

API READY GUIDE

Are you API ready? The comprehensive guide

Author: Fredrik Svensson

Model developed by Redpill Linpro to help customers adopt to the new API led economy.

Model intended to cover every aspect of a successful implementation and maintenance of APIs.

Redpill Linpro will be able to assist in every phase of implementation and maintenance of an API led strategy.

Redpill Linpro can also assume the full responsibility for the implementation of an API led strategy.

Objective is to make organisations API ready.

API Ready Model

API and connectivity will be key factors to drive the digital enterprise

APIs will enable a connected business and generate new business opportunities

APIs will give you access to IoT

Successful development and maintenance of your APIs will create new business opportunities, if you fail you may be left behind

Are you API ready?

API Ready: Strategy & organisation

Any successful implementation of a new phenomenon starts with a thought through strategy.

Important considerations

- What do I want to achieve with these APIs?
- Who is my intended audience?
- How do I reach that audience?
- What data do I want to expose?
- Publicly or Privately exposed?
- How to manage the APIs?
- Potential legal constraints or issues?
- How do we create an API-centric organization?

API Ready: Design

To make use of your APIs and make them interesting for the intended audience, you need to design them properly.

Important considerations

- What information do I want to offer?
- Where is this information available?
- How can I present the information in a tasteful manner?
- How can I monitor the usage?
- How can I create APIs that are easy to maintain?

API Ready: DevOps

In order to be able to present interesting APIs you need to be able to update and deploy new versions of the APIs without causing to much of a fuzz.

Important considerations

- How can I quickly deploy new versions of an API?
- What do I do if a deploy fails?
- How do I handle a sudden unexpected critical security issue?
- How do I handle an unexpected over usage on an API?
- What kind of tooling do I need?

API Ready: Visualize

To make your APIs and strategy successful you need to make sure that your APIs are easy to access and find for the intended audience.

Important considerations

- What information needs to be available in order to use my APIs?
- How can I make sure that the intended audience finds my APIs?
- Constantly enhance discoverability for my target audience.
- Is the target audience able to use my APIs once they find them?
- Collect questions on APIs and review visability out of that information.
- Is API usage visible and understandable where required

API Ready: Secure

To prevent unauthorized usage and security breaches, security is important when exposing corporate data.

Important considerations

- How do I prevent security breaches?
- How do I handle a potential security related issue?
- What risks do we take?
- Legal constraints?
- What demands and legally related constraints can I put on the API users?

API Ready: Test

To make sure that my APIs are up for the challenge of being put in front of my target audience, they need to be tested and verified.

Important considerations

- How many transactions can we handle?
- Are the APIs isolated from the rest of the infrastructure?
- Security related issues
- Create test plans
- Load tests

API Ready: Monitor

To understand how my APIs are being used, who uses them, when they are being used and to have adequate information for decision making I need to monitor my APIs.

Important considerations

- Who is using my APIs?
- Monitoring API status and backend status?
- When are they using them?
- How many transaction/information do we exchange?
- How can I make business out of this intel?
- What do I need to improve?
- How much computing power do I need reserve and pay for?

API Ready: Infrastructure

To be able to adopt, maintain and improve your APIs, you need an API Manager. An API Manager is a tool that enables you to keep track of your APIs, throttle usage, handle authentication, provide a front end to your APIs etc.

Important considerations

- How to authenticate users of my APIs?
- How to throttle usage/over usage?
- Versioning of APIs?
- Enable documentation of APIs?
- Publication of APIs?



Summary

The API Ready concept is our model to help organisations adapt to the API led economy

- We can take the full responsibility for implementing your API strategy through our Business Development Model or just help out with specific steps in the process.
- We can help out initially, but also do reviews if you have already started your project.

Redpill Linpro is your partner to lead you in the API economy.