



FPC FALL MEMBER MEETING

SEPTEMBER 14 – 15, 2022
MINNEAPOLIS



Real-Time Payment APIs, Global Market Practices, & Lessons Learned for the U.S.

Presented by the
FPC Secure Instant & Immediate Payments
Work Group (APIWG)



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Panel of Speakers



Dean Nolan
APIWG Chair
Fifth Third Bank



Moa Agrell
APIWG Vice Chair
Trustly



Steve Wasserman
APIWG Member
Vments, Inc.



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Secure Instant & Immediate Payments APIs Work Group Presentation Outline



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- Work Group Goals & Objectives
- API 101
- International Research Summaries
- Next Steps
- Questions & Comments

Secure Instant & Immediate APIs Work Group Primary Goals and Objectives



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GOAL:

- Provide guidance for U.S. implementations of APIs for Faster Payments

OBJECTIVES:

- Gather insights by studying international API standards
- Publish best practices for API Registration and Payments
- Provide resources for FPC members and the industry at large



API 101 - What is an API?



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- **API = Application Programming Interface**
- **How systems Communicate and Exchange Information**
- **Modular building blocks for common functions**
- **Functional & data-oriented interfaces for:**
 - **Customers/Clients/Members**
 - **Suppliers/Vendors**
 - **Partners**

API 101: Functional Benefits of an API



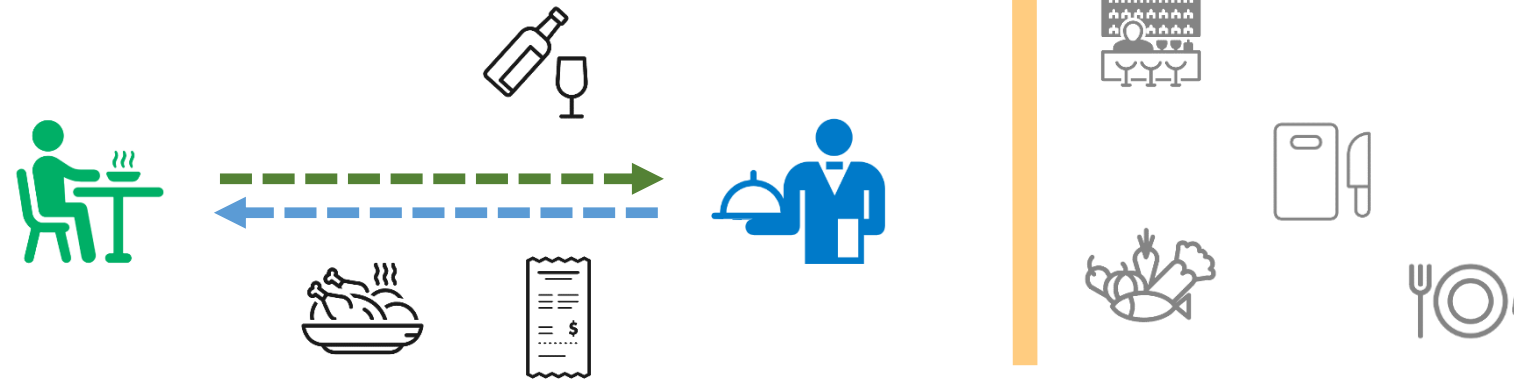
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- **Enables consistent access to functions and data**
- **Enables real time transfer of information**
- **Hides behind the scenes complexities**
- **Enables flexible extensions of core functions**
- **Provides security and control**
- **Facilitates integration and automation**

API 101: An API Analogy



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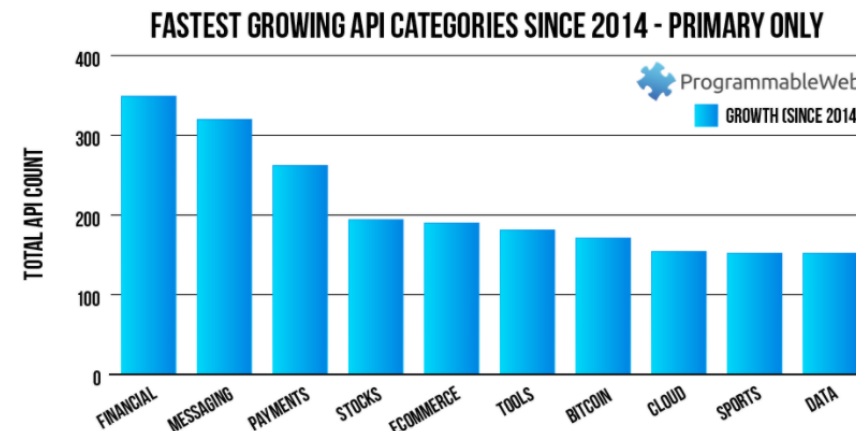
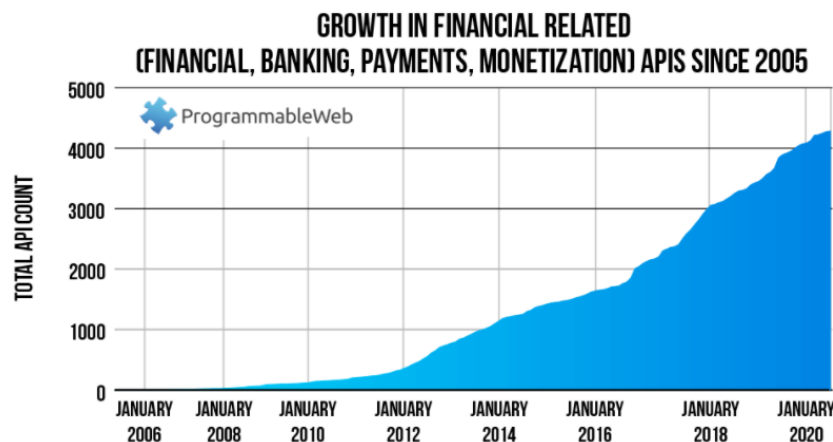
Customer	Items	Waiter	Kitchen, Bar
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API Consumer, Clients, Partners	Dev Portal, API Catalog, Products, Features, Functions, Data & Information	API Provider, Services	API Gateway	Backend Systems, Data, Services, Resources
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API 101: Trends & Tipping Points for Financial APIs



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- **Significant growth in Financial Related APIs since 2005**
- **Financial & Payments APIs lead top 3 in growth since 2014**
- **Over 50% APIs are to support B2B products**
- **55% businesses view API is critical for integration**
- **Key Drivers**
 - Open banking initiatives
 - Rise of digital forms payment
 - Increase demand for real-time data, transactions, and automation

API 101: The API “Ecosystem”



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API Gateway

- **Access to APIs**
- **Common authentication & authorization**

Developer Portal

- **For the developer community**
- **Extensions & Customizations**
- **Documentation**
- **Sample API usage**
- **Wizard (code generator)**
- **Sandbox**

Services

- **“Business capabilities”**
- **Transactional (e.g. payments)**
- **Validation functions**
- **Information lookup**

API 101: File vs API Experience



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File Based Experience

Implementation Guide

File Gateway

File Layout

FTP Credentials

Acknowledgement File

ACH, EDI820, etc.

Certificate

File Transfer Folders

API Experience

Dev Portal

API Gateway

API Definition

Standardized Security

API Real-Time Response

JSON/XML

Access Token

Endpoint Services

API Subgroup: International Research



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APIWG Subgroup: International Research Members

- Moa Agrell (WG Vice Chair, Subgroup Lead) – Trustly
- Varun Abroll – BMO Harris
- Maria Arminio – Avenue B Consulting
- Avnish Gupta- BNY Mellon
- Robert MacColl – Rapyd, Inc.
- Steve Mott – BetterBuyDesign
- Dean Nolan (WG Chair) – Fifth Third Bank
- Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago
- Azeem Sattar – Airbnb, Inc.
- Irina Singh – Mastercard International
- Steve Wasserman – Vments, Inc.

International Research



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What?

Review what other countries are doing to provide recommendation for the U.S.

How?

Designed & Completed matrix around core payment functions and key API functionalities and value added services that should be included in a FP API

- API Functions
- Built Descriptions
- Identified and divided the countries in scope among the group
- Available Faster Payments rail(s)
- Available API documentation
- What is included in APIs to support faster payments

International Research



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What did we want to do?

- Identify the elements included in the APIs from matrix
- Identify key API functionalities specific to the market & why they are beneficial
- Identify the country specific approach to Faster Payments API and compare
- Provide recommendation to the U.S.

“Provide deep dive into country specific aspects of the APIs developed to support real-time payment rails, highlight the areas of commonalities and differentiation in the global market focusing on Credit Push transactions. Research is intended to provide guidance on features and functionality that U.S. stakeholders should be supporting and to identify challenges in building out the API structures that are required for ubiquitous access.”

International Research



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Research Challenges

- Access to API documentation
(Regulatory influence vs. No regulatory influence)
- Proprietary APIs and requirement for bilateral agreements
- Difficulties in making comparisons —————> High Level Summary

United Kingdom



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- ‘Open Banking’ regulation detailed per use case
 - code & response code included documentation easy to follow
- Open Banking dictates FIs to open up data to third parties
 - in standardized format
- Regulatory influence on API availability
- Standardization of API format
- Scheme agnostic & multi-currency support



European Union



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- Open Banking driven from regulatory perspective (PSD2)
 - Descriptions of responsibilities and connectivity requirements in RTS
 - Big focus on authentication and SCA
- Open Banking dictates FIs to open up data to third parties
 - No standardized format
 - Many proprietary APIs
- Regulatory influence on API availability
- Scheme agnostic & multi-currency support




Australia



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- **NPP** - documentation available is at rail level (High level)
- No mandate for participants to apply recommendations, encouraged to follow framework
- Some features not included since documentation is at rail level (International payments & scheme agnostic)
-  PayID - Payee confirmation (Centrally secured)

India



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- **UPI** - Smartphone application (primarily P2P)
- India accounted for most real-time transactions in 2021
- Most matrix functionalities included at rail level
 - Participating FIs can build their own UPI APIs but they have to follow RBI API specs & operating guidelines
- Interoperability with other countries/rails
- Virtual Payment Address (VPA)



Singapore



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- **PayNow** - P2P and Corporate payments available
- API functionalities included in matrix are included at rail level
- PayNow integrated in online banking/mobile platform
- Interoperability with UPI and PromptPay (Phone #)
- Virtual Payment Address (VPA)



International Research



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Insights and Recommendations

- Regulatory mandates & Standard format requirements accelerate availability
- Fraud prevention features
 - India & UPI (VPA); Singapore & PayNow (VPA); Australia & NPP (PayID)
 - The EU and UK (Authentication and SCA in RTS)
- Benefits of having both Payments and Data API available (Payments use case, fraud prevention, value added services, better End-user visibility)
- Interoperability (scale growth of Instant payments & availability of APIs)

What does this mean for the U.S.?

APIWG Subgroup: Output



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APIWG Subgroup: Output Members

- Moa Agrell (WG Vice Chair) – Trustly
- Maria Arminio – Avenue B Consulting
- Diana Hennel – Catalyst Corp. Fed.Credit Union
- Robert MacColl – Rapyd, Inc.
- Steve Mott – BetterBuyDesign
- Kwun Ng – Fifth Third Bank
- Dean Nolan (WG Chair, Subgroup Lead) – Fifth Third Bank
- Irina Singh – Mastercard International
- Steve Wasserman – Vments, Inc.

Next Steps



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- Finish consolidating research findings and identify best practices
- Create a summary paper offering guidance for U.S. implementations of APIs for Faster Payments
- Clean up research documents and release to the U.S. FPC website



**Target Date
EOY 2022**

Panel Contact Information



Dean Nolan



Moa Agrell



Steve Wasserman



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