

Roundtable 26: Master DataVia API Integration Round Table

Tamsin Fulton, Business Development Manager, GeoPlace

A dive into the world of APIs with a focused discussion on integrating the DataVia API. This interactive session explored endpoints, data formats, authentication methods, and security measures. Designed to enhance API skills and foster collaboration, the session encouraged participants to explore new routes to integration.

Session Highlights:

- Began with an ice-breaker to demystify the term “API” and establish a shared understanding.
- Explored the DataVia API in depth, including its structure and capabilities.
- Participants were familiar with Web Mapping Feature (WMF) API calls for integrating street data into GIS systems.
- Introduced Web Feature Service (WFS) API calls, sparking interest in broader integration possibilities beyond GIS.
- Discussed practical use cases, such as querying traffic-sensitive streets via API.
- Participants requested support in constructing API queries for real-world applications.
- GeoPlace committed to publishing example API calls on the DataVia website to assist local authorities in integrating street data into non-GIS platforms.

Key takeaways:

- Understanding APIs: Clarified what APIs are and how they function in data integration.
- DataVia API Deep Dive: Covered endpoints, formats, authentication, and security.
- WMF vs WFS: Highlighted differences and new opportunities with WFS API calls.
- Real-World Applications: Explored how to use APIs to retrieve specific datasets (e.g., traffic-sensitive streets).
- Collaboration & Support: GeoPlace will provide practical examples to aid implementation.
- Innovation Potential: Inspired participants to think beyond GIS and explore broader software integration.