

Technical Specification for the
WEBTEXT HTTP API

Version 0.95

Release: January 9th 2009

Document History

<i>January 9th 2009</i>	Updated document to include features: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- sending to multiple recipients- sending to a contact groups- permitted characters in <i>tag</i> parameter- Adding a Contact Group- Removing a Contact Group General layout changes including introduction of table of contents. <ul style="list-style-type: none">- fixing of typos- incorrect return codes were being returned when adding/removing contacts
<i>December 7th 2007</i>	Added Unicode support information
<i>November 27th 2007</i>	Added <i>add_contact</i> and <i>remove_contact</i> functionality Amended typos Changed logo
<i>July 5th 2007</i>	Added 'validity' parameter to ' <i>Optional Parameters when sending messages</i> ' section.
<i>December 2006</i>	Updated section relating to Delivery Receipts

Table of Contents

API Overview	4
Accessing the API	4
Checking Account Balance.....	4
Description.....	4
Usage Example.....	4
Sending SMS	5
Description.....	5
Usage Examples.....	7
<i>Sending a Message for immediate delivery</i>	7
<i>Sending a Message for immediate delivery to multiple recipients</i>	7
<i>Sending a Message for immediate delivery to a Contact Group</i>	7
<i>Scheduling a Message for later delivery</i>	7
<i>Sending a Unicode Message</i>	7
Adding Contacts / Assigning Contacts to Groups.....	8
Description.....	8
Usage Example.....	8
Removing Contacts / Removing Contacts from Groups.....	9
Description.....	9
Usage Example.....	9
Adding Contact Groups.....	10
Description.....	10
Usage Example.....	10
Removing Contact Groups.....	11
Description.....	11
Usage Example.....	11
Handling Receipts	12
Email Receipts.....	12
Example.....	12
URL Receipts.....	13
Example.....	13
Retries.....	13
GET v POST	14
RETURN CODES	15

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.

<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.

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

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

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.
dest	<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>
txt	This is the text to be sent. Maximum length 160 characters.

Mandatory Parameters when sending UNICODE messages

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
dest	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.
unicode	This need to be set to 1 to indicate a unicode message
hex	<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

tag	<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 ù 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>
delivery_time	<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>
delivery_delta	<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>
receipt	<p>Action required on arrival of a delivery receipt related to this message. May be 0 (default), 1 or 2.</p> <p>0 – No receipt forwarding required 1 – Forward receipt to a URL 2 – Forward receipt to an email address</p>
msgid	<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>
receipt_url	<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>
receipt_email	<p>This is the email address to which delivery receipts for this message will be forwarded. Mandatory when receipt=2.</p>
validity	<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=00480065006c006c006f00200057006f0072006c0064&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&remove_num=353881234567&group_alias=88812345](http://www.webtext.com/api/remove_contact.html?api_id=myid&api_pwd=mypwd&remove_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.

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.
group_name	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 xxxxxxxx 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.

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.
group_alias	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:

api_id	Your API id, issued by WebTEXT
api_pwd	Your API password, issued by WebTEXT
txt	Text to be sent
dest	Message Destination
receipt	Must be specified, with a value of 2.
msgid	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.
receipt_email	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:

api_id	Your API id, issued by WebTEXT
api_pwd	Your API password, issued by WebTEXT
txt	Text to be sent
dest	Message Destination
receipt	Must be specified, with a value of 1.
msgid	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.
receipt_url	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=mypwd&txt=test%20message&dest=4471234567&receipt=1&msgid=13974&receipt_url=http://www.mydomain.com/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_id</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>
114	Missing parameter: <i>contact_num</i>
115	Missing parameter: <i>remove_num</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>
216	Invalid value for parameter: <i>contact_num</i>
217	Invalid value for parameter: <i>remove_num</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