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Introduction: Navigating the Galileo API Landscape

When you're building a modern application that needs to tap into powerful data, services, or infrastructure, the most common path is through an API. Galileo's API ecosystem has grown into a robust platform that powers everything from real time analytics to automated workflows across multiple industries. However, as with any complex API, developers can feel overwhelmed by the sheer volume of endpoints, authentication mechanisms, and best practice guidelines.

This article is designed to be your definitive companion to the **Galileo API developer notes**. We'll walk through the core concepts, practical examples, and insider tips that help you avoid common pitfalls and build secure, efficient integrations. Whether you're a seasoned API engineer or just starting out, the knowledge shared here will give you a solid foundation and a clear roadmap for success.

Understanding the Galileo API Ecosystem

What Makes Galileo Stand Out?

Galileo's API platform is built on a microservices architecture that emphasizes scalability, low latency, and high availability. Key differentiators include:

- Granular, role based access control
- Comprehensive versioning strategy that guarantees backward compatibility
- Real time event streaming via WebSocket and Server Sent Events
- Rich SDKs in multiple languages (Python, Java, JavaScript, Go)
- Built in analytics and usage monitoring

Core API Categories

Galileo's endpoints can be grouped into several functional areas, each with its own set of resources and patterns:

1. Data Retrieval – RESTful endpoints for querying structured data.
2. Data Ingestion – Batch and streaming APIs for pushing data into the system.
3. Event Management – Webhooks and event streams for real time notifications.
4. Configuration – Endpoints for managing settings, policies, and user roles.
5. Diagnostics – Health checks, logs, and performance metrics.

Getting Started: Authentication & Authorization

OAuth 2.0 & API Keys

Galileo uses OAuth 2.0 for secure, token based authentication. In addition, for certain lightweight services, API keys can be used for quick prototyping. The typical flow is:

1. Register your application in the Developer Portal.
2. Obtain a client_id and client_secret.
3. Request an access token via the /oauth/token endpoint.
4. Attach the token to subsequent requests in the Authorization header.

Scopes & Permissions

Each token is issued with a set of **scopes** that define the level of access. For example:

- read:data – Allows read only access to data endpoints.
- write:data – Grants write permissions for data ingestion.
- admin:config – Full control over configuration endpoints.

When building integrations, always request the minimal scopes required. This follows the principle of least privilege and reduces the impact of a compromised token.

Endpoint Design & Best Practices

RESTful Conventions

Galileo adheres to standard REST principles, making it intuitive for developers familiar with typical CRUD operations:

- GET /v1/resources – List resources.
- GET /v1/resources/{id} – Retrieve a single resource.
- POST /v1/resources – Create a new resource.
- PATCH /v1/resources/{id} – Update specific fields.
- DELETE /v1/resources/{id} – Remove a resource.

Pagination & Filtering

Large result sets are paginated using limit and offset query parameters. For example:

GET /v1/transactions?limit=100&offset=200
Filtering is achieved via query parameters such as status=completed or created_after=2024-01-01. Always use filtering to reduce payload size and improve performance.

Versioning Strategy

All stable API routes are prefixed with /v1, /v2, etc. Deprecated endpoints are marked with a Deprecation-Warning header, giving developers a clear migration path. It is highly recommended to lock your integration to a specific version to avoid unexpected breaking changes.

Data Formats & Validation

JSON Schema

Galileo's API responses are serialized as JSON and validated against a strict schema. Each endpoint's documentation includes a **schema example** that outlines required fields, data types, and constraints. For instance:

```
{
  "transaction_id": "string",
  "amount": 123.45,
  "currency": "USD",
  "status": "completed",
  "created_at": "2024-09-27T12:34:56Z"
}
```

Error Handling

Standard HTTP status codes are used, complemented by a JSON error body:

```
{
  "error": {
    "code": "INVALID_REQUEST",
    "message": "Missing required field: amount",
    "details": {
      "field": "amount"
    }
  }
}
```

Common status codes include:

- 400 – Bad Request
- 401 – Unauthorized
- 403 – Forbidden
- 404 – Not Found
- 429 – Too Many Requests (rate limiting)
- 500 – Internal Server Error

Implement exponential backoff for 429 responses and log all error details for debugging.

Rate Limiting & Quotas

Global vs. Endpoint Specific Limits

Galileo enforces a global request quota of 10,000 calls per minute per client, but certain endpoints have stricter limits. For example, POST /v1/transactions is capped at 200 calls per minute. Exceeding these limits returns a 429 status with a Retry-After header indicating how many seconds to wait.

Implementing Backoff Strategies

When you hit a rate limit, a simple exponential backoff algorithm can help mitigate the issue:

1. Wait for the Retry-After duration.
2. Double the wait time for subsequent retries.
3. Cap the maximum wait at 60 seconds.
4. Abort after 5 failed attempts.

This approach prevents your application from hammering the API while still attempting to complete critical operations.

Webhooks & Real Time Integration

Setting Up a Webhook Listener

To receive instant notifications for events such as transaction completions or configuration changes, register a webhook endpoint:

1. Send a POST /v1/webhooks request with your callback URL.
2. Specify the event types you’re interested in (e.g., transaction.completed).
3. Validate incoming payloads using the provided signature header.

Example payload:

```
{
  "event_type": "transaction.completed",
  "data": {
    "transaction_id": "abc123",
    "amount": 50.00,
    "currency": "USD",
    "status": "completed"
  }
}
```

Security Best Practices

- Verify the signature header using the secret key shared during webhook registration.
- Use HTTPS for all callback URLs to protect data in transit.
- Implement idempotent handling to avoid duplicate processing.
- Set a short timeout (e.g., 5 seconds) to prevent slow loris attacks.

SDKs & Client Libraries

Supported Languages

Galileo offers official SDKs that abstract away authentication, pagination, and error handling:

- Python – galileo-sdk-python
- JavaScript – galileo-sdk-js
- Java – galileo-sdk-java
- Go – galileo-sdk-go

Using the SDK

Below is a quick example in Python that fetches the latest transactions:

```
from galileo_sdk import GalileoClient

client = GalileoClient(
    client_id="YOUR_CLIENT_ID",
    client_secret="YOUR_CLIENT_SECRET",
    scopes=["read:data"]
)

transactions = client.transactions.list(limit=10)
for tx in transactions:
    print(f"ID: {tx.transaction_id} | Amount: {tx.amount}")
```

SDKs automatically handle token refresh, retries, and pagination, allowing you to focus on business logic.

Testing Your Integration

Sandbox Environment

Galileo provides a dedicated sandbox endpoint (https://sandbox.api.galileo.com) that mirrors the production API but uses test data. This environment is ideal for unit tests, integration tests, and continuous integration pipelines.

Mocking Responses

When unit testing, mock the HTTP responses using libraries such as responses (Python) or nock (JavaScript). Ensure that your mocks cover:

- Successful responses (200, 201)
- Error scenarios (400, 401, 429, 500)
- Rate limit headers and backoff logic

End to End Tests

Automate end to end tests that spin up a real integration in the sandbox, perform a sequence of API calls, and validate state changes. Tools like **Postman** or **Insomnia** can be scripted to run these tests on a schedule.

Monitoring & Logging

Built In Analytics

Galileo's dashboard offers real time analytics on API usage, response times, and error rates. You can set alerts for anomalies such as sudden spikes in latency or error counts.

Log Shipping

Integrate with your observability stack (e.g., ELK, Splunk, Datadog) by forwarding API logs via the /v1/logs/ship endpoint. Structured logs include request IDs, timestamps, and error codes, making troubleshooting straightforward.

Tracing with OpenTelemetry

For

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