

A Guide to the Integration Interfaces into KnowledgeTree

KnowledgeTree[®]

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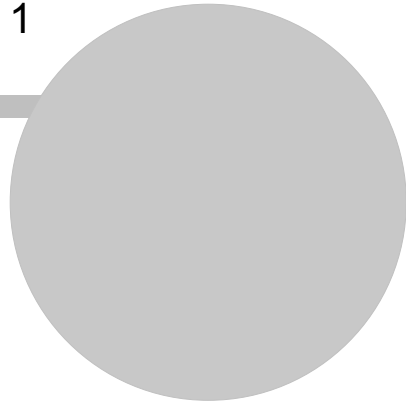
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Abstract

Part ¹



1 Abstract

This white paper provides an overview of the available interfaces for integrating external systems with the KnowledgeTree repository.

KnowledgeTree allows various levels of integration for developers who wish to develop solutions around the system:

- basic integration with Microsoft Office (2003, 2007) and Microsoft Outlook allows users to easily move documents in and out of KnowledgeTree, from within these applications
- integration with external, business-specific applications and processes - through KnowledgeTree Hot Folders, and WebDAV
- advanced, platform and language independent, integration capability - through the KnowledgeTree Web Service

Each of the integration interfaces for KnowledgeTree serves a particular purpose, and can be the best choice for some tasks, and a less efficient choice for other tasks.

- KnowledgeTree Web Service - SOAP, or REST
- PHP API
- WebDAV
- KnowledgeTree Hot Folders

1.1 The Integration Interfaces

The table lists the available integration interfaces into KnowledgeTree, and summarizes their features, characteristics, advantages and disadvantages:

<p><i>The KnowledgeTree Web Service</i></p> <p>This interface uses the SOAP protocol to automate application-to-application communication, and allow third party applications to integrate with KnowledgeTree.</p>	<p>Advantage</p> <p>Provides programmatic access to the repository from third party applications, allowing users to perform most of the core repository actions from within their own applications.</p> <p>Supported actions include: add new documents and folders, check in/check out, move, copy, change properties, view history, manage workflows.</p> <p>Platform and language independent – the standards-based SOAP protocol allows access from most modern programming environments.</p>
	<p>Disadvantage</p> <p>Does not allow all document and folder actions supported in the Web interface, such as permissions management and other administrative functions.</p>

	Availability	KnowledgeTree Commercial editions, KnowledgeTree Community Editions
	Further reading	KnowledgeTree Web Service Guide – a tutorial on the Web Service Object Model: http://wiki.knowledgetree.com/SOAP_Web_Service_Functions
PHP API This interface wraps the core of KnowledgeTree functionality, and is the underlying technology used for developing extensions, portlets, and workflow triggers for KnowledgeTree.	Advantage	PHP provides a stable, yet robust and versatile development environment for KnowledgeTree.
	Disadvantage	Not suited to client-side development; KnowledgeTree Web Service is best suited to this requirement.
	Availability	KnowledgeTree Commercial editions, KnowledgeTree Community Editions
	Further reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KnowledgeTree Object Model Reference • Web Service Core Functional Reference • Web Service Object Model Reference Latest API Documentation Older API Documentation (Pre-3.6.1)
WebDAV This interface uses the WebDAV protocol to allow established, standards-based WebDAV clients to access KnowledgeTree.	Advantages	Allows established third party browsers and clients to download and view documents in the KnowledgeTree repository, from the desktop.
	Disadvantages	Does not support all third party WebDAV clients. Limited functionality, compared to the KnowledgeTree Web Service API.
	Availability	KnowledgeTree Commercial editions, KnowledgeTree Community Editions
	Further reading	Third party client matrix for WebDAV on the KnowledgeTree Wiki
KnowledgeTree Hot Folders	Advantage	Allows bulk uploads from any source (scanning,

<p>Note: Previously known as 'Document Workflow Integration (DWI) Service'</p> <p>Facilitates bulk uploading of documents to the KnowledgeTree repository, including documents scanned to a network folder.</p> <p>KnowledgeTree Hot Folders monitors a designated local or network folder to upload documents. During upload, the tool auto-populates metadata fields in the repository, using information extracted from an XML file that accompanies each uploaded document.</p> <p>XML files must comply with the KnowledgeTree Hot Folders XML Schema.</p>		<p>fax, manual file uploads), without having to interact directly with the KnowledgeTree system - i.e. through any of the Knowledge client tools components, or the Web interface).</p> <p>Useful in environments that produce a high volume of documents as part of the business process, including scanner applications.</p> <p>Allows auto-population of predefined metadata, allowing fast, efficient storage of files in the repository.</p>
	<p>Disadvantage</p>	<p>Auto-population of non-default metadata requires the creation of third party XML files to accompany each uploaded document.</p> <p>Note: Basic mode uploads allow auto-population of default metadata. See the documentation for more information on the KnowledgeTree Hot Folders upload modes.</p> <p>Allows only one way integration with KnowledgeTree - used for uploading files to the repository.</p>
	<p>Availability</p>	<p>KnowledgeTree Commercial editions</p>
	<p>Further reading</p>	<p>KnowledgeTree Client Tools User Guide</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Table of Contents • Chapter: KnowledgeTree Hot Folders <p>KnowledgeTree Hot Folders Developer Guide</p>