

## **API LED Connectivity**

API-led connectivity is a strategic approach to connecting various applications, data sources, and devices within an organization's ecosystem. It revolves around creating well-defined APIs (Application Programming Interfaces) that act as intermediaries between different parts of the system. These APIs are designed with specific purposes in mind:

**-Unlocking Data:** APIs provide controlled access to data stored in various systems, making it usable by other applications.

**-Composing Data and Processes:** APIs can combine data from multiple sources and execute workflows or processes that involve different systems.

**-Delivering Experiences:** APIs can be used to build user interfaces or applications that interact with the underlying services and data.

Here's a breakdown of the APIs involved:

**-System APIs:** These APIs provide access to the raw data stored in the backend systems, like the CRM or inventory system.

**-Process APIs:** These APIs orchestrate data from multiple system APIs to perform a specific business process. For instance, an order fulfillment process API might interact with the inventory and CRM APIs to check stock, create an order, and update customer information.

**-Experience APIs:** These APIs are designed for specific user interfaces or applications, like the customer web app. They would consume data from process APIs or system APIs and format it for the specific needs of the application.

The benefits of API-led connectivity include:

**-Increased Agility:** New applications can be easily integrated by using existing APIs, rather than building new point-to-point connections.

**-Improved Reusability:** APIs can be reused by multiple applications, reducing development time and effort.

**-Enhanced Scalability:** The architecture can be easily scaled to accommodate new applications and data sources.

**-Better Governance:** APIs can be centrally managed and secured, ensuring data consistency and security.

## **Application Network**

An application network is the interconnected web of applications, data sources, and devices that are integrated using API-led connectivity. This network fosters collaboration and data exchange between different parts of the organization, enabling the creation of innovative solutions and improved business processes.

Essentially, API-led connectivity is the method for building an application network. It provides the building blocks (APIs) and the architectural approach for creating a dynamic and interconnected system.

**An analogy:** Imagine a city with well-defined roads (APIs) connecting different districts (applications, data sources). This network allows for efficient movement of people (data) and goods (services) between these districts, promoting a vibrant and connected urban environment (application network).

