

PlatSoft Grape Manual

Developer's guide to using the PlatSoft Grape Framework

<u>Table of Contents</u>

1 Crops	Page 3
1. Grape 1.1. Architecture	Page 2
	Page 3
1.2. Getting started	Page 4
1.3. Structure of a Grape Application	Page 4
1.3.1. Directory layout	Page 4
1.4. API Calls	Page 4
1.4.1. Anatomy of a Grape API call	Page 4
1.4.1.1. FS Request	
1.4.1.2. DB API requests	
1.4.1.2.1. Registering the API call using schemas	
1.4.1.2.2. JavaScript API handlers	
1.4.1.3. Non-JSON returning API calls	
1.4.2. Access control	Page 8
1.4.3. Consuming an API call	Page 8
1.5. How to send emails from Grape	Page 8
1.5.1. Setup	Page 8
1.5.2. Send an email from PostgreSQL	Page 9
1.5.3. Send an email through an API call	Page 9
1.5.4. Custom headers	Page 9
1.5.5. Email templates	Page 9
1.5.6. Example	Page 10
1.6. Grape settings	Page 10
1.6.1. Known Grape settings	Page 10
1.7. Grape config file	Page 11
1.8. Standardized Error Codes	Page 12
1.9. Built-in API calls	Page 12
1.9.1. GrapeListQuery	Page 12
1.9.2. GrapeSendMail	Page 13
1.9.3. GrapeUserSave	Page 13
1.9.4. download_public_js_files	Page 14
1.10. Grape SQL Functions	Page 14
1.10.1. API result functions	Page 14
1.10.2. Data importing functions	Page 14
1.10.3. JSON helpers	Page 15
1.10.4. List query	Page 15
1.10.5. Reports	Page 16
1.10.6. User related functions	Page 16
1.10.7. Session related functions	Page 16
1.10.8. Other utility functions	Page 17



1. GRAPE

Note! This section deals mostly with the backend functionality of systems. For information on the user interface, see "Grape User Interface"

Grape is a framework and set of processes developed internally by Platinum Software to standardize and formalize our systems. It is implemented as an Express.js app. Most Grape applications will contain the following:

- 1. A database definition/schema db/schema/
- 2. Initial data db/data/
- 3. Database functions **db/functions/**
- 4. API calls api/
- 5. A frontend **public/**

1.1 Architecture

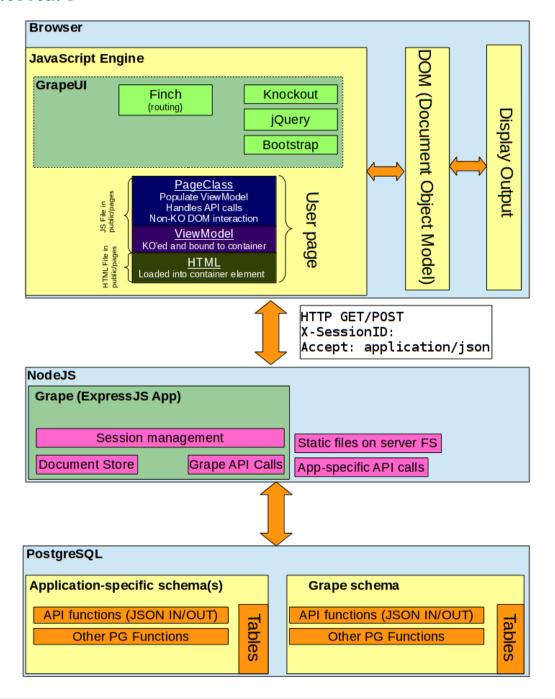


Fig. 1: Grape Architecture

1.2 Getting started

The tool *grape_init* is a script which makes it easy to create a new empty Grape application. It is available from the Grape Tools repo (npm install -g grape_tools).

1.3 Structure of a Grape Application

1.3.1 Directory layout

The layout of a typical project is as follows:

- api/ API routes to be loaded and registered by Node on startup
- db/ Database-related files (mostly SQL)
 - schema/ The pgModeler dbm file, and exported SQL
 - function/ Files containing general stored procedures
 - process/ Files containing stored procedures related to background processes
 - data/ Files containing initial data for the system
 - *deployments/* Containing subdirectories for specific deployments. See the section Deployments for more information regarding this
- public/ Public (HTML, Frontend JavaScript and CSS files). See Grape Frontend Development for more information regarding the contents of this directory
- grape-ui/ Public (HTML, Frontend JavaScript and CSS files) for GrapeUI components
- scripts/ Scripts
- log/ Log files
- node_modules/ This directory is automatically generated by npm when installing modules
- config.js Grape config file (should not be checked into the repo)
- config.js.example Example Grape config file
- default config.js Grape config file containing product-specific settings
- email_templates Email templates

1.4 API Calls

1.4.1 Anatomy of a Grape API call

Grape classifies between 4 different types of API calls:

- 1. Filesystem request: the browser requests a file from the filesystem (for example an HTML, CSS, JS or image file)
- 2. Database API request: the API handler is implemented as a database function, accepting and returning a JSON object
- 3. Other API request: the API handler is implemented as a JavaScript function, and handled completely in the Node.JS environment
- 4. File download request: API calls providing a different result than JSON (for example access-controlled files). These calls starts with '/download'

1.4.1.1 FS Request

The first and most simple is a request for a file on the filesystem. A request that does not accept JSON, and does not start with / download, will fall under this category. This includes the initial call for index.html.



1.4.1.2 DB API requests

Database API calls are the most commonly used API calls. The logic for the function is typically implemented as a function in PostgreSQL. The function being called in the database accepts a JSON parameter, and returns a JSON object with the result.

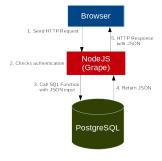


Fig. 2: Anatomy of a DB API

The logic of the function needs to be implemented in PostgreSQL. For example, a function calculating the square root of a number:

```
CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION maths_sqrt (JSON) RETURNS JSON AS $$

DECLARE

_value NUMERIC;
_result NUMERIC;

BEGIN

_value := ($1->>'value')::NUMERIC; -- Extract values from JSON

_result := sqrt(_value); -- Calculation

RETURN grape.api_success('result', _result); -- Build and return JSON object
END; $$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;
```

The database function needs to be registered against an Express route in GrapeApp. There are two ways to do this: using a schema file, or registering it manually.

1.4.1.2.1 Registering the API call using schemas

```
Note! This method of creating DB API calls was introduced in Grape 1.0.4
```

APIs can be defined using a format based on the JSON Schema standard (http://json-schema.org), with added fields. On start-up, all the directories in the project's api directory config setting is traversed for JSON files. JSON files are then parsed, and must contain a single object, or an array of objects describing the API calls.

The fields in a schema object:

```
"description": "API call description",
"id": "URL of the call",
"name": "CamelCase name for this call",
"sqlfunc": "SQL function",
"type": "Body type (default to object)",
```

```
"properties": { Set of properties in this body },
"return": {
        "type": "Return type (default to object)"
        "properties": { Set of properties in this body }
        "example": { Example of a resulting JSON }
    }
}
```

The properties field, which is used with the "object" type, is an associative array with the field name as key, and the field properties as the object. For example:

An example of a schema definition for the sqrt function:

```
{
    "description": "Calculate the square root of a number",
    "id": "/maths/sqrt",
    "name": "SquareRoot",
    "sqlfunc": "maths_sqrt",
    "type": "object",
    "properties": {
      "value": { "type": "number", "description": "The input value for the square root function" }
    },
    "result": {
        "type": "object",
        "properties": {
            "result": {"type": "number", "description": "The resulting number"},
            "status": {"enum": ["ERROR", "OK"]}
        }
    }
}
```

Note! More examples are available in the grape repository, in the **examples/** subdirectory

1.4.1.2.2 JavaScript API handlers

API calls that are handled by JavaScript functions, can be found in the project's <u>api directory</u> (set in the config, usually <u>api/</u>). On startup, these directories are traversed for *.js files and included in the application. API calls are registered using <u>app.get</u> and <u>app.post</u>. For example, the contents of a JS file in the <u>api/</u> directory:



```
exports = module.exports = function(app) {
    app.get("/maths/sqrt/:value", function (req, res) { /* Logic here */ });
}
```

Example of an API call, calling a database function:

API calls should be documented using a standard based on the doxygen style. These comments can be extracted from the code using the *autogen_api_documentation.sh* script in grape-tools to create human-readable documentation. This is especially important for front-end developers, who can then use this documentation to interact with the API calls. All projects should have API documentation ready for clients to use.

A comment block containing documentation for an API call:

```
/**

* @api URL The URL of the API call

* @desc DESCRIPTION Description of the API call

* @method GET/POST HTTP Method

* @sqlfunc SQL_FUNCTION_NAME The SQL function used by this API call

* @param NAME TYPE DESCRIPTION OPTIONAL DEFAULT When documenting GET requests, specify the input parameters using @param

* @returnsample JSON Example JSON of a successful return call

* @return DESCRIPTION Description of the return values

* */
```

The *autogen_api_documentation.sh* script from grape-tools (**grape_tools/generate_docs/autogen_api_documentation.sh**) can be used to create API documentation from proplerly documented API calls.

```
$ mkdir api_docs
$ autogen_api_documentation.sh API_DIRECTORY OUTPUT_FILE.vxml
```

1.4.1.3 Non-JSON returning API calls

An API call that is handled by a JavaScript call and needs to return something other than a JSON object, starts with /download.



1.4.2 Access control

Grape manages authentication, sessions, users, passwords and provide access control. Sessions are tracked using a session ID. Session IDs are obtained by making a call to *POST/grape/login*, providing a valid username and password. On success, this call will return with the session ID, the user's ID, username, roles and employee GUID. In subsequent calls, the session ID is sent to the server using a custom header *X-SessionID* in the HTTP requests.

Users and user-related information is stored in grape.user. Users can belong to one or more access roles, stored in grape.access_path. The link-table for these are grape.user_role.

Grape includes the following roles and access paths by default:

ROLE	DESCRIPTION	PATHS ALLOWED
guest	No or invalid login	• /grape/login
all	All logged in users	/lookup/*/grape/list/grape/api_list
admin	Administrator	* (all paths allowed)

Access control is applied to all API calls. Before the API call is executed, the session is validated. If it cannot be validated, the default role **guest** is used. All users belongs to one or more roles, and always to the role named **all**. API calls are registered in the database (table access_path) by **path**, **method** and the **role** allowed. The **path** is a regular expression, matching the incoming URL of the request.

Note! The SQL function <code>grape.add_access_path</code> (_path TEXT, _roles TEXT[], _methods TEXT[]) can be used to add a new access path. For initial data, this is kept in the project's <code>db/data/access_paths.sql</code>

1.4.3 Consuming an API call

In order to use an API call, you will need to know the following:

- 1. The URL of the call. This will look like a typical path, for example "/login"
- 2. The call method. This will usually be **GET** or **POST**
- 3. The input parameters. If the call's method is POST, this will be a JSON object containing fields. If it is GET, the input parameters are found in the URL

The API is consumed by making a HTTP request to the URL with the appropriate input parameters or body. Usually, session information will be sent in the HTTP headers.

1.5 How to send emails from Grape

1.5.1 **Setup**

The following needs to be set up in order to send emails from within SQL functions:

1. *smtp* settings in config

```
smtp: {
host: 'mail.platsoft.net',
from: 'Merlot <merlot-live@platsoft.net>',
secureConnection: true,
port: 465,
```

```
auth: {
  user: 'username',
  pass: 'password'
}
```

2. email_template_directory in config containing templates, typically _dirname + '/email_templates'

1.5.2 Send an email from PostgreSQL

Call grape.send_email (to TEXT, template TEXT, data JSON, headers JSON) to send an email. The values of the parameters should be as follows:

- to Email address of receiver
- template Template name (see Email templates below)
- data Template data
- headers Optional this is an array of additional headers to include in the email. For example: {'X-Key1': 'value', 'X-Key2': 'value'}

1.5.3 Send an email through an API call

The API call **GrapeSendMail** can be used to access this functionality via the API.

1.5.4 Custom headers

Commonly used custom headers:

- From: Change the From field
- Reply-To: Reply To field

1.5.5 Email templates

Email templates live in the *email_template_directory* defined in the app's config. Each template has 4 files (each starting with the specified *templatename*):

- templatename.subject To generate the subject
- templatename.text To generate the plain-text body of the email
- templatename.html To generate the HTML body of the email
- templatename.attachments To generate a list of attachments to include in the email

Underscore's template engine is used. The data sent to *grape.send_email* (to, template, data) is accessible inside the template files. For example, if an email is called with the following data:

```
{ "firstname": "Piet" }
```

The field firstname is accessable inside of the templates using <%= firstname %>



1.5.6 Example

A typical welcome email will have the following templates (assuming the template name is welcome):

welcome.subject:

```
Hi <%= firstname %>! Welcome to <%= product_name %>
```

welcome.text:

```
Hi <%= firstname %>!
  Welcome to <%= product_name %>.

Your login details are as follows:
  Username: <%= username %>
  Password: <%= password %>

Goodbye
```

The HTML file is optional, and follows the same pattern.

This template must be called with a JSON object containing at least fields *firstname*, *product_name*, *username* and *password*. The send this email, call the grape.send_email function:

```
SELECT grape.send_email('piet@platsoft.net', 'welcome',
   '{"firstname": "Piet",
   "product_name": "Some System",
   "username": "Piet",
   "password": "Piet123"}'::JSON);
```

1.6 Grape settings

Grape stores internal settings in the table grape.setting. The following functions can be used to read and manipulate these settings:

- 1. grape.set_value (name TEXT, value TEXT) sets the value of setting name to value
- 2. *grape.get_value* (name TEXT, default_value TEXT) returns the value of the setting name, or if it does not exist returns default_value
- 3. grape.setting (name TEXT, default_value TEXT) alias for grape.get_value (name TEXT, default_value TEXT)

1.6.1 Known Grape settings

NAME	DESCRIPTION	DEFAULT VALUE
hash_passwords	Indicate whether passwords in grape.user is hashed	false
allow_default_paths	If a path is not found and this setting is true, access will be granted	false
grape_version	Current Grape version	
product_name	Name of the current system	
product_uuid	Unique identifier for the product/system	
product_version	Product version	



NAME	DESCRIPTION	DEFAULT VALUE
data_upload_schema	Default schema for data import tables	grape
disable_passwords	If true, authentication will not check whether the password is correct	false
system_url	URL to access system's frontend	

1.7 Grape config file

The following options are recognized in the config passed to Grape:

NAME	DESCRIPTION DEFAULT VALUE		
dburi	DB connection settings		
guest_dburi	DB connection settings for guest users		
api_directory	Directory (or array of directories) containing API files		
db_definition	Array containing directories with DB definitions. Subdirectories schema, function, view and data will be traversed when recreating	v and	
sql_dirs	Array containing directories with DB definitions. All subdirectories will be recursively read		
pg_temp_directory	Path to a directory to which both PostgreSQL and the running node process has write access		
port	Port on which the UI will be available		
http_port	If this is set, and HTTPS is enabled (use_https), then a normal HTTP server wil listen on this port		
public_directory	Directory containing public files		
public_directories	List of directories containing public files		
debug		true	
maxsockets	Controls the maximum number of sockets supported	500	
bordeaux_config_file	Path to Bordeaux config file	dirname + '/bordeaux_config.json'	
document_store	Path to document store		
use_https	Enable or disable HTTPS. sslkey and sslcert need to be set up correctly	false	
session_management	Enable or disable session management	true	
smtp	SMTP settings for GrapeMailer		

NAME	DESCRIPTION DEFAULT VALUE	
server_timeout	The number of milliseconds of inactivity 50000 before a socket is presumed to have timed out	
sslkey	Path to private SSL key file	_dirname + '/cert/private.pem'
sslcert	Path to private SSL public certificate	_dirname + '/cert/public_nopass.pem'
hr_system	URL to get access to the Bordeaux system running on Savanna HR system	https://192.168.50.86:3999/
email_template_directory	Path to email templates (See GrapeMailer for more information)	dirname + '/email_templates'
compile_js_dirs	List of directory names that will be recursed when all JS is being compiled	['pages']

1.8 Standardized Error Codes

CODE	DESCRIPTION
-1	Unknown Error
-2	Permission Denied
-3	Invalid Input
-5	Requested data not found
-99	Database Error

1.9 Built-in API calls

1.9.1 GrapeListQuery

List records from a table or view

URL: /grape/list

SQL Function: grape.list query

Input:

- JSON object containing the following fields:
 - tablename STRING Table or view name
 - schema STRING Schema name of table or view
 - sortfield STRING optional Field to order by
 - *limit* NUMBER optional Record limit default 50
 - offset NUMBER optional Record offset default 0
 - filter ARRAY of objects:
 - field STRING Field to filter on
 - *operand* STRING One of '=', '>', '<', '>=', '<=', 'LIKE', 'ILIKE'
 - value STRING Filter value

Output:



- JSON object containing the following fields:
 - result_count NUMBER Number of results returned
 - offset NUMBER Result offset
 - limit NUMBER Results limit
 - records Array of returned records ARRAY of JSON objects
 - total NUMBER Total number of records in the database (after filter has been applied)

1.9.2 GrapeSendMail

Sends an email

URL: /grape/send_mail

SQL Function: grape.send_email

Input:

- JSON object containing the following fields:
 - to STRING Email address of recipient
 - template STRING Template Name
 - template_data JSON
 - headers JSON

Output:

- JSON object containing the following fields:
 - status Status indicator Possible values: ERROR, OK
 - message STRING Error message
 - code NUMBER Error code
 - error JSON

1.9.3 GrapeUserSave

Save a user, or create one if it does not currently exist

URL: /grape/user/save

SQL Function: grape.user_save

Input:

- JSON object containing the following fields:
 - user_id NUMBER User ID to update
 - username STRING Username
 - fullnames STRING Full names
 - email STRING Email address of user
 - password STRING Password
 - active BOOLEAN Indicate if user is active (can login)
 - role_names ARRAY of STRING
 - employee_guid STRING
 - employee_info JSON

Output:

- JSON object containing the following fields:
 - status Possible values: ERROR, OK
 - user_id NUMBER User ID of new user



- message STRING
- code NUMBER
- error JSON

1.9.4 download_public_js_files

The **download_public_js_files** API call is a special API call that will traverse all subdirectories in the public directories (defined by *public_directories*), with the names defined by *compile_js_dirs*. The default values for *compile_js_dirs* is **pages**. This means all subdirectories named "pages" will be traversed for JS files, and served through this call.

1.10 Grape SQL Functions

1.10.1 API result functions

This functions deal with the creation of standardized API results (in JSON format) to be sent back to the API call. They can be found in api_result_json.sql

NAME	PARAMETERS	DESCRIPTION
api_result_error	message TEXT code INTEGER info JSON	Returns a standardized JSON error object with stats as "ERROR" and the other fields populated. Example: {"status":"ERROR", "message":"Message", "code": -2, "error": {} }
api_error	message TEXT code INTEGER info JSON	Overload for api_result_error
api_error		With no arguments, an "Unknown error" message will be generated
api_error_invalid_input		Similar to calling api_result_error("Invalid input", -2)
api_success	keys TEXT[] values TEXT[] types TEXT[]	This function will construct a JSON object containing at least one field, "status" with the value "OK". The 3 input parameters should be arrays containing additional keys, values and the associated types (n/i/number/integer, j/json or nothing for text).
api_success	keys TEXT[] values TEXT[]	
api_success	key TEXT value INTEGER	
api_success	key1 TEXT value1 INTEGER key2 TEXT value2 INTEGER	Create an API result success JSON object with two integer fields added.
api_success	key TEXT value JSON	Create an API result success JSON object with a JSON field merged into the result.
api_success		Returns a API result object with a status field set to "OK".

1.10.2 Data importing functions

NAME	PARAMETERS	DESCRIPTION
data_import_insert		
data_upload_done		
data_import_row_insert		



1.10.3 JSON helpers

NAME	PARAMETERS	DESCRIPTION
json2xml	data JSON root TEXT	
json_diff	old JSONB new JSONB	
json_diff	old JSON new JSON	
json_object_diff	old JSONB new JSONB	
json_array_diff	old JSONB new JSONB	
json_to_composite_type_text	target_schema TEXT target_type TEXT data JSON	
json_to_composite_type	target_schema TEXT target_type TEXT data JSON	This function will populate a custom type from a JSON object. Multi-level nested objects are supported.
cast_json_array_to_int_array	JSON data	Provides an implicit cast from JSON to INT[] (cast_json_array_to_int_array.sql).
		<pre># select cast_json_array_to_int_array('[1,2,3]'::JSON); cast_json_array_to_int_array</pre>
cast_json_array_to_text_array	JSON data	Provides an implicit cast from JSON to TEXT[] (cast_json_array_to_text_array.sql).

1.10.4 List query

Grape's list_query call provides an easy way to retrieve rows from a table. Before the contents of a table can be retrieved this way it needs to be added to a whitelist. This functions can be found in list_query.sql. The built-in API call to access this function is **/grape/list**. Access control is enforced on tables retrieved.

The grape.list_query function returns rows from a database table. The following input fields are recognized:

- tablename
- schema (optional) TEXT
- sortfield (optional) TEXT
- sortorder (optional) TEXT DESC
- limit (optional) INTEGER default 50
- offset (optional) INTEGER default 0
- filter (optional) array of fields:
- field TEXT
- operand TEXT of '=', '#x003E;', '#x003C;', '#x003E;=', '#x003C;=', 'LIKE', 'ILIKE', 'IS_NULL', 'IS_NOT_NULL', 'IN'
- value text



The following functions deals with the access control:

NAME	PARAMETERS	DESCRIPTION
grape.list_query_whitelist_add	schema TEXT	Adds tables to the whitelist for use in grape list_query. Users must be in _roles to be able to
	tables TEXT[] - A list of table	access the data in the table.
	names to allow	
	roles TEXT[] - A list of roles to	
	allow	
grape.list_query_whitelist_delete	eschema TEXT	Removes a table from the whitelist.
	tablename TEXT - A table to	
	remove from allow	

1.10.5 Reports

This functions can be found in reports.sql.

NAME	PARAMETERS	DESCRIPTION
save_report	settings JSON	
execute_report	report_id INTEGER	
	parameters JSON	
execute_report	parameters JSON	

1.10.6 User related functions

NAME	PARAMETERS	DESCRIPTION
grape.user_save	JSON containing: user_id INTEGER username TEXT password TEXT email TEXT fullnames TEXT active BOOLEAN optional role_names TEXT[] employee_guid GUID	Save a user field, or create a new user. API call: POST/grape/user/save
grape.username	user_id INTEGER username TEXT	Returns the username for a user ID, or NULL if it does not exist. Returns the user ID for a username, or NULL if it does not exist.
grape.user_id_from_fullnames		Returns the user ID for a user found by fullnames, or NULL if it does not exist.
grape.username_from_fullname	fullnames TEXT	Returns the username for a user found by fullnames, or NULL if it does not exist.
grape.hash_user_password	user_id INTEGER	Hashes a password for user and updates the user table afterwards. If the hash length is the same as the password length and the password starts with a '\$' sign, it is assumed that the password is already hashed and the update is ignored (return -1) If grape.setting passwords_hashed isn't true, nothing is done (return -2) On success 0 is returned
grape.hash_user_password	username TEXT	Overload for grape.hash_user_password (user_id INTEGER)

1.10.7 Session related functions

NAME	PARAMETERS	DESCRIPTION
grape.current_user_roles		Returns a list of all roles the current user belongs to.



NAME	PARAMETERS	DESCRIPTION
grape.current_user_id		Returns the integer value of the current session's "grape.user_id" setting. This is typically set with grape before any API call is called
grape.check_session_access	session_id TEXT - Session ID to check for check_path TEXT - Access path to check check_method TEXT - HTTP method to check (GET/POST)	default_access_allowed is checked, and if true, access will be granted. If not, it will be denied and code 9 will be returned
grape.session_insert		
grape.logout	JSON JSON containing session_id	API call /grape/logout
grape.session_ping	JSON JSON containing session_id	Checks validity of a session and returns a JSON object containing the session's username, user_id, fullnames, email, GUID and user_roles. API Call /grape/session_ping
grape.session_insert	username TEXT password TEXT	This function inserts a new session for a valid username and password provided. API call /grape/logout
grape.		
grape.		

1.10.8 Other utility functions

NAME	PARAMETERS	DESCRIPTION
month_diff	_d1 DATE	Returns an integer containing the number of months between the two dates provided. If the
	_d2 DATE	first parameter is after the second (higher date), the return value will be negative.
set_value	_name TEXT	Sets the value (insert if new, replace if exist) in the key-value pair table grape.setting returning
	_value TEXT	_value.
get_value	_name TEXT	Gets the value for setting _name, and if not found it will return _default_value. Defined in
	_default_value TEXT	setting.sql
generate_uuid		Generates a unique UUID (for example b1086d35-e973-4356-3adc-2eeb6f4963e2). Defined
		in uuid.sql
array_lowercase	TEXT[]	
clean_telephone_number	_tel TEXT	
random_string	length INTEGER	Generates a random string of <i>length</i> length. Defined in random_string.sql