

DevNet Experts.

Topic- CCNA- Devnet





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OVERVIEW

- Software Development and Design Understanding and Using APIs • Cisco Platforms and Development Application Deployment and Security Infrastructure and Automation Network Fundamentals



Software Development and Design

Understanding and Using APIs

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Cisco Platforms and Development



Application Deployment and Security





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Infrastructure and Automation

Network Fundamentals

Software Development & Design.

- With the cloud computing popularity, concepts like IaaS and PaaS are gaining popularity as well
- IaaS stands for Infrastructure as a Service
- PaaS stands for Platform as a Service
- Service here refers to a piece of software that abstracts the underlying infrastructure or platform component
- This makes it easy for them to be provisioned, configured, managed, and decommissioned



Software Development & Design (cont.)

- Another related concept is Infrastructure as Code (IaC)
- It is the practice of provisioning and managing infrastructure defined through code instead of manual process
- Allows easy editing and distribution of configuration
- Always ensures that infrastructure is in its desired state
- This results in reliable and reproducible infrastructure configurations



Software Development & Design (cont.)

- Hence it is necessary for network engineers to be familiar with software development and design principles like:
- 1.Usage of data interchange formats like XML and JSON
- 2. Configuration specification format like YAML
- 3. Software development methodologies like agile, lean and waterfall
- 4. Organizing the code into methods, functions, classes and modules
- 5. Different design patterns like MVC (Model View Controller) and Observer
- 6. Advantages of version controlling the code
- 7. Working with version control tools like Git

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Cisco Webex XML API Response

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>

<serv:message xmlns:serv="http://www.webex.com/schemas/2002/06/service"</pre> xmlns:com="http://www.webex.com/schemas/2002/06/common" xmlns:meet="http://www.webex.com/schemas/2002/06/service/meeting" xmlns:att="http://www.webex.com/schemas/2002/06/service/attendee"> <serv:header>

<serv:response>

<serv:result>SUCCESS</serv:result>

<serv:gsbStatus>PRIMARY</serv:gsbStatus>

</serv:response>

</serv:header>

<serv:body>

<serv:bodyContent xsi:type="meet:createMeetingResponse"</pre>

xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance">

<meet:meetingkey>48591508</meet:meetingkey>

<meet:iCalendarURL>

<serv:host>https://www.webex.com/calendarurl1/j.php?ED=48591508&U ID=BA24987F&ICS=MIFH&ST=12</serv:host>

<serv:attendee>https://www.webex.com/calendarurl1/j.php?ED=485915 08&UID=BA24987F&ICS=MIFA&ST=12</serv:attendee>

</meet:iCalendarURL>

<meet:guestToken>f10324e2af4823c278fa1a6efadc426c</meet:guestToken> </serv:bodyContent>

</serv:body>

</serv:message>







Understanding and Using APIs

- An Application Programming Interface (API) defines a set of rules that explain how two computers or two applications on those computers communicate with each other
- APIs enable companies to open up their applications' data and functionality to third party developers or business partners
- This was an important milestone in opening up closed devices and software like network infrastructure to a wide range of integration with monitoring or orchestration and other applications



Understanding and Using APIs (cont.)





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Understanding and Using APIs (cont.)

- For network engineers to be able to integrate network devices and application with third party tools the following expertise is needed
- 1. Ability to understand API documentation and execute **API** requests
- 2. Working with webhooks to consume data received from third party integrations
- 3. Troubleshoot API issues based on HTTP error messages, API request and documentation
- 4. Understand different API authentication mechanisms (basic, bearer tokens, API keys)
- 5. Writing Python scripts to make API calls using requests library



Python script to get all hosts from DNAC

```
from dnac import *
# Controller ip, username and password are defined in dnac_config.py
# The get() function is defined in dnac.py
# Get token function is called in get() function
try:
    resp= get(api="host")
    response_json = resp.json() # Get the json-encoded content from response
    print (json.dumps(response_json,indent=4),'\n') # Convert "response_json" object to a JSON formatted string and print it out
except:
    print ("Something wrong with GET /host request")
    sys.exit()
# Parsing raw response to list out all users and their role
for host in response_json["response"]:
    if 'connectedInterfaceName' in host:
        interface = host['connectedInterfaceName']
    else:
        interface = None
    print ("Host '%s': Connected to %s/%s"%(host['hostIp'],
                                            host["connectedNetworkDeviceName"],
                                            interface ))
```

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Cisco Platforms & Development.

- In view of the growing popularity of Software Defined Networking and Infrastructure as Code concepts, Cisco has been providing SDKs, exposing APIs for all their products like:
- 1. Network management platforms (Meraki, DNAC, ACI, NSO, SD-WAN)
- 2.Compute management platforms (UCS Manager, UCS Director, Intersight)
- 3. Collaboration platforms (Webex, Unified

Communication Manager, Finesse)

4. Security platforms (Firepower, Umbress, AMP, ISE



Application Deployment and Security.

- Once we develop application using the integration points provided by Cisco and other vendors, it's time to think of deploying these applications in a secure way.
- Hence a network engineer must:
- 1. Be able to understand concepts of virtual machines, bare metal, containers
- 2. Understand concept of CI/CD pipelines
- 3. Be able to write Python unit tests
- 4. Understand working with Docker
- 5. Understand firewalls, DNS, load balancers and reverse proxy
- 6. Be able to understand top OWASP threats like XSS, SQL Injection CSRF





Pipeline to generate, test, deploy config changes



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Infrastructure and Automation.

- Now that we have code which gets deployed on different kinds of infrastructure, it's time to think of automating most of our tasks
- For this the network engineer should be familiar with the automation tools and frameworks available out there:
- 1. Infra automation via CI/CD pipelines
- 2. Tools such as Ansible, Chef, Puppet, Cisco NSO
- 3. Python script using APIs for ACI, DNAC, RESTCONF
- 4. Interpreting and using YANG data models
- 5. Use network simulation tools such as VIRL/ PyATS



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Network Fundamentals.

- Having said that, the most important element to make all this network automation efforts successful is the domain knowledge
- Needless to say you should be familiar with:
- 1. Basic networking concepts like MAC addresses, VLANs
- 2. Purpose and usage of IP Addresses, routes, subnet mask, prefix and gateways
- 3. Networking components like switches, routers, firewalls and load balancers
- 4. Roles of management, data and control planes in network devices
- 5. Describing functionalities of DHCP, DNS, NAT, SNMP, NTP
- 6. Protocols such as SSH, Telnet, HTTP(S), NETCONF, RESTCONF
- 7. Identifying connectivity issues like NAT problem, Ports being blocked
- 8. Explaining impact of network constraints on applications

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DEMO.