

# GlobalWeather REST API - Tech Spec

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*Last Modified: 17th September 2021*

*Version: 1.0*

## Summary

GlobalWeather is a free web service. It provides data about the current weather for all major cities around the World, and the major cities for each country. The service is located at <http://www.webservicex.net/globalweather.asmx>.

This legacy SOAP API web service is accessible for the vast majority of applications over the internet. The proposed new GlobalWeather RESTful API here will address most of the issues facing many applications these days, building API integrations for bridging the gap between the legacy and modern end users. There would be no need of re-architecting or re-designing the legacy system with RESTful applications, which would save us time and cost.

## Goals

- Providing a solution for exposing a legacy SOAP based web service through REST API
- The solution must quickly and easily take existing SOAP - XML based service and generate REST/JSON format
- The solution must consume/expose SOAP endpoint through REST API and the following methods:
  - **GetCitiesByCountry** to get a list of all the cities for any country
  - **GetWeather** to get weather for any city/country combination

## Non-Goals

At this stage, these will be not covered:

- Security - *not implemented yet*;
- Authentication & Authorisation - *not implemented yet*;
- Pagination - *not implemented yet*;
- Filters - *not implemented yet*;
- POST, PUT, PATCH, DELETE - *not implemented yet*.

## Plans

GlobalWeather RESTful API will be based on a REST Architectural style. The service will bridge the gap between the existing GlobalWeather web service, a legacy based SOAP API and to reach more end-users. Basically, the GlobalWeather API will transform a SOAP message payload to a JSON payload as the majority of applications work with JSON.

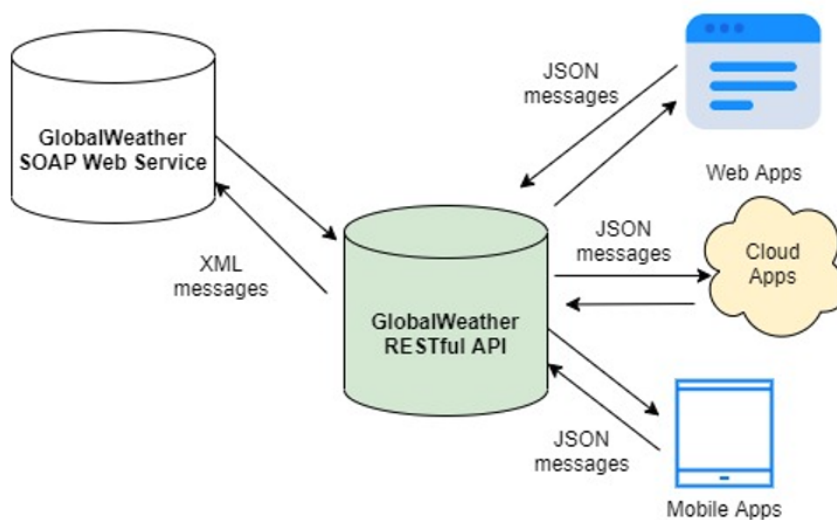


fig.1 REST API integration

## Technology choice:

REST API is the preferable type of API over SOAP these days as it works better for modern thin clients. Using the REST API will mean we are able to do more, quicker, and with less bandwidth compared with heavyweight SOAP web services.

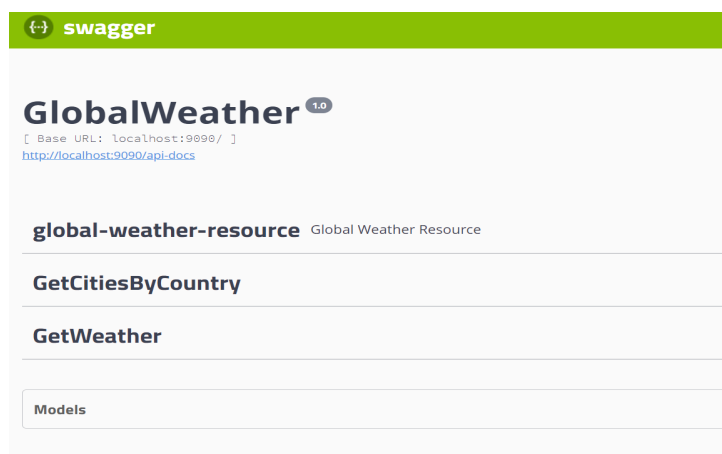
Comparing SOAP vs REST API, SOAP only works with XML formats whereas REST works with plain text XML, HTML, and JSON.

## Technology stack: Spring Boot with WebFlux, and Swagger.

Spring WebFlux and Swagger looks like an excellent framework choice, WebFlux is for building reactive and non-blocking Web Applications. The main reason is the performance related to the non-blocking nature of the underlying server. The benefit of reactive and non-blocking is the ability to scale with a small, fixed number of threads and less memory, which leads to more graceful handling of loads.

Swagger simply makes the API documentation friendly. It takes the manual work out of API documentation, with a range of solutions for generating, visualizing, and maintaining API docs.

Here are some screenshots examples from the initial prototype version of the application:



Request URL

`http://localhost:9090/GetCitiesByCountry?CountryName=Australia`

Server response

Code	Details
200	<p>Response body</p> <pre>[   {     "country": "Australia",     "city": "Archerfield Aerodrome"   },   {     "country": "Australia",     "city": "Amberley Aerodrome"   },   {     "country": "Australia",     "city": "Alice Springs Aerodrome"   },   {     "country": "Australia",     "city": "Brisbane Airport M. O"   },   {     "country": "Australia",     "city": "Coolangatta Airport Aws"   },   {     "country": "Australia",     "city": "Cairns Airport"   } ]</pre> <p>Response headers</p> <pre>content-type: application/json transfer-encoding: chunked web-filter: web-filter-test, web-filter-test</pre>

Responses

Code	Description
200	Successfully retrieved the response

Examples of using GET methods:

**/GetCitiesByCountry - <http://localhost:9090/getCities/Australia/>**

**/GetWeather - <http://localhost:9090/getWeather/Australia/Melbourne/>**

localhost:9090/getCities/Australia/

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[[{"country": "Australia", "city": "Archerfield Aerodrome"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Amberley Aerodrome"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Alice Springs Aerodrome"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Brisbane Airport M. O"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Coolangatta Airport Aws"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Cairns Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Charleville Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Gladstone"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Longreach Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Mount Isa Amo"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Mackay Mo"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Oakey Aerodrome"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Proserpine Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Rockhampton Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Broome Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Townsville Amo"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Weipa City"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Gove Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Tennant Creek Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Yulara Aws"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Albury Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Devonport East"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Goldstream Aws"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "East Sale Aerodrome"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Hobart Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Launceston Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Laverton Aerodrome"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Moonabbinn Airport Aws"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Mount Gambier Aerodrome"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Mildura Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Melbourne Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Macquarie Island"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Wynyard West"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Adelaide Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Albany Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Broken Hill Patton Street"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Ceduna Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Derby"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Darwin Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Bullsbrook Pearce Amo"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Edinburgh M. O"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Forrest Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Geraldton Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Kalgoorlie Boulder Amo"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Kununurra Kununurra Aws"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Leigh Creek Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Learmonth Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Meekatharra Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Port Hedland Pardoo"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Parafield Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Belmont Perth Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Katherine Aerodrome"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Woomera Aerodrome"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Bankstown Airport Aws"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Canberra"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Coffs Harbour Mo"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Cooma"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Camden Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Dubbo"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Norfolk Island Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Nowra Ran Air Station"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Richmond Aus-Afb"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Sydney Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Tamworth Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Wagga Airport"}, {"country": "Australia", "city": "Williamstown Aerodrome"}]]
```

## Measuring Impact

Operational metrics give an indication of the operational stability of an API platform. We need to be able to measure API performance, such as the number of APIs, the number of API calls, CPU or memory usage.

## Security, Privacy, Risks

Preventing the public API vulnerability of most common attacks is a must. Best practise is to use both SSL/TLS, avoiding DDos attacks, SQL injection, all of this has to be explored and implemented.

## Other Considerations

- Hosting
- Deployment & Maintainability

## Milestones

GlobalWeather REST API stages:

- Research and Design complete: September 20th
- Development complete: September 23th
- QA complete: September 24th
- Deployment delivery complete: September 27th

## Open Questions

Any questions or consideration regarding the architectural choice of technologies are welcomed?