Example: Add new book to library
GET	Read	Retrieve resource details from the system. Example: Get list of books from the library
PUT	Update	Typically used to replace or update a resource. Can be used to modify or create. Example: Update the borrower details for a book
PATCH	Update	Used to modify some details about a resource. Example: Change the author of a book
DELETE	Delete	Remove a resource from the system. Example: Delete a book from the library.

Response Status Codes: Did it work?

Status Code	Status Message	Meaning
200	ОК	All looks good
201	Created	New resource created
400	Bad Request	Request was invalid
401	Unauthorized	Authentication missing or incorrect
403	Forbidden	Request was understood, but not allowed
404	Not Found	Resource not found
500	Internal Server Error	Something wrong with the server
503	Service Unavailable	Server is unable to complete request

Headers: Details and meta-data

Header	Example Value	Purpose
Content-Type	application/json	Specify the format of the data in the body
Accept	application/json	Specify the requested format for returned data
Authorization	Basic dmFncmFudDp2YWdyYW50	Provide credentials to authorize a request
Date	Tue, 25 Jul 2017 19:26:00 GMT	Date and time of the message

- Used to pass information between client and server
- Included in both REQUEST and RESPONSE
- Some APIs will use custom headers for authentication or other purpose

Data: Sending and Receiving

- Contained in the body
- POST, PUT, PATCH requests typically include data
- GET responses will include data
- Format typically JSON or XML
 - Check "Content-Type" header

```
'title': 'Hamlet',
'author': 'Shakespeare'
```

HTTP Authentication and Security

- None: the Web API resource is public, anybody can place call.
- Basic HTTP: a username and password are passed to the server in an encoded string.
 - Authorization: Basic ENCODEDSTRING
- Token: a secret generally retrieved from the Web API developer portal.
 Keyword (ie token) is API dependent
 - Authorization: Token aikasf8adf9asd9akasdf0asd
- OAuth: Standard framework for a flow to retrieve an access token from an Identity Provider.
 - (Often used to allow users to authorize access on their behalf)
 - Authorization: Bearer 8a9af9adadf0asdf0adfa0af
- Authorization can be short-lived and require refreshing of tokens

Some REST Examples

The Internet Chuck Norris Database

```
DevNet$ curl https://api.icndb.com/jokes/random
    "type": "success",
    "value": {
        "id": 201,
        "joke": "Chuck Norris was what Willis was talkin' about.",
        "categories": []
DevNet$ curl https://api.icndb.com/jokes/random?limitTo=nerdy
    "type": "success",
    "value": {
        "id": 537,
        "joke": "Each hair in Chuck Norris's beard contributes to make the world's largest DDOS.",
        "categories": [
            "nerdy"
                                                     http://www.icndb.com/api/

    No authentication needed
```

Well constructed API with many options

Network Programmability with RESTCONF

The Request

```
DevNet$ curl -vk \
    -u root:D_Vay\!_10\& \
    -H 'accept: application/yang-data+json' \
    https://ios-xe-mgmt.cisco.com:9443/restconf/data/ietf-interfaces:interfaces/interface=GigabitEthernet2

> GET /restconf/data/ietf-interfaces:interfaces/interface=GigabitEthernet2 HTTP/1.1

> Host: 10.10.20.21

> User-Agent: curl/7.51.0

> accept: application/yang-data+json

> authorization: Basic dmFncmFudDp2YWdyYW50

>
```

- -u provides user:password for Basic Authentication
- -H to set headers
- Lines beginning with ">" indicate Request elements
- Lines beginning with "<" indicate Response elements (next slide)

Network Programmability with RESTCONF

The Response - Headers

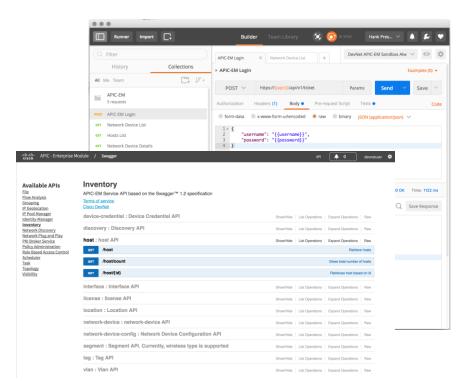
```
< HTTP/1.1 200 OK
< Server: nginx
< Date: Thu, 27 Jul 2017 00:01:52 GMT
< Content-Type: application/yang-data+json
< Transfer-Encoding: chunked
< Connection: close
< Last-Modified: Tue, 25 Jul 2017 19:15:57 GMT
< Cache-Control: private, no-cache, must-
revalidate, proxy-revalidate
< Etaq: 1501-10157-179272
< Pragma: no-cache
```

The Response - Data

```
"ietf-interfaces:interface": {
  "name": "GigabitEthernet2",
  "description": "Wide Area Network",
  "type": "iana-if-type:ethernetCsmacd",
  "enabled": true,
  "ietf-ip:ipv4": {
    "address": [
        "ip": "172.16.0.2",
        "netmask": "255.255.255.0"
  "ietf-ip:ipv6": {
```

Many Options for Working with REST APIs

- curl
 - · Linux command line application
- Postman
 - Chrome browser plugin and application
- Requests
 - Python library for scripting
- OpenAPI/Swagger
 - Dynamic API Documentation
- Browser Developer Tools
 - View traffic and details within browser



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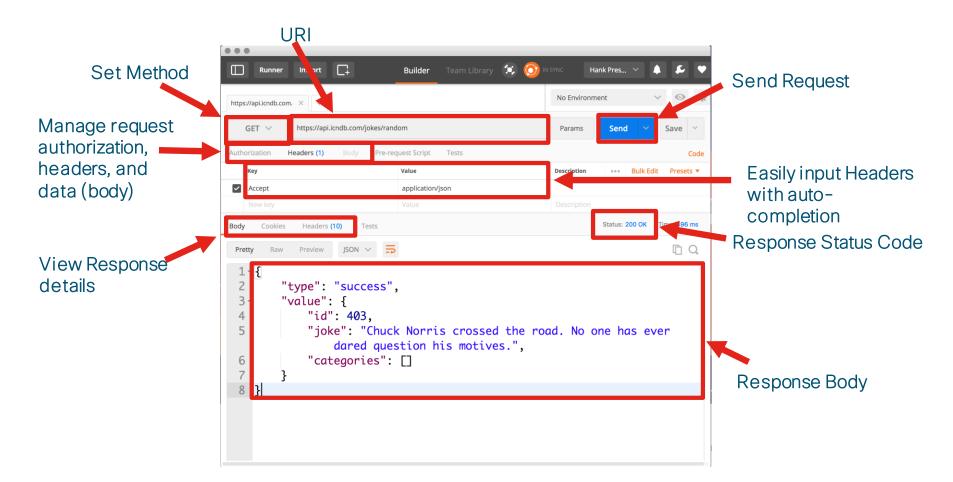


Postman: Powerful but Simple REST API Client

- · Quickly test APIs in GUI
- Save APIs into Collections for reuse
- Manage multiple environments
- Auto generate code from API calls
- Cross platform
- Free-to-use

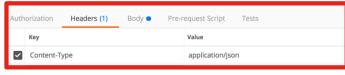


https://www.getpostman.com



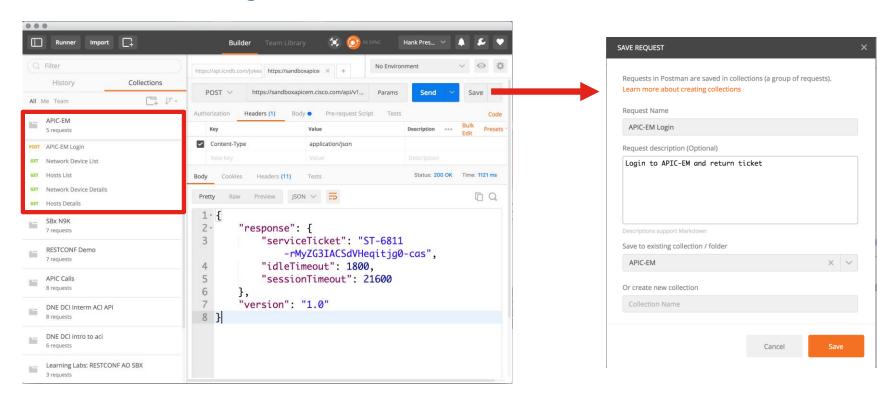
Constructing a POST Request

- Choose method
- Enter URI
- Configure headers and authentication
- Provide data
- Send and verify status



```
Team Library (1) (7) IN SYNG
                                                                   No Environment
https://api.icndb.com/iokes/ https://sandboxapice/ × +
             https://sandboxapicem.cisco.com/api/v1/ticket
                                                                                         Save
                              Pre-request Script
                                                                                              Code
          x-www-form-urlencoded raw binary JSON (application/json)
form-data
          "username": "devnetuser",
          "password": "Cisco123!"
                                                                            Status: 200 OK Time: 1121 ms
              Headers (11)
                                                                                          In Q
       Raw Preview ISON V 5
          "response": {
               "serviceTicket": "ST-6811-rMyZG3IACSdVHegitjq0-cas",
               "idleTimeout": 1800,
               "sessionTimeout": 21600
          "version": "1.0"
```

Save and Organize API Calls into Collections



Variables Make Requests Reusable and Flexible

- Never good to hardcode details
- What if you want to connect to different host?
- What if credentials change?

```
POST 

https://sandboxapicem.cisco.com/api/v1/ticket

Authorization Headers (1) Body Pre-request Script Tests

form-data x-www-form-urlencoded raw binary JSON (application/json) 

1 {
2     "username": "devnetuser",
     "password": "Cisco123!"

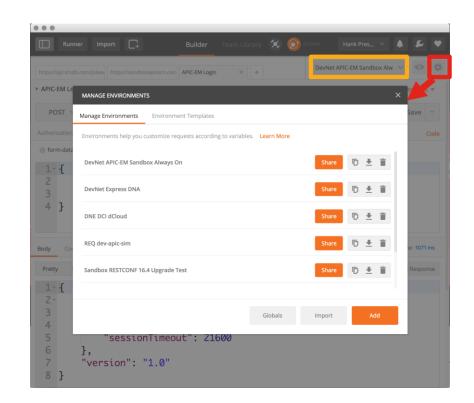
4 }
```

Variables Make Requests Reusable and Flexible

- Variables References
 - {{apic}}
 - {{username}}
 - {{password}}

Managing Environments

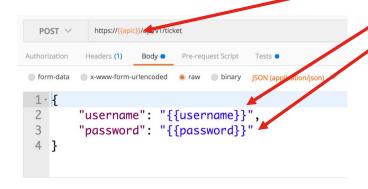
- Create any number of environments needed
- Change between environments with drop down list

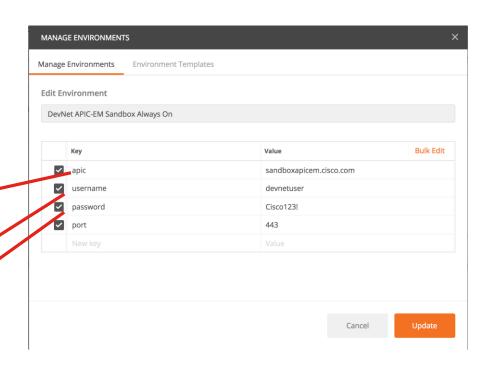


Managing Environments

 Add as many variables as needed

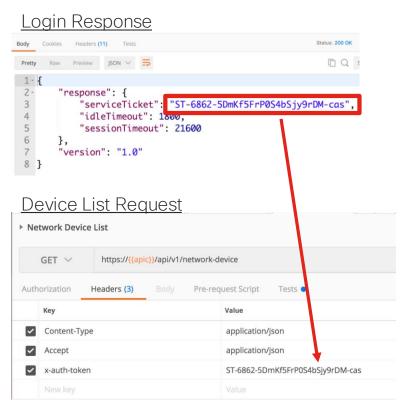
Reference anywhere with { variable name } } syntax





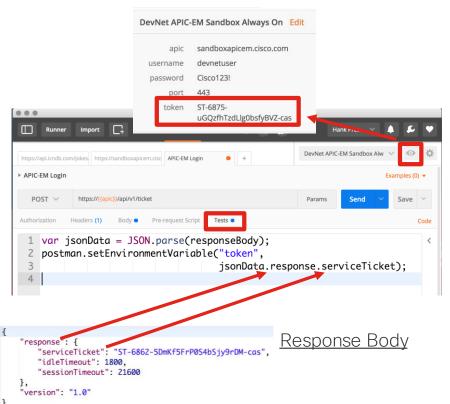
Setting Environment Variables Dynamically

- What about when info from one request is needed in another?
- Manually copying/pasting slow and error prone
- Manually updating environment variables is slow and awkward



"Tests" Enable Dynamic Environment Variables

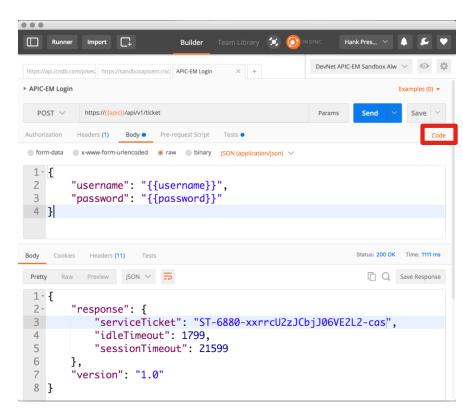
- Each API Request offers both pre and post actions
 - Pre -> Pre-request Script
 - Post -> Tests
- Written in JavaScript



Postman to Code!

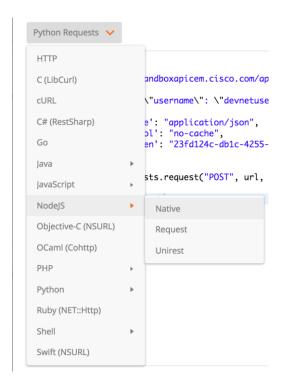
You'll eventually want to write some code...

- Postman great for testing and validating APIs
- But it's about atomic actions
- Business Logic, stringing APIs together, etc all need code
- Jumpstart with auto-generated code by Postman



You'll eventually want to write some code...

 Many, many options for languages available

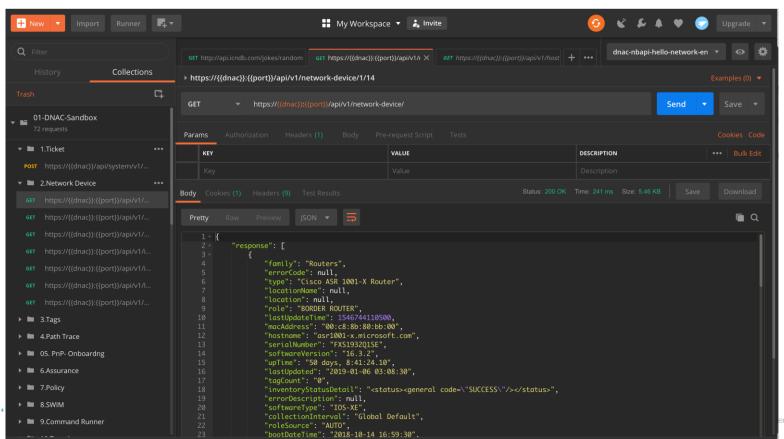


Full API Request to Code!

- Headers, payload data, and URI all included
- Environment variables are translated
- Great starting point, but expect to edit and update

```
GENERATE CODE SNIPPETS
       import requests
       url = "https://sandboxapicem.cisco.com/api/v1/ticket"
       payload = "{\n\t\"username\": \"devnetuser\", \n\t\"password\": \"Cisco123!\"\n}"
       headers = {
            'content-type': "application/json",
           'cache-control': "no-cache",
           'postman-token': "23fd124c-db1c-4255-83fe-b97d57a59b29"
   11
       response = requests.request("POST", url, data=payload, headers=headers)
       print(response.text)
```

Demo



CISCO

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What have we learned?

What is an API

A brief look at working with REST APIs

Using Postman as a way to work with APIs



Resources and Starting Points

- DNA-Center Sandbox <u>https://sandboxdnac.cisco.com</u> - username=devnetuser, password=Cisco123!
- APIC-EM Sandbox (depreciated, but still useful to test API calls)
 https://sandboxapicem.cisco.com username=devnetuser, password=Cisco123!
- Cisco DevNet Postman Collections -<u>https://github.com/CiscoDevNet/netprog_basics/tree/master/postman_config</u>
- Other APIs to try
 - The Internet Chuck Norris Database http://www.icndb.com/api/
 - Deck of Cards API https://deckofcardsapi.com
 - Free Public API repository https://github.com/toddmotto/public-apis/blob/master/README.md

CiscoLive

SOLDGT-1000 – Cisco DNA Center Platform

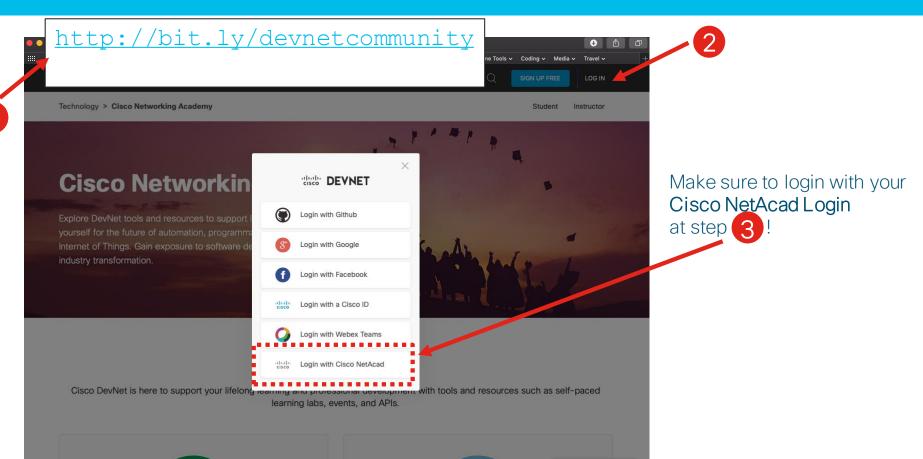
DEVNET-1897 - Coding 1001 - Intro to APIs and REST

DEMNET-2877 - Exploring Cisco DNA-C as a Platform

Questions?



Want to learn more about the DevNet community?



Next DevNet Webinar: 13 February 2019

	Date	Topic	
>	Oct'18	Networking with Programmability is Easy	
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