

Web Services

Web Service Client

You will need to create a web service client when you want to access any third party web service. All you need is the system function **#http** which takes 3 parameters, URL, http-method and an optional body. The body may be required for http-method POST and may need to be enclosed in a JSON, XML or any other format as required by the API.

```
str
host="http://maps.googleapis.com/maps/api/geocode/json?address=American+Embassy,+Dhaka,+Bangladesh"
str response=#http(host,"GET","")
```

The raw response from the host may be encoded in a JSON, XML or any other format as defined by the API. You will need to extract the relevant data from the raw response. Try the method **ca_test_client.method** for an example.

Web Service Server - RESTful with JSON

To publish a RESTful web service in DreamApps, you will need to define

1. a JSON query format - must have parameters method, sessionid and any number of other parameters
2. a JSON response format - must have parameters status and any number of other parameters
3. a method to generate the response from the query.

While naming the resources, please follow the following convention to avoid confusion.

Query format - **name_q.json**

Response format - **name_r.json**

Method - **name.method**

DreamApps doesn't allow any web service without authentication. So, all calls to DreamApps web services need a sessionid which is obtained by a call to authentication web service **zx_auth** which returns a sessionid on successful authentication.

Try the method **ca_test_server.method** for an example of using the web service **ca_test**, which is implemented by **ca_test_q.json**, **ca_test_r.json** and **ca_test.method**.

Creating, Extracting and Inserting Data in JSONs

There is a single system function **#json** to manipulate JSONs in DreamApps. It can take up to 3

parameters.

Creating a JSON needs just one parameter and can have two formats.

```
str s=#json(file "filename.json")
```

or,

```
str s=#json("valid-text-string")
```

Extracting a field-value from a JSON needs 2 parameters.

```
str s=#json(json-string-name, key)
```

Inserting a field-value into a JSON needs 3 parameters.

```
str s=#json(json-string-name, key, field-value)
```

See the method **ca_test_server.method** for examples of #json usage.

Testing a Web Service using catest

Here is an example. Run something like the followings:

```
str host="http://ig.dreamapps.com/da/ws"
set s=#json(file "zx_auth_q.json")
set s=#json(s,"businessid","630006")
set s=#json(s,"username","asok@dreamapps.com")
set s=#json(s,"password","go")

set s=#http(host,"POST",s)

print s
```

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