

The background is a blurred image of a wall covered in various hand-drawn diagrams, sketches, and notes. Some of the visible elements include a yellow rectangular diagram on the left, a grid-like diagram in the center, and several arrows and lines connecting different parts of the wall. The overall tone is light blue and white, with some colorful accents from the drawings.

Making your APIs AI-Ready

Mike Amundsen
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Designing for a world where machines read your APIs



The New Challenge

The New Challenge : Overview

- AI and the API Landscape
- Machines and APIs
- Not-so-AI-Ready APIs
- Five Shifts Ahead

The New Challenge : AI and the API Landscape

- AI is everywhere!
- APIs are no longer just for humans
- Agents, bots, orchestrations, etc. “see” differently

Similar to the shift from green screen to UI

The New Challenge : Machines and APIs

- Machines don't learn the way we do
- Machines rely on context, not instructions
- Machines recognize patterns
- Machines look for “hooks”

Humans supply missing details, bots do not

The New Challenge : Not-So-AI-Ready APIs

- Agents mis-interpret your API responses
- Agents make selection errors when attempting actions
- Agents fail to repeat similar workflows
- Agents don't give up, the hallucinate

*Inconsistencies are “fixed” by humans,
but not by machines*

The New Challenge : Five Shifts Ahead

- We can improve things by focusing on five things
 - From interface to intention
 - Make context machine-readable
 - Standardize interactions, not just endpoints
 - Enable discovery
 - Support observation, iteration, and adaptation

*We can improve our chances
by planning ahead*

The New Challenge : Review

- AI and the API Landscape
 - APIs are no longer just for humans
- Machines and APIs
 - Humans supply missing details, bots do not
- Not-so-AI-Ready APIs
 - Inconsistencies are “fixed” by humans, but not by machines
- Five Shifts Ahead
 - We can improve our chances by planning ahead

*Making your APIs AI-Ready
requires deliberate design*



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