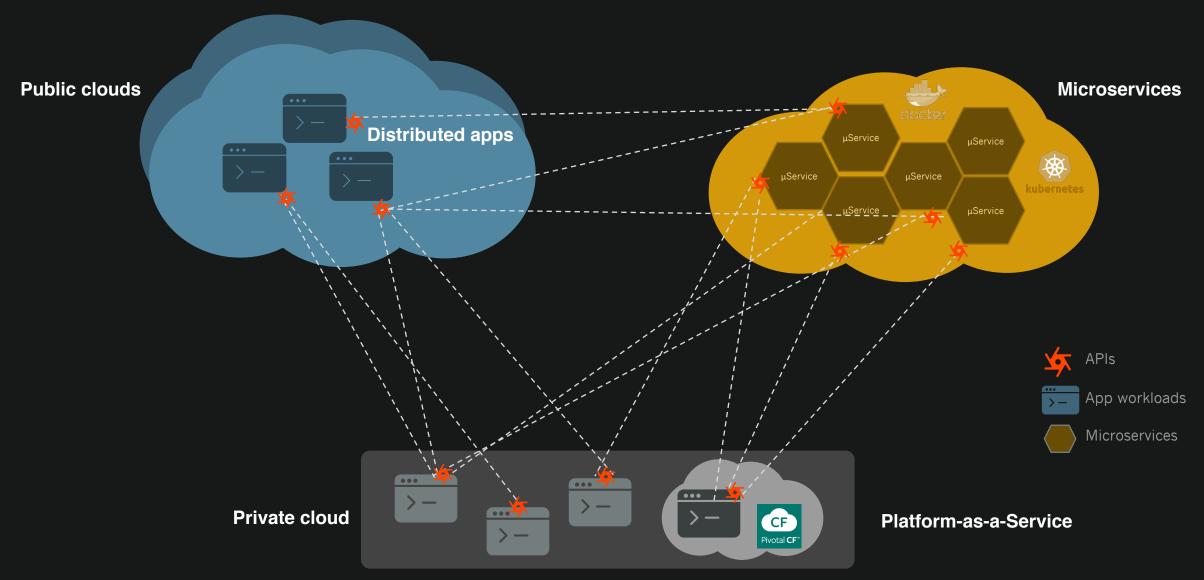
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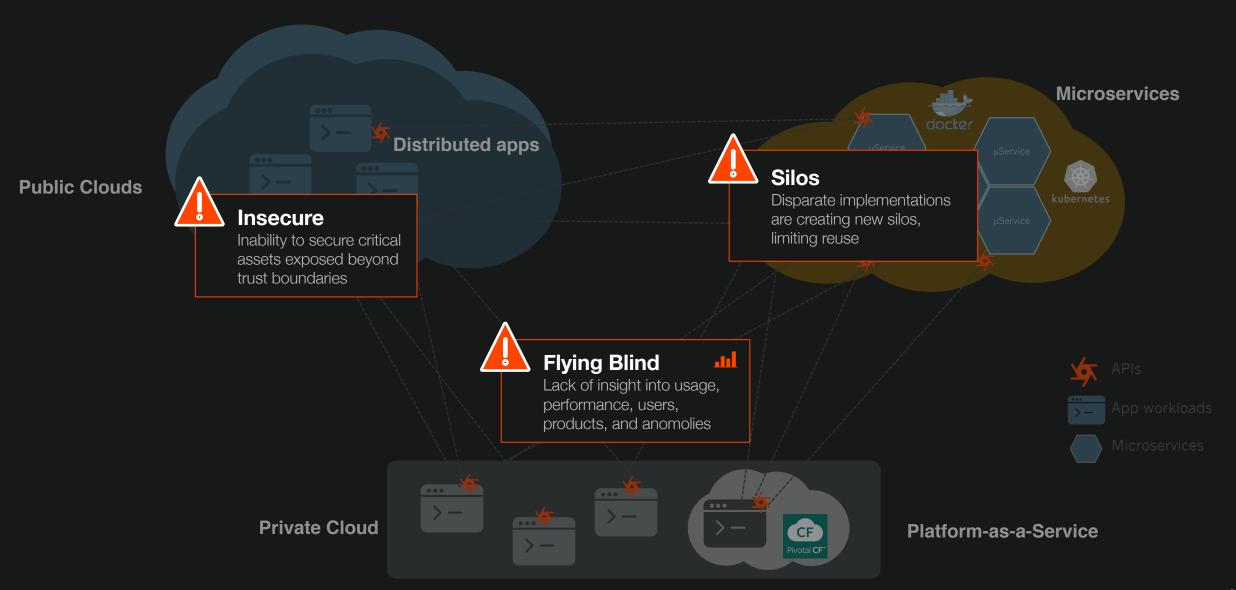
API Best Practices

Managing APIs holistically across the enterprise

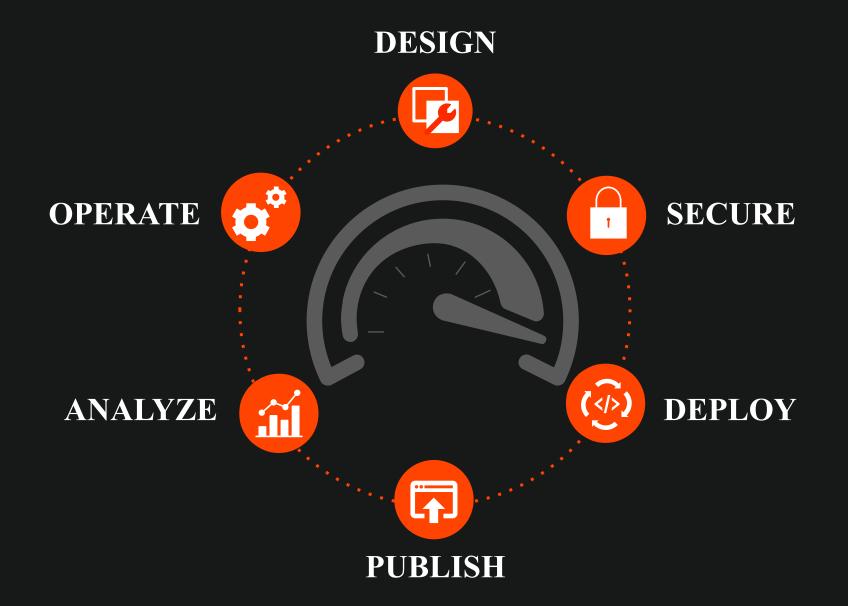
APIs are critical to evolving application architectures



Companies need to address these new challenges ...



... by managing APIs holistically across the enterprise

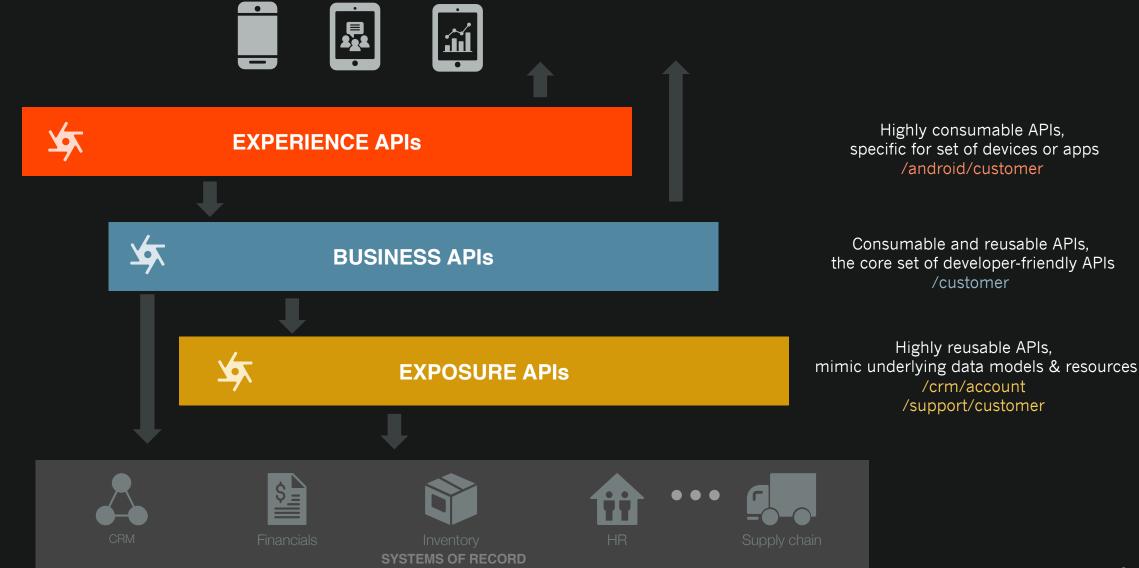




Design and build your APIs focusing on ease of use for app developers

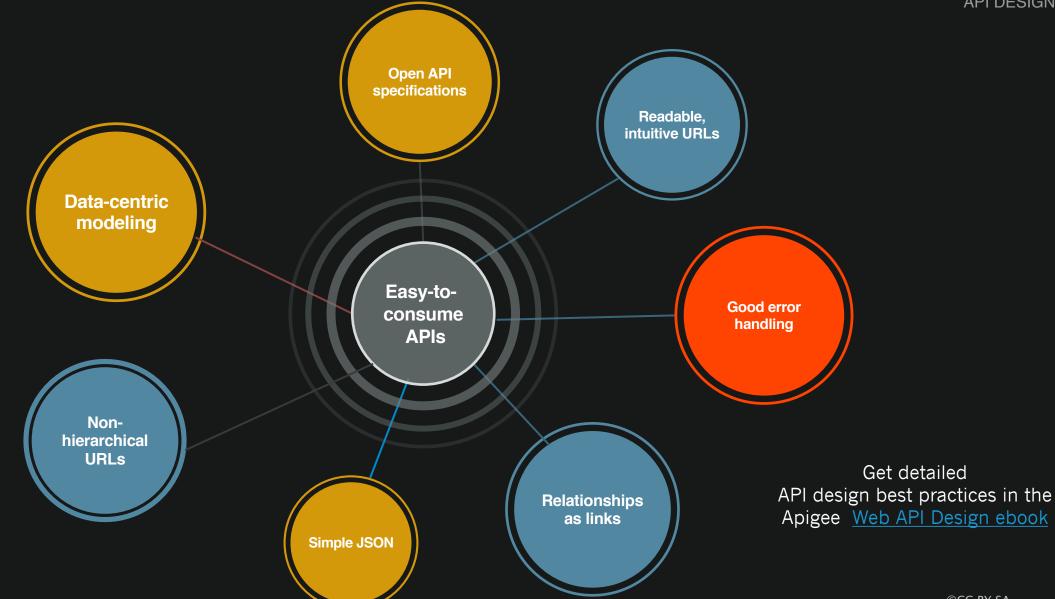
01 Adopt an API-first, layered strategy for agility





02 Design APIs that are easy to consume for developers





03 Handle multiple northbound API versions effectively



Moderate business logic in API tier

MEDIATION

Requests & responses processed to deliver as expected to both backend and clients

ROUTING

Backend versions are transparent. Requests routed based on header, payload, user, etc.

Backend target supports only one API version

ERROR HANDLING

Returns errors gracefully for old API version requests

PASS THRU

Forwards all incoming requests to the right backend version

Backend target supports multiple API versions

Limited busines's logic in API tier

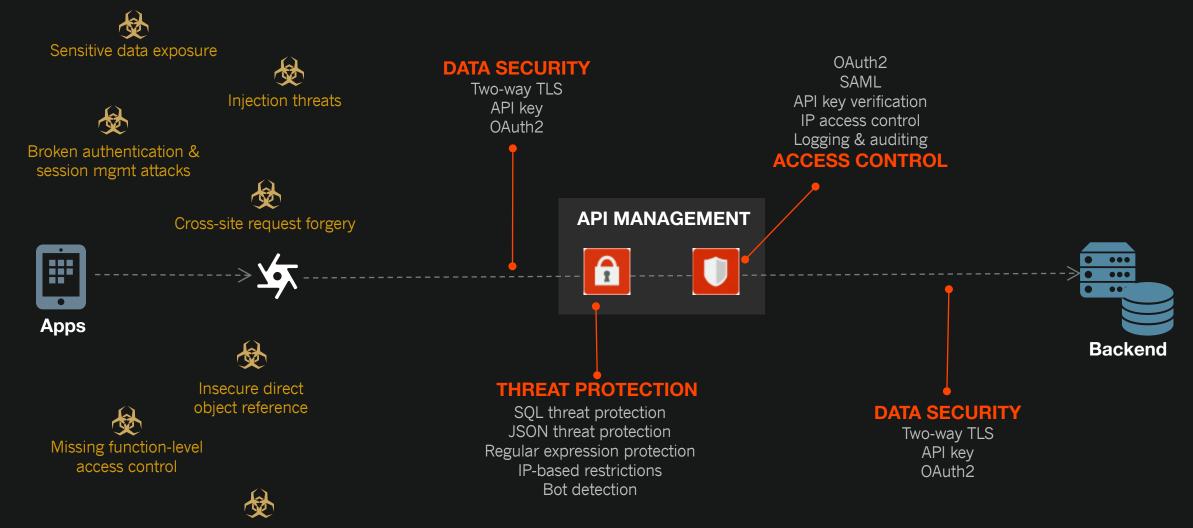


Enforce a consistent set of security policies across all of your APIs

Cross-site scripting

04 Protect against cyber threats with API management



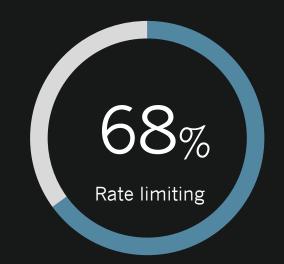


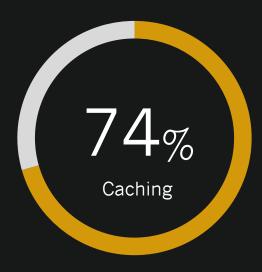
05 Handle volumetric attacks and business spikes



Percentage of companies using capability in the API tier*







OUT-OF-THE-BOX TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT IN API PLATFORMS

Spike arrest

Concurrent rate limit

Quota

Response cache

Lookup cache

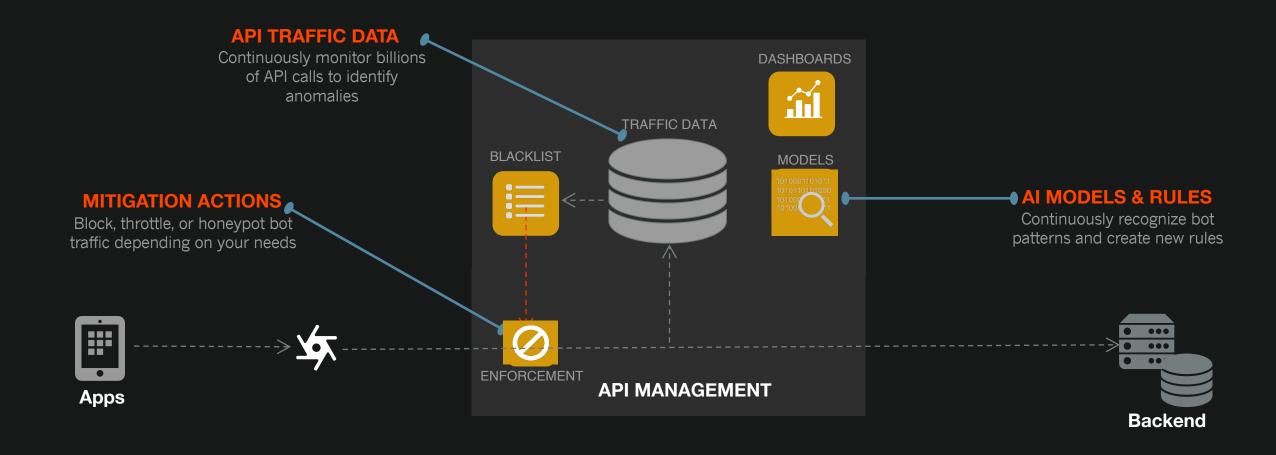
Populate cache

Invalidate cache

Reset quota

06 Use Al-based solutions to secure against bots





07 Don't just rely on WAFs for API security



WAF & API platform configurations



Advanced API platforms cover all API security needs. Eliminating WAF lowers latencies and provides consistent app security policies.



If your existing WAF is built into your CDN, this option might be the right approach (API platform sits behind the WAF/CDN).



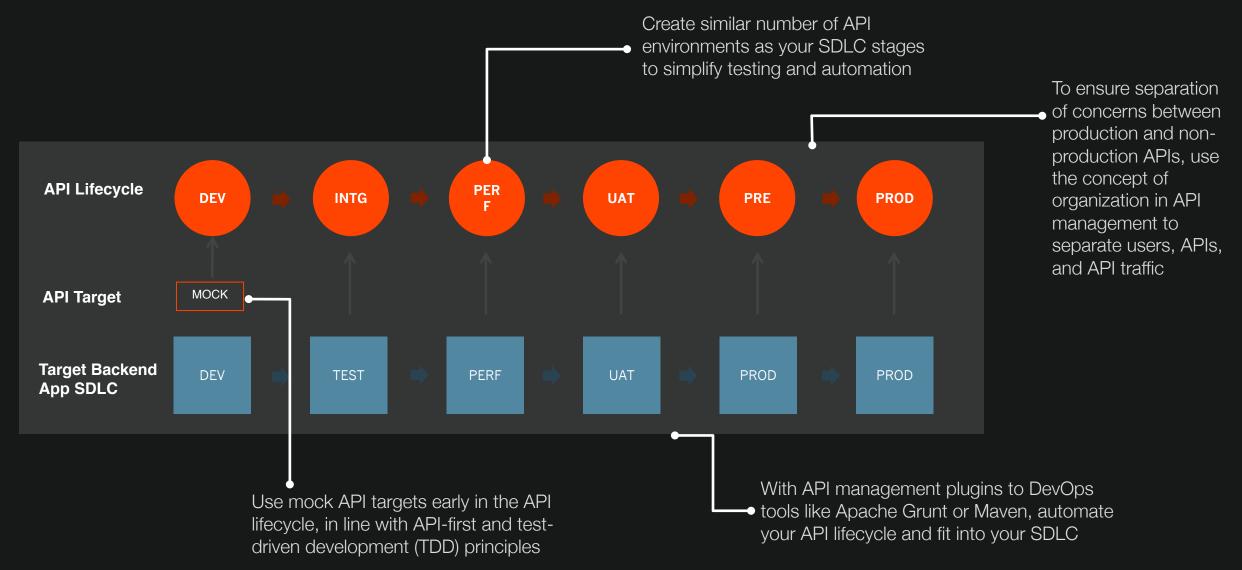
In situations where applications can only be accessed through a WAF gateway, this might be the right approach.



Sync API lifecycle with your SDLC and automate testing and deployment of APIs

Align the API lifecycle with your SDLC and automate





09 Deploy APIs to the cloud based on workload



Target app – microservices, REST APIs

CLOUD

For internal use cases and modern apps, deploy APIs to the cloud (public or private cloud)

PUBLIC CLOUD

As microservices are in the cloud and given external use, deploy your APIs in the public cloud for scale and cost

Pure internal use cases

COLLOCATE

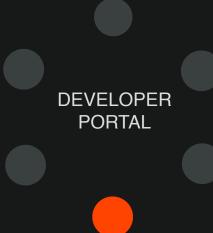
For legacy target apps focused on internal use cases, collocate your APIs with the application

CENTRALIZED

Given external use, deploy APIs to the centralized API management for ease of operations

External use cases (partner, consumer-focused)

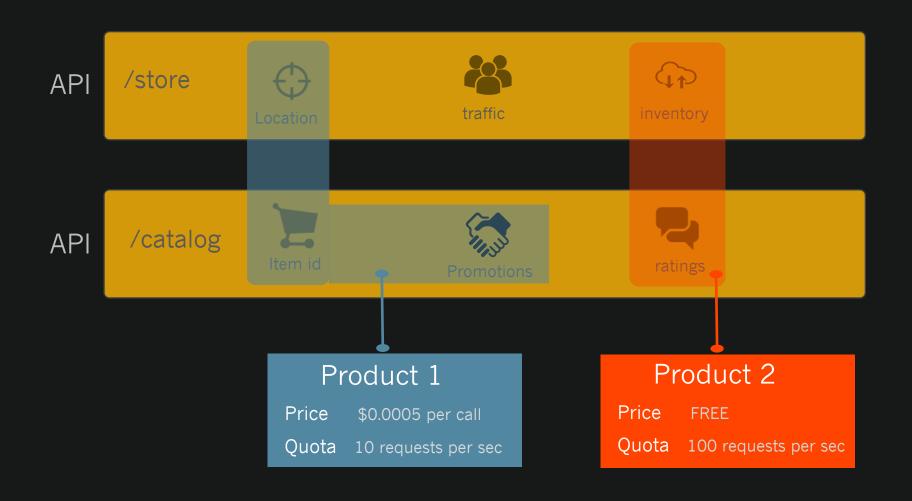
Target app – legacy interfaces, monolith



Publish easy-to-use APIs with interactive documentation and self-service capabilities

10 Package APIs for easy developer consumption

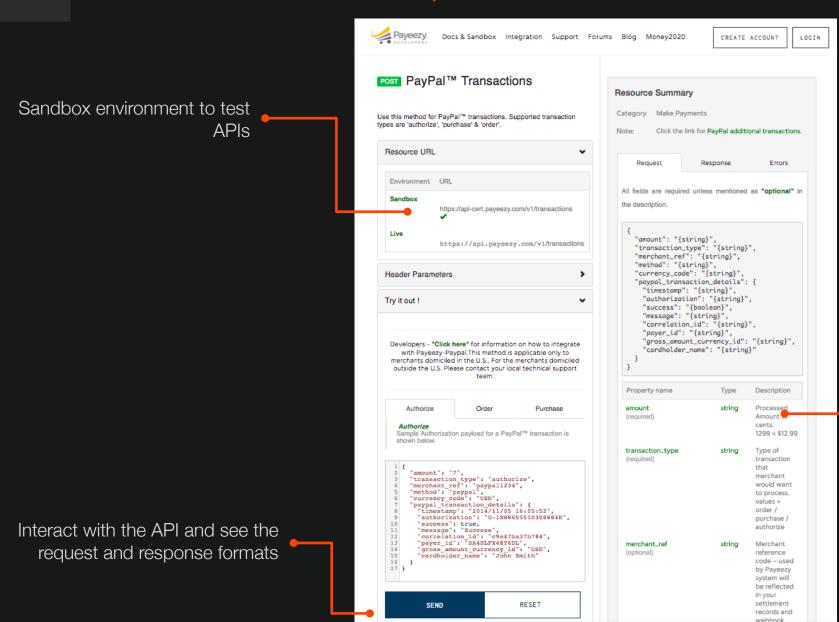




- Provide differentiated access to APIs and resources to various user groups
- Quickly try out new API-based business models (e.g., revenue share, API pricing)

11 Publish automated, interactive documentation



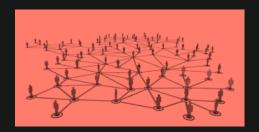


Create rich documentation directly from your Open API specifications

12 Automate onboarding for scalable developer adoption



Broad adoption



To drive broader adoption of public APIs and for internal API usage, set up your developer portal with automated onboarding.

In this mode, developers sign up, register their app, get app keys, and get started, without any portal admin approvals.

Managed adoption



To engage strategic partners with a set of private APIs, you need to simplify partner developer onboarding, while retaining access control.

In this mode, app developers register on their own, but you have an admin approval step. Upon approval, the developer can register apps and get keys and access to docs.

Controlled access



This is uncommon, but in certain, highly sensitive cases, organizations use this mode to restrict access to APIs.

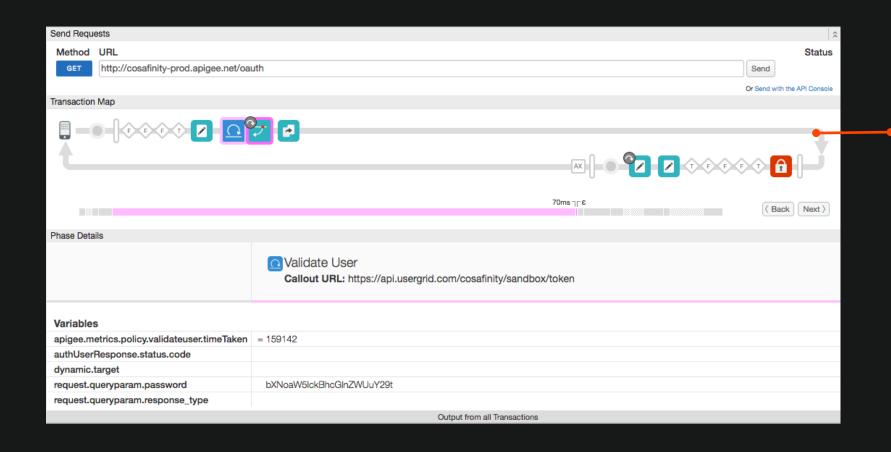
In these use cases, the portal administrators sign up app developers. Although you have control, you lose scalability due to manual onboarding.



Use analytics to gain better insights into your API usage and performance

13 Enable API developers to optimize API functionality





Run step by step through an API request to get timing information for each stage as it flows through the API proxy

14 Equip ops teams to monitor performance and availability





TRAFFIC

Operations teams need to monitor API traffic volumes, understand traffic patterns over time and identify anomolies

AVAILABILITY

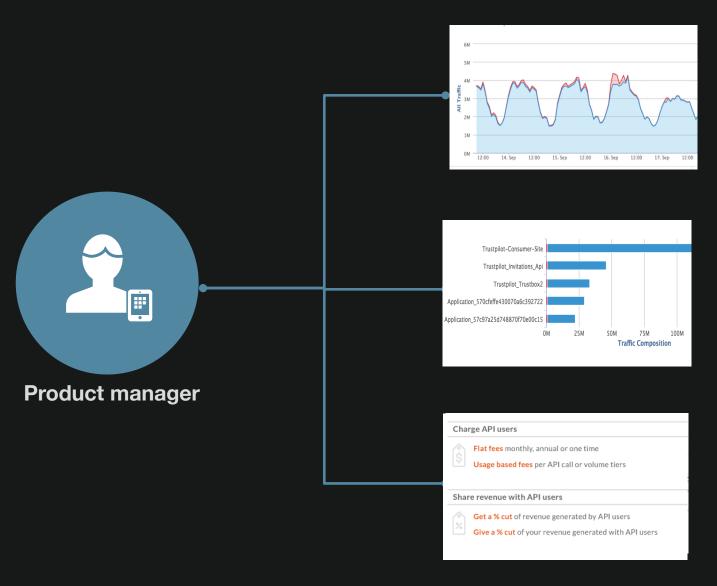
Be the first to know if your API error rates increase beyond a particular threshold—and then rectify any issues

LATENCY

Ensure your APIs are meeting target response time SLAs that have been set with your API consumers

15 Measure API program success with the right metrics





USAGE

As an API product owner, always know the most popular APIs, API traffic volumes, and usage patterns

ADOPTION

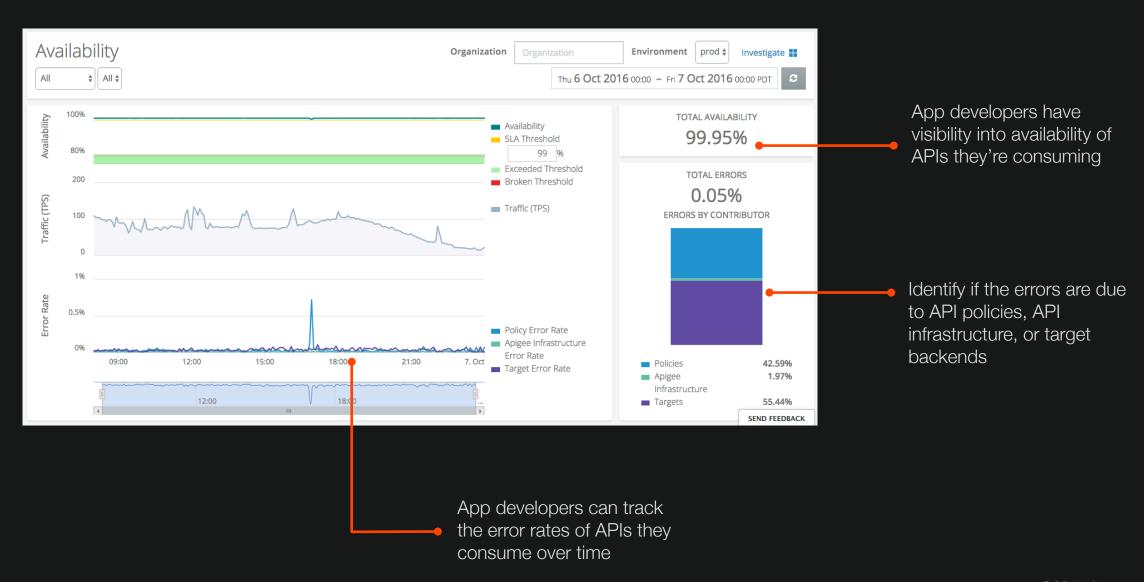
Identify the most active developers and apps consuming your APIs, from traffic volume and breadth of **APIs**

BUSINESS METRICS

Track business metrics associated with your APIs (APIrelated fees, revenue share etc.)

16 Empower app developers with data

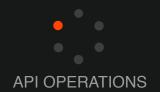






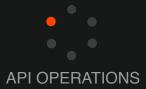
Automate API operations by integrating API management into your enterprise infrastructure

18 Deploy your API platform in cloud, based on needs



	PUBLIC CLOUD	HYBRID	PRIVATE CLOUD	
Time to success	***	**	*	With skilled people and infrastructure ready to go, private cloud is still a viable option
Total cost of ownership	***	**	**	For apples-to-apples comparison, use a three-year period and include all operations costs
Security / compliance	**	***	***	Public cloud satisfies most customers' needs, except for specific situations
Performance	***	***	***	Public cloud satisfies most use cases (exception: purely internal use cases)
Scale / reliability	***	***	***	Leading API cloud providers can provide significant scale with auto scaling & reliability

19 Integrate API platform with existing monitoring infrastructure



Log monitoring

Use built-in message logging policies in API platform to generate logs and use logging tools like Splunk

Analytics

Gain visibility into a variety of usage (developer usage, API traffic) and performance data with out-ofthe-box API analytics provided by API platform

Monitoring API infrastructure

Runtime data

Collect runtime statistics like response time and error rates using JMX MBeans and access them using any JMX-compliant APM tool

Component monitoring

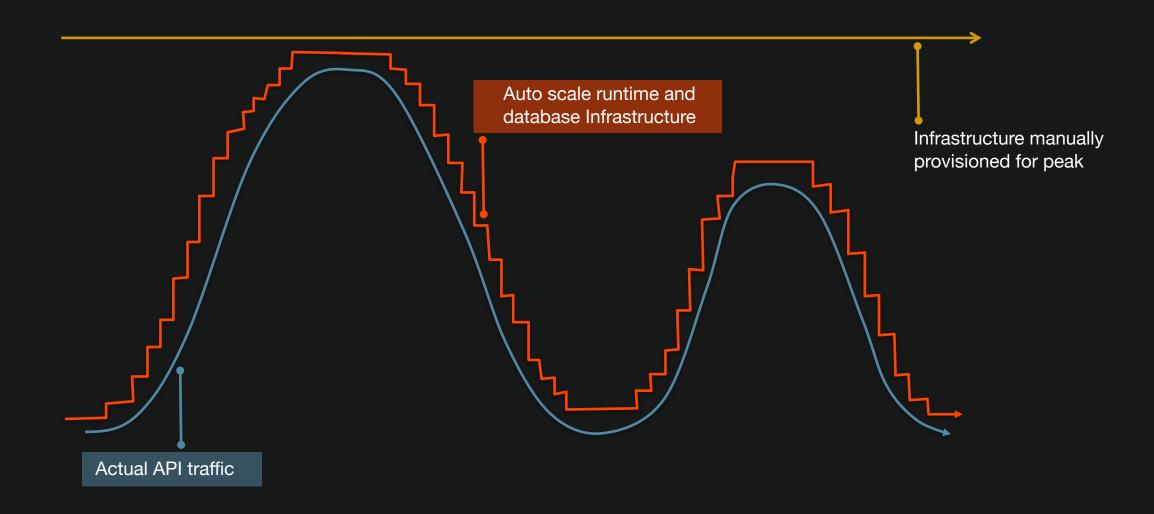
Monitor availability of infrastructure components (CPU, memory, thread statistics) with management APIs and existing monitoring tools

API monitoring

Monitor performance and conduct stress testing of APIs and target systems with health check capability of API management platform

20 Automate scaling your API platform infrastructure





SPEED MATTERS - API best practices are only one part



- Adopt modern software practices
 Agile, scrum, test-driven development
- Execute First, Align Later
 Focus on business impact with your initial API projects and address broader alignment after initial successes
- ◆ Fail-fast approach
 Get the set of APIs out FAST—you never know if and how they will be consumed by developers

About Apigee

Apigee® powers the APIs that make every business a digital business. Apigee provides a leading API platform that helps companies—from disruptive start-ups to the Fortune 100—rapidly adapt to the business and technology requirements of the connected, digital world.

Many of the world's largest organizations select Apigee to enable their digital business, including over 30 percent of the Fortune 100, four of the top five Global 2000 retail companies, and five of the top 10 global telecommunications companies.

For more information, visit <u>apigee.com</u>.

About this report

As a leader in API management, Apigee is privileged to work with hundreds of customers to develop and manage a large number of APIs. By reflecting on our experiences and those of our customers and the industry at large, we have gained some insights into which API design innovations are bringing real benefits and becoming notable trends. This report aims to capture some of the best practices in API design that we have seen emerge in the past couple of years.

Data in this report are based on hundreds of billions of API calls made through the Apigee cloud and distributed across Apigee's global network of datacenters from customers spanning 20 industry sectors. None of these data are from companies that deploy our technology in their private cloud.

If you have questions regarding the report, please email <u>info@apigee.com</u> or tweet <u>@apigee</u>.



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