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REST Assured: Powering Up the SharePoint REST API with Power Automate

Fausto Capellan, Jr

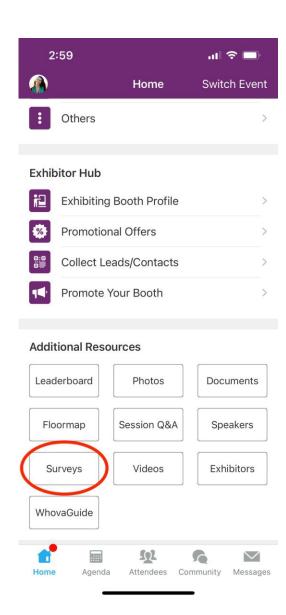
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About Me

- Consultant @ PowerApps911
- Microsoft MVP Business Applications
- Power Platform Advocate
- Active Community Member
- Traveler





Agenda

- Overviews
- How the SharePoint REST service works
- HTTP Request Methods
- Determine SharePoint REST service endpoints
- OData Query Operations
- Browser Extensions
- Navigate data structure
- Why use Send an HTTP Request to SharePoint action over pre-built actions
- Demo data structure and OData queries
- Demos



REST Overview

- Stands for REpresentational State Transfer
- It is an architectural style for designing networked applications
- It is neither a protocol nor a standard
- RESTful systems use standard HTTP methods (GET, POST, PUT, DELETE) to Create, Read, Update, and Delete resources (CRUD)
- Resources are represented in JSON or XML format
- RESTful systems are very popular because they promote
 - **□**Scalability
 - **□**Simplicity
 - Modifiability

SharePoint REST API Overview

- It is a powerful and efficient method to interact with SharePoint data remotely
- It allows developers to effectively integrate SharePoint functionality into their own applications
- Developers can use it to perform Create, Read, Update, and Delete operations on SharePoint entities such as sites, lists, and document libraries

OData Overview

- Stands for Open Data Protocol
- It is a standard protocol for building and consuming RESTful APIs
- It enables the creation of REST-based services where resources are identified using Uniform Resource Locators (URLs) and defined in a data model
- It allows developers to perform Create, Read, Update, and Delete operations
- Web clients can publish and edit these resources using HTTP messages



How the SharePoint REST Service Works

 It provides the ability to interact with SharePoint resources using technology that supports standard REST capabilities

☐Power Automate

 SharePoint resources are accessed by constructing a RESTful HTTP request using OData standard

CSOM

C# var items = List.GetByTitle(listname).GetItems();

REST

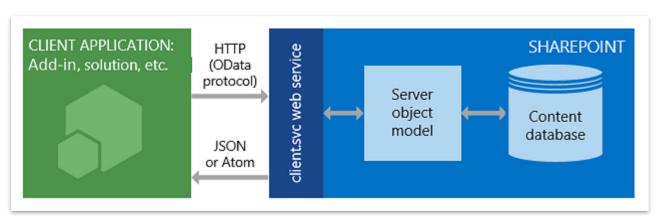
```
HTTP

GET https://{site_url}/_api/lists/getbytitle('{list_name}')/items
Authorization: "Bearer " + accessToken
Accept: "application/json;odata=verbose"
```

How the SharePoint REST Service Works

- The client.svc web service in SharePoint handles the HTTP request and serves the response in either Atom(XML) or JavaScript Object Notation (JSON) format
- The response must be parsed by the client application

SharePoint REST Service Architecture



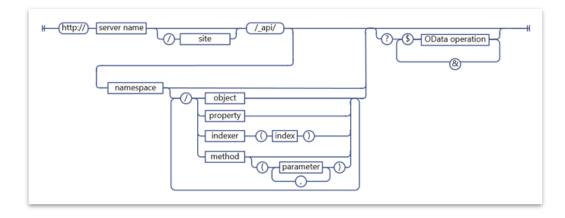
HTTP Request Methods

| HTTP Request | Action |
|--------------|-----------------------------|
| GET | Read a resource |
| POST | Create or update a resource |
| PUT | Update or insert a resource |
| DELETE | Delete a resource |

Determine SharePoint REST Service Endpoints

- Must figure out the URI endpoint for the desired resource
- The URI endpoints closely match the SharePoint Client Object Model counterparts whenever possible
- In some cases, the URI endpoints are different from their SharePoint Client Object Model counterparts to comply with REST or OData conventions

SharePoint REST Service Architecture



Determine SharePoint REST Service Endpoints

Constructing a REST endpoint for a SharePoint resource

 Accessing a specific site collection http://{site_url}/_api/site

2. Accessing a specific site http://{site_url}/_api/web

3. Accessing a specific list http://{site_url}/_api/web/lists/getbytitle('ListDisplayName')



SharePoint REST service supports a wide range of OData query operators that enable selecting, filtering, and order the requested data

- \$select returns the selected fields for a given list or list item http://{site_url}/_api/web/lists/getbytitle('ListDisplayName')/items?\$select=Title,Name
- **\$filter** returns the selected item based on the specified filter http://{site_url}/_api/web/lists/getbytitle('ListDisplayName')/items?\$filter=Title eq 'String'
- **\$orderby** sorts the returned items based on the speficied field http://{site_url}/ api/web/lists/getbytitle('ListDisplayName')/items?\$orderby=Title asc

SharePoint REST service supports a wide range of OData query operators that enable selecting, filtering, and order the requested data

- \$top returns the first number of items indicated http://{site_url}/_api/web/lists/getbytitle('ListDisplayName')/items?\$top=5
- \$skiptoken skips over the number of items indicated http://{site_url}/_api/web/lists/getbytitle('ListDisplayName')/items?\$skiptoken=Paged=TRUE &p ID=5

Supported OData query operators

Numeric Comparisons

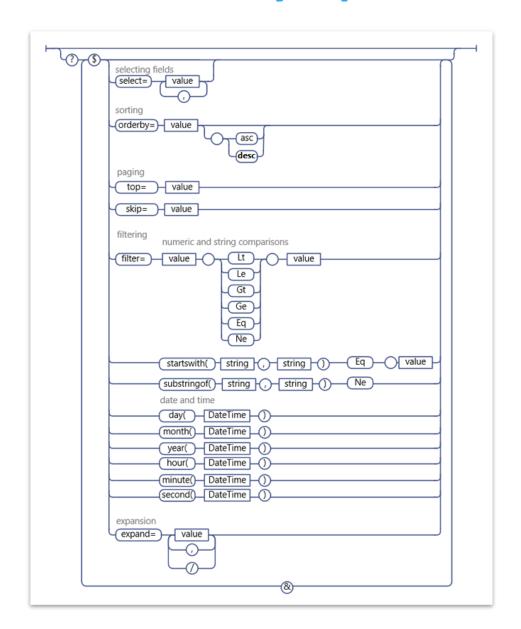
- It (Less Than)
- le (Less Than or Equals To)
- gt (Greater)
- ge (Greater Than or Equals To)
- eq (Equals)
- ne (Not Equals)

String Comparisons

- eq (Equals)
- ne (Not Equals)
- startswith(colToQuery,'StringToCheck')
- substringof('StringToCheck',colToQuery)

Date and Time

- day()
- month()
- year()
- hour()
- minute()
- second()



Browser Extensions



```
Click entity for XPath. Double-click to
collapse/expand. Enter XPath or XML string then
click XPath1/Parse for results or to XML Tree-
     <author>
        <name/>
     </author>
     <content type="application/xml">
        <m:properties>
           <d:FileSystemObjectType m:type="Edm.Int32">1</d:FileSystemObjectType>
           <d:Id m:type="Edm.Int32">4</d:Id>
           <d:ServerRedirectedEmbedUri m:null="true"/>
           <d:ServerRedirectedEmbedUrl/>
           <d:ContentTypeId>0x0120008915EE226E4DBC4A9E56B6B4DCC55DAC</d:ContentTypeId>
           <d:ComplianceAssetId m:null="true"/>
           <d:Title>Number 1</d:Title>
           <d:DocumentSetDescription m:null="true"/>
           <d:FlowUserId m:null="true"/>
           <d:FlowUserStringId m:null="true"/>
           <d:Category>Number 22</d:Category>
           <d:ColumnFormattingV1 m:null="true"/>
           <d:MMD m:type="SP.Taxonomy.TaxonomyFieldValue">
             <d:Label>1</d:Label>
              <d:TermGuid>371abe21-a93e-4b81-8248-f7a781fea00d</d:TermGuid>
              <d:WssId m:type="Edm.Int32">1</d:WssId>
           <d:OData_ColorTag m:null="true"/>
           <d:MediaServiceImageTags m:type="Collection(SP.Taxonomy.TaxonomyFieldValue)"/</pre>
           <d:MediaServiceOCR m:null="true"/>
           <d:ID m:type="Edm.Int32">4</d:ID>
           <d:Created m:type="Edm.DateTime">2019-06-17T14:49:59Z</d:Created>
           <d:AuthorId m:type="Edm.Int32">6</d:AuthorId>
           A. Modified --tune-"Edm DataTime" > 2021 -07 -21T10 - 40 -247 / A. Modified
```



```
"value": [
   "@odata.etag": "\"1\"",
   "Title": "_PrimaryRed",
   "ColorHex": <u>"#e60000"</u>,
   "Modified": "2020-06-05T15:13:15Z",
   "Created": "2020-06-05T15:13:15Z",
   "Author": {
     "@odata.type": "#Microsoft.Azure.Connectors.SharePoint.SPListExpandedUser",
     "Claims": "i:0#.f|membership|fausto@vecaent.com",
     "DisplayName": "Fausto Capellan Jr",
    "Email": "fausto@vecaent.com",
    "Department": null,
     "JobTitle": "Owner"
   "Author#Claims": "i:0#.f|membership|fausto@vecaent.com",
    "@odata.type": "#Microsoft.Azure.Connectors.SharePoint.SPListExpandedUser",
    "Claims": "i:0#.f|membership|fausto@vecaent.com",
     "DisplayName": "Fausto Capellan Jr",
     "Email": "fausto@vecaent.com",
     "Picture": "https://".....sharepoint.com/sites/flow/_layouts/15/UserPhoto.aspx?Size=L&AccountName=fausto@vecaent.com"
     "Department": null,
     "JobTitle": "Owner"
   "Editor#Claims": "i:0#.f|membership|fausto@vecaent.com",
   "{Identifier}": "Lists%252fMoreColors%252f7_.000",
   "{Thumbnail}": {
     "Medium": null,
```



Send an HTTP Request to SharePoint

| Use endpoints not ex | posed via pre- | built actions |
|----------------------|----------------|---------------|
|----------------------|----------------|---------------|

| oxdot Create SharePoint sites |
|-------------------------------|
|-------------------------------|

- ☐Create Lists
- ☐ Create Document Libraries
- ☐ Create Site Columns
- □ Update Choice Column Values
- ☐ Move Files and Folders (CopyJobs)
- □ Dynamic Information
 - ☐ SharePoint Site URLs
 - □List Names
 - □ Document Library Names



Resources

Get to know the SharePoint REST service

REST (REpresentational State Transfer)

Welcome to OData

Complete basic operations using SharePoint REST endpoints

Fields REST API reference

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