



Data Center Discovery 2018.2

REST API QUICK START GUIDE

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About this guide

This is a quick start guide to Data Center Discovery's REST API. It covers the basics of how to access the API, how to authenticate, and how to navigate between resources. You can find more detail on the resources supported and the data returned by each by checking the Swagger documentation.

Accessing the API

The REST API is accessible using the following URL:

`http://<server_ip_hostname>/api/<api_version>/<resource_name>`

- `<server_ip_hostname>` is the hostname of the server where the REST API is installed.
- `<api_version>` is the version of the API, e.g. v1.
- `<resource_name>` is the resource being requested, e.g. /devices. To check which other resources are available and their details, refer to the Swagger docs.

Authentication

The Rest API uses basic authentication as described by the standard RFC2617. To do basic authentication, a header is added and sent with every request:

HTTP headers

<u>Authorization</u>	<u>Basic YWRtaW46cGFzc3dvcmQ=</u>
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Where `Authorization` is the header name and the header value is in the form of:

`Basic <encoded_credential>`

The encoded credential is the concatenation of the username, a colon, and the password, which is then encoded in base64:

Base64 of: `<username>:<password>`

For example, the default Data Center Discovery credential (admin/password) becomes `admin:password`, which after encoding becomes `YWRtaW46cGFzc3dvcmQ=`, and after prepending the `Basic` string becomes `Basic YWRtaW46cGFzc3dvcmQ=`.

Base64 encoding is supported by default on UNIX systems or via Cygwin on Windows systems. Be careful not to encode hidden characters like newlines or tabs in the string.

Unix:

```
$ echo -n admin:password | base64
```

Windows (via Cygwin):

```
$ echo -n "admin:password" | base64.exe
```

The REST API has a Dry Run mode that you can use to check the credential. This is accessible by doing a request to the root address of the API:

```
http://<server_ip_hostname>/api/v1
```

If the credential used is valid, a 200 – OK is returned.

Making requests

This section explains some requests that can be performed and the navigation between related resources.

The most typical request that can be performed is a request for devices. To request all devices, the following resource can be invoked:

```
http://vm-devse-pc0/api/v1/devices
```

Using Curl, together with the Authorization header:

```
curl -H 'Authorization: Basic YWRtaW46cGFzc3dvcmQ=' 'http://vm-devse-pc0/api/v1/devices'
```

When querying a resource that returns a collection such as `/devices` or `/applications`, by default a minimal view of the objects is returned. This minimal view contains a limited number of properties, enough to identify each one:

```
- 4: {
  "device_id": "d4281ee6-b0aa-46e7-9a6b-5390353ecf59",
  "host_name": "Solarisv490",
  "serial_number": "84ad4eee",
  "manufacturer": "Oracle Corporation sun4u",
  "model": "Oracle Corporation sun4u Sun Fire V490",
  "self": "http://vm-devse-pc0/API/v1/devices/D4281EE6-B0AA-46E7-9A6B-5390353ECF59"
},
```

To drill down into a single object and return all its properties, a new request should be made to the URL previously returned in the `self` field:

```
{
  "device_id": "d4281ee6-b0aa-46e7-9a6b-5390353ecf59",
  "host_name": "Solarisv490",
  "total_memory_mb": 8192,
  "serial_number": "84ad4eee",
  "manufacturer": "Oracle Corporation sun4u",
  "model": "Oracle Corporation sun4u Sun Fire V490",
  "cpu_count": 2,
  "core_count": 4,
  "is_virtual": false,
  "-operating_system": { ... }
  "-cpu": Array[2] ...
  "-ip_address": Array[3] ...
  "applications": "http://vm-devse-pc0/API/v1/devices/D4281EE6-B0AA-46E7-9A6B-5390353ECF59/applications",
  "installed_software": "http://vm-devse-pc0/API/v1/devices/D4281EE6-B0AA-46E7-9A6B-5390353ECF59/installed\_software",
  "self": "http://vm-devse-pc0/API/v1/devices/D4281EE6-B0AA-46E7-9A6B-5390353ECF59"
}
```

Following the same logic, to return all applications running on this device, it's a matter of requesting the resource returned in the `applications` field for the returned device object.

Column sets

As highlighted previously, the `/devices` collection returns a minimal view of each device. However, it might be required to get the full device information in one go.

To do this, use the `col_set` URL parameter and set its value to `all` as follows:

```
http://vm-devse-pc0/api/v1/devices/?col_set=all
```

This will return the list of devices, listing each with all of their information. It's worth noting that setting this option limits the number of returned results to 20.

Pagination of collections

It's possible to get limited or more extensive batches of collections. This is done using the `offset` and `fetch_size` URL parameters. For example:

```
http://vm-devse-pc0/api/v1/devices/?offset=50&fetch_size=25
```

This request returns the device list starting on the 50th device (inclusive) and returns a total of 25 devices.

When these are not specified, `offset` defaults to 0 and `fetch_size` defaults to 200 or 20 (depending on the `col_set` defined).

Navigating between paginated collections

Collections are paginated according to the number of objects returned. To facilitate the navigation between the set of results, a URL pointing to the next page of results is included in the Response header:

Link: <http://vm-devse-pc0/API/v1/devices/?offset=162&fetch_size=0&col_set=default>; rel="next"

“Link” is always returned when a collection is returned, independent of the existence of more results in that collection.

Filtering results

It's possible to filter the results according to some of their properties, which is especially useful if the API is used in front-end searching or filtering.

To send a request with filtering parameters, the request type must be set as POST and the parameters sent as `x-www-form-urlencoded` data.

Wildcards are supported by appending and/or prepending `%` to the filtering parameter.

Applications

The Applications resource supports filtering by Vendor, Name, and Description. As an example, the following would return only applications from Oracle:

Form data for x-www-form-urlencoded parameters

vendor Oracle

Using Curl:

```
curl -H 'Authorization: Basic YWRtaW46cGFzc3dvcmQ=' -d 'vendor=oracle' -X POST 'http://vm-devse-pc0/api/v1/applications'
```

Response codes

The following are the HTTP response codes that can be returned by the REST API.

HTTP Code	Description
200	OK – The HTTP request was successful.
401	Unauthorized – The authentication failed. Double-check the credentials used and the format.
404	Not found – The requested resource does not exist.
500	General server error.