



Technical Specification for the
WEBTEXT HTTP API

Version 0.96

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API Overview

This document outlines the parameters required, and codes returned by the WEBTEXT HTTP API. The API is used by making a HTTP or HTTPS (SSL) call to the WEBTEXT server. The call may use either the POST or GET method. The request must contain valid values for all parameters designated 'mandatory'. It may then contain valid values for parameters marked 'optional', if required.

Accessing the API

Checking Account Balance

Description

When requesting WebTEXT account balance, calls to the API must be made via URL:

http://www.webtext.com/api/get_balance.html

or, to use SSL:

https://www.webtext.com/api/get_balance.html

Mandatory Parameters when requesting balance.

| | |
|----------------|---|
| api_id | This is your WebTEXT API id, unique to your WebTEXT account. Issued on request by WebTEXT (support@webtext.com). Note that this is NOT your WebTEXT user name. |
| api_pwd | API password, as issued to you by WebTEXT. |

Usage Example

This is a sample GET request, requesting the balance on a particular account

[http://www.webtext.com/api/get_balance.html?
api_id=myid&api_pwd=mypwd](http://www.webtext.com/api/get_balance.html?api_id=myid&api_pwd=mypwd)

A successful call to the API for an account balance, will return the number of credits on the account, prefixed by the characters 'BAL:'. For an account with 123 credits, the API will return:

BAL:123

Sending SMS

Description

When sending messages, all calls to the API must be made via URL:

http://www.webtext.com/api/send_text.html

or, to use SSL:

https://www.webtext.com/api/send_text.html

Mandatory Parameters when sending messages

| | |
|----------------|--|
| <i>api_id</i> | This is your WebTEXT API id, unique to your WebTEXT account. Issued on request by WebTEXT (support@webtext.com). Note that this is NOT your WebTEXT user name. |
| <i>api_pwd</i> | API password, as issued to you by WebTEXT. |
| <i>dest</i> | <p>The destination phone number, expressed in international format, without leading +. A UK number would appear as 4471234567. This parameter may contain ONLY the digits 0-9 and comma, where multiple numbers are specified. The API will accept multiple, comma-delimited mobile numbers, as destinations for a single message. A maximum of 500 numbers can be included in a single HTTP request.</p> <p>Sending to a Contact Group: Specify the alias for the group instead of any phone numbers. Eg: 888654321 is a group alias. Specific alias can be found on the Manage Contact Groups page.</p> |
| <i>txt</i> | This is the text to be sent. Maximum length 160 characters. |

Mandatory Parameters when sending UNICODE messages

| | |
|----------------|---|
| <i>api_id</i> | This is your WebTEXT API id, unique to your WebTEXT account. Issued on request by WebTEXT (support@webtext.com). Note that this is NOT your WebTEXT user name. |
| <i>api_pwd</i> | API password, as issued to you by WebTEXT |
| <i>dest</i> | The destination phone number, expressed in international format, without leading +. A UK number would appear as 4471234567. This parameter may contain ONLY the digits 0-9 and comma, where multiple numbers are specified. The API will accept multiple, comma-delimited mobile numbers, as destinations for a single message. A maximum of 500 numbers can be included in a single HTTP request. |
| <i>unicode</i> | This need to be set to 1 to indicate a unicode message |
| <i>hex</i> | <p>This is a hexadecimal string of UTF16 (big endian) characters. Each character is represented by 2 bytes.</p> <p>Example: ABC = 004100420043 Hello = 00480065006C006C006F</p> <p>Generating the required hex string using PHP, starting with a string in UTF8 charset.</p> <pre><? \$utf8="Hello World"; \$utf16=iconv('UTF-8','UTF-16BE',\$utf8); \$tmp=unpack('H*hex',\$utf16); \$hex="{ \$tmp[hex] }"; echo "\$utf8 -> \$hex"; ?></pre> <p>should produce output as follows: Hello World -> 00480065006c006c006f00200057006f0072006c0064</p> |

Optional Parameters when sending messages

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| <p>tag</p> | <p>This is the alphanumeric* tag which you wish to attach to the outgoing message. Maximum length 11 characters. If 'tag' is not specified, the message will be sent from your Virtual Number, or from a shared Virtual Number if you do not have your own.</p> <p>* To be precise, the 'tag' parameter can use any character which is part of the 7-bit default alphabet as specified by GSM 03.38. This would include the following:</p> <pre>@ £ \$ ¥ è é ù ì ò Ç Ø ø Å å _ Æ æ ß É ! " # ¤ % & ' () * + , - . / 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 : ; < = > ? ; A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z Ä Ö Ñ Û Ü ç a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z ä ö ñ ü à <SPACE></pre> <p>Note, however, that some carriers have issues with some of the less common characters, and testing the required tag is to be recommended.</p> |
| <p>delivery_time</p> | <p>This is 12-digit numerical value, specifying the time (GMT) at which the message should be delivered. Format for value is yyymmddhhmm (example '200612141305' = Dec 14 2006 13:05)</p> |
| <p>delivery_delta</p> | <p>This parameter is numerical, and specifies the number of minutes in the future when the message is to be delivered. This allows the calling application to specify a specific delay in minutes prior to attempting delivery of the message. It negates any issues which might arise with timezones etc.</p> |
| <p>receipt</p> | <p>Action required on arrival of a delivery receipt related to this message. May be 0 (default), 1 or 2. 0 – No receipt forwarding required 1 – Forward receipt to a URL 2 – Forward receipt to an email address</p> |
| <p>msgid</p> | <p>This is a numerical value, provided by the client. When a delivery receipt is forwarded to the client, this id will be quoted to allow the client associate the receipt with a particular sent message.</p> |
| <p>receipt_url</p> | <p>This is the URL to which delivery receipts for this message should be sent. The client must have the necessary script set up at this url to deal with the forwarded receipt. Mandatory when receipt=1.</p> |
| <p>receipt_email</p> | <p>This is the email address to which delivery receipts for this message will be forwarded. Mandatory when receipt=2.</p> |
| <p>validity</p> | <p>The validity period, in minutes, for this message. May range between 1 and 2880 (2 days) inclusive. Some carriers will set a maximum value of 1440 (1 day) If a message has not been delivered to the intended recipient after <validity> minutes, the network will not attempt to deliver it at all. This is useful where information has a short currency/lifespan.</p> |

Usage Examples

Sending a Message for immediate delivery

This is a sample GET request, sending the text '*test message*' to 4471234567, with alphanumeric tag 'my test':

http://www.webtext.com/api/send_text.html?api_id=myid&api_pwd=mypwd&txt=test%20message&dest=4471234567&tag=my%20test

Sending a Message for immediate delivery to multiple recipients

This is a sample GET request, sending the text '*test message*' to 4471234567 and 353861234567, with alphanumeric tag 'my test':

http://www.webtext.com/api/send_text.html?api_id=myid&api_pwd=mypwd&txt=test%20message&dest=353861234567,4471234567&tag=my%20test

Sending a Message for immediate delivery to a Contact Group

This is a sample GET request, sending the text '*test message*' to a contact group with group alias=888123456, (as found under 'Manage Contact Groups' when logged into the WEBTEXT.COM site) with alphanumeric tag 'my test':

http://www.webtext.com/api/send_text.html?api_id=myid&api_pwd=mypwd&txt=test%20message&dest=888123456&tag=my%20test

Scheduling a Message for later delivery

This is a sample GET request, sending the text '*test message*' to 4471234567, with tag 'my test', to be delivered on January 18th 2012 at 11:30 AM:

http://www.webtext.com/api/send_text.html?api_id=myid&api_pwd=mypwd&txt=test%20message&dest=4471234567&tag=my%20test&delivery_time=201201181130

This is a sample GET request, sending the text '*test message*' to 4471234567, with tag 'my test', to be delivered in 15 minutes, with a 2 hour validity period:

http://www.webtext.com/api/send_text.html?api_id=myid&api_pwd=mypwd&txt=test%20message&dest=4471234567&tag=my%20test&delivery_delta=15&validity=120

Sending a Unicode Message

This is a sample GET request, sending the text 'Hello World', *in Unicode*, to 601234567, with alphanumeric tag 'my test':

http://www.webtext.com/api/send_text.html?api_id=myid&api_pwd=mypwd&unicode=1&hex=00480065006c006c006f002000057006f0072006c0064&dest=601234567&tag=my%20test

Adding Contacts / Assigning Contacts to Groups

Description

When adding new contacts to your Contacts List, or adding existing Contacts to a Contact Group, calls to the API must be made via URL:

http://www.webtext.com/api/add_contact.html

or, to use SSL:

https://www.webtext.com/api/add_contact.html

Mandatory Parameters when adding a contact, or adding an existing contact to a group.

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| api_id | This is your WebTEXT API id, unique to your WebTEXT account. Issued on request by WebTEXT (support@webtext.com). Note that this is NOT your WebTEXT user name. |
| api_pwd | API password, as issued to you by WebTEXT. |
| contact_num | The mobile phone number for this contact |

Optional Parameters when adding a contact, or adding an existing contact to a group.

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| contact_name | This is the name for the new Contact which you are adding. If you do not include this parameter, the value for <i>contact_num</i> will also be used as the Contact Name. |
| group_alias | This is an 8-digit numerical value, which can be found adjacent to the group in the WEBTEXT.COM web interface, under CONTACTS - CONTACT GROUPS |

Usage Example

This is a sample GET request, adding 353881234567 to my Contact List.

[http://www.webtext.com/api/add_contact.html?
api_id=myid&api_pwd=mypwd&contact_num=353881234567](http://www.webtext.com/api/add_contact.html?api_id=myid&api_pwd=mypwd&contact_num=353881234567)

This is a sample GET request, adding 353881234567, with name Joe, to my Contact List.

[http://www.webtext.com/api/add_contact.html?
api_id=myid&api_pwd=mypwd&contact_num=353881234567&contact_name=Joe](http://www.webtext.com/api/add_contact.html?api_id=myid&api_pwd=mypwd&contact_num=353881234567&contact_name=Joe)

This is a sample GET request, adding 353881234567, to my Contact Group, alias 88812345. Note that, if this number is not already a contact, it will be added to my Contact List, then to the specified group.

[http://www.webtext.com/api/add_contact.html?
api_id=myid&api_pwd=mypwd&contact_num=353881234567&group_alias=88812345](http://www.webtext.com/api/add_contact.html?api_id=myid&api_pwd=mypwd&contact_num=353881234567&group_alias=88812345)

A successful call to the API, to add a Contact, will return the string: 000

An unsuccessful call will return a 3-digit error code, which can be found in the table 'RETURN CODES', at the end of this document.

Removing Contacts / Removing Contacts from Groups

Description

When removing contacts from your Contacts List, or removing an existing Contact from a Contact Group, calls to the API must be made via URL:

http://www.webtext.com/api/remove_contact.html

or, to use SSL:

https://www.webtext.com/api/remove_contact.html

Mandatory Parameters when removing a contact, or removing an existing contact from a group.

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| api_id | This is your WebTEXT API id, unique to your WebTEXT account. Issued on request by WebTEXT (support@webtext.com). Note that this is NOT your WebTEXT user name. |
| api_pwd | API password, as issued to you by WebTEXT. |
| remove_num | The mobile phone number for this contact |

Optional Parameters when removing a contact, or adding an existing contact to a group.

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| group_alias | This is an 8-digit numerical value, which can be found adjacent to the group in the WEBTEXT.COM web interface, under CONTACTS - CONTACT GROUPS |
|--------------------|--|

Note: If you do not specify a value for **group_alias**, the contact will be completely removed from your Contact List.

To remove a contact completely from your WEBTEXT.COM Address Book, include only the **remove_num** parameter. This will automatically remove the Contact from all Contact Groups of which they are members, then remove the Contact itself.

To remove a contact from a group only, include the **group_alias** parameter.

Usage Example

This is a sample GET request, removing 353881234567 from my Contact List.

[http://www.webtext.com/api/remove_contact.html?
api_id=myid&api_pwd=mypwd&remove_num=353881234567](http://www.webtext.com/api/remove_contact.html?api_id=myid&api_pwd=mypwd&remove_num=353881234567)

This is a sample GET request, removing 353881234567, from my Contact Group, alias 88812345

[http://www.webtext.com/api/remove_contact.html?
api_id=myid&api_pwd=mypwd&contact_num=353881234567&group_alias=88812345](http://www.webtext.com/api/remove_contact.html?api_id=myid&api_pwd=mypwd&contact_num=353881234567&group_alias=88812345)

A successful call to the API, to remove a Contact, will return the string: 000

An unsuccessful call will return a 3-digit error code, which can be found in the table 'RETURN CODES', at the end of this document.

Adding Contact Groups

Description

When adding a new Contact Group, calls to the API must be made via URL:
http://www.webtext.com/api/add_contact_group.html

or, to use SSL:

https://www.webtext.com/api/add_contact_group.html

Mandatory Parameters when adding a contact group.

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| <i>api_id</i> | This is your WebTEXT API id, unique to your WebTEXT account. Issued on request by WebTEXT (support@webtext.com). Note that this is NOT your WebTEXT user name. |
| <i>api_pwd</i> | API password, as issued to you by WebTEXT. |
| <i>group_name</i> | The name you wish to assign to the new group. |

Usage Example

This is a sample GET request, adding a new group, called 'My Group' to my list of Contact Groups.

[http://www.webtext.com/api/add_contact_group.html?
api_id=myid&api_pwd=mypwd&group_name=My%20Group](http://www.webtext.com/api/add_contact_group.html?api_id=myid&api_pwd=mypwd&group_name=My%20Group)

A successful call to the API, to add a Contact Group, will return the string: “**000 alias:xxxxxxxx**”, where xxxxxxxxxx is the group alias assigned by the server.

An unsuccessful call will return a 3-digit error code, which can be found in the table 'RETURN CODES', at the end of this document. For example, attempting to add a group which already exists within your account, will return the error code **407**

Removing Contact Groups

Description

When removing a Contact Group, calls to the API must be made via URL:
http://www.webtext.com/api/remove_contact_group.html

or, to use SSL:

https://www.webtext.com/api/remove_contact_group.html

Mandatory Parameters when adding a contact group.

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| <i>api_id</i> | This is your WebTEXT API id, unique to your WebTEXT account. Issued on request by WebTEXT (support@webtext.com). Note that this is NOT your WebTEXT user name. |
| <i>api_pwd</i> | API password, as issued to you by WebTEXT. |
| <i>group_alias</i> | The alias for the group you wish to remove. This can be found on the Contacts page, and is returned by the API call, when the API is used to create the group. |

Usage Example

This is a sample GET request, removing a group, with alias 888654321, from my list of Contact Groups.

[http://www.webtext.com/api/remove_contact_group.html?
api_id=myid&api_pwd=mypwd&group_alias=888654321](http://www.webtext.com/api/remove_contact_group.html?api_id=myid&api_pwd=mypwd&group_alias=888654321)

A successful call to the API, to remove a Contact Group, will return the string: “000”.

An unsuccessful call will return a 3-digit error code, which can be found in the table 'RETURN CODES', at the end of this document. For example, attempting to remove a group which cannot be found will return the error code **408**

Handling Receipts

When a message has been delivered successfully to the recipient handset, WebTEXT receives a Delivery Receipt from the remote network. Under some situations a Failure Receipt will be received, for example, if a timeout occurs, or an invalid mobile number is specified. By default, these receipts are sent to your WebTEXT Outbox. Using the API, you can request that these receipts are also forwarded to you, either to an email address, or to a URL on your web server. You can then process the incoming receipt as you require.

Email Receipts

When sending a message, you can request that the associated receipt(s) are forwarded to the email address you specify. The following parameters are **required** when this feature is required:

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| <i>api_id</i> | Your API id, issued by WebTEXT |
| <i>api_pwd</i> | Your API password, issued by WebTEXT |
| <i>txt</i> | Text to be sent |
| <i>dest</i> | Message Destination |
| <i>receipt</i> | Must be specified, with a value of 2. |
| <i>msgid</i> | Unique numerical id, supplied by you. It will be returned with the receipt to allow you associate the incoming receipt with its corresponding sent message. |
| <i>receipt_email</i> | The email address to which the receipt message will be forwarded. |

Example

This is a sample GET request, sending the text 'test message' to 4471234567, requesting the receipt to be sent to email address 'me@mydomain.com'

http://www.webtext.com/api/send_text.html?api_id=myid&api_pwd=mypws&txt=test%20message&dest=4471234567&receipt=2&msgid=13974&receipt_email=me@mydomain.com

The message is sent to the intended recipient. Upon successful delivery, or failure, WebTEXT will receive a receipt from the network. The receipt will have one of two possible values:

| | |
|---|------------------|
| 1 | DELIVERY_SUCCESS |
| 2 | DELIVERY_FAILURE |

The resulting email will be formatted as follows:

```
To: me@mydomain.com
Subject: WebTEXT Receipt
From: WebTEXT <rx_forwarder@wwebtext.com>
Message-Id: <123456-123-3344@netfin.webtext.com>
Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2006 12:35:46 +0000 (GMT)

msgid:13974
destination:447123456
status:1
Desc:DELIVERY_SUCCESS
```

URL Receipts

When sending a message, you can request that the associated receipt(s) are forwarded to the URL you specify. The following parameters are **required** when this feature is required:

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| <i>api_id</i> | Your API id, issued by WebTEXT |
| <i>api_pwd</i> | Your API password, issued by WebTEXT |
| <i>txt</i> | Text to be sent |
| <i>dest</i> | Message Destination |
| <i>receipt</i> | Must be specified, with a value of 1. |
| <i>msgid</i> | Unique numerical id, supplied by you. It will be returned with the receipt to allow you associate the incoming receipt with its corresponding sent message. |
| <i>receipt_url</i> | The URL to which the receipt message will be forwarded. |

Example

This is a sample GET request, sending the text 'test message' to 4471234567, requesting the receipt to be sent to URL 'http://www.mydomain.com/rx_in.html':

```
http://www.webtext.com/api/send_text.html?api_id=myid&api_pwd=myspw&txt=test
%20message&dest=4471234567&receipt=1&msgid=13974&receipt_url=http://www.mydomain.co
m/rx_in.html
```

The message is sent to the intended recipient. Upon successful delivery, or failure, WebTEXT will receive a receipt from the network. The receipt will have one of two possible values:

| | |
|---|------------------|
| 1 | DELIVERY_SUCCESS |
| 2 | DELIVERY_FAILURE |

The resulting GET request will be sent to the specified URL, as follows:

```
http://www.mydomain.com/rx_in.html?msgid=13974&dest=4471234567&status=1
```

The parameters sent to the specified URL are:

| | |
|--------|--|
| msgid | This is the msgid submitted with the initial request. |
| dest | This is the destination number to which this receipt relates |
| status | The receipt status, where 1=success and 2=failure. |

Retries

WebTEXT will attempt to send the receipt to the specified URL 5 times in total, at the following intervals:

- 1st attempt: Immediately on arrival of receipt.
- 2nd attempt: 1 minute later
- 3rd attempt: 5 minutes after 2nd attempt.
- 4th attempt: 30 minutes after 3rd attempt.

5th attempt: 60 minutes after 4th attempt.

Once the WebTEXT server receives a successful (2xx) HTTP response code, the receipt is regarded as sent successfully. Your script does not need to return anything specific, but must exist.

GET v POST

While, for illustrative purposes, this document uses GET in all the examples, you can also use POST requests, and may find these preferable.

RETURN CODES

The API will respond, via HTTP, to the Request with a 3 digit return code. The return codes are listed in the table below.

| | |
|-----|--|
| 000 | Success. Message accepted for delivery |
| 101 | Missing parameter: <i>api_user</i> |
| 102 | Missing parameter: <i>api_pwd</i> |
| 103 | Missing parameter: <i>txt</i> |
| 104 | Missing parameter: <i>dest</i> |
| 105 | Missing parameter: <i>msgid</i> |
| 106 | Missing parameter: <i>receipt_url</i> |
| 107 | Missing parameter: <i>receipt_email</i> |
| 108 | Invalid value for parameter: <i>hex</i> |
| 109 | Missing parameter: <i>hex</i> (unicode parameter has been presented, but no <i>hex</i> value) |
| 110 | Missing parameter: <i>si_txt</i> |
| 111 | Missing parameter: <i>si_url</i> |
| 112 | Missing parameter: <i>group_name</i> |
| 113 | Missing parameter: <i>group_alias</i> |
| 199 | Insufficient Credit |
| 201 | Authentication Failure |
| 202 | IP Restriction – If IP restrictions are in place for this account, an attempt has been made to send from an unauthorised IP address. |
| 203 | Invalid value for parameter: <i>dest</i> |
| 204 | Invalid value for parameter: <i>api_pwd</i> |
| 205 | Invalid value for parameter: <i>api_id</i> |
| 206 | Invalid value for parameter: <i>delivery_time</i> |
| 207 | Invalid date specified for <i>delivery_time</i> |
| 208 | Invalid value for parameter: <i>delivery_delta</i> |
| 209 | Invalid value for parameter: <i>receipt</i> |
| 210 | Invalid value for parameter: <i>msgid</i> |
| 211 | Invalid value for parameter: <i>tag</i> |
| 212 | Invalid value for parameter: <i>si_txt</i> |
| 213 | Invalid value for parameter: <i>si_url</i> |
| 214 | Invalid value for parameter: <i>group_name</i> |
| 215 | Invalid value for parameter: <i>group_alias</i> |
| 401 | Not a contact |
| 402 | Invalid value for parameter: <i>group_alias</i> |
| 403 | Contact is not a member of specified group |
| 405 | Duplicate Contact entries not allowed on this account |
| 406 | Contact already a member of specified group |
| 407 | Group already exists |

| | |
|---------|--|
| 408 | A group with the given alias does not exist for this account |
| BAL:xxx | Account Balance is xxx |