

# **Building a Future Library with Ex Libris Platform Cloud Apps**

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# **Agenda**



- Overview
- Examples
- Behind the scenes
- What's new?
- Summary
- Q&A



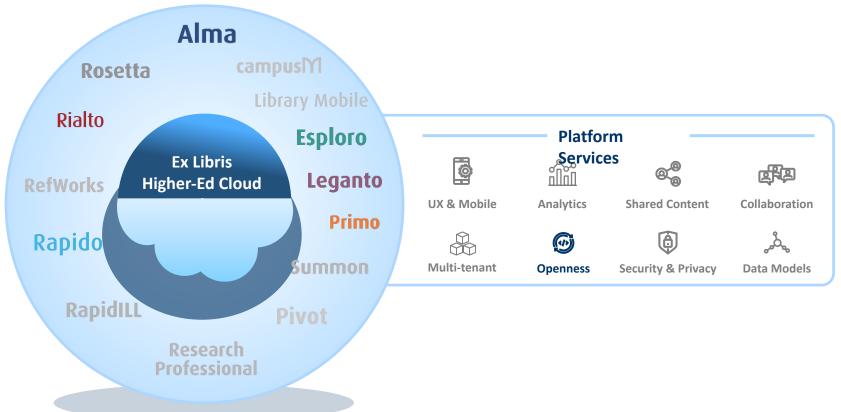


# **Overview**





### **Ex Libris Higher-Ed Cloud Platform**





# **Trends and Openness**

Open platforms support APIs and industry standards to encourage extensibility and integration

Budget restrictions



"COVID 19" Do it yourself Need to support an open platform



The Ex Libris open platform has been adopted by the community and runs millions of API requests daily



### What would we like to achieve?



#### **Agility** response quickly to change

- Extends out of the box solutions and meet the exact needs of the library
- Deploy solutions by the institution for their staff quickly



#### **Automation** streamline repetitive tasks

- Libraries seek efficiencies in staff workflows
- Allow an IT staff to write scripts or programs for automation



#### **Efficiency** doing "more with less"

- Deep integration with the library system's user experience.
- Remove the need for the user to "swivel chair" between multiple solutions



### **Collaboration** create a "force multiplier"

- Sharing solutions between institutions
- Informal methods
- Ease to share solutions with others



# What are Cloud Apps?



#### Where it runs?

Cloud Apps run within the Ex Libris platform, as an integral part of the user experience



#### Who can create it?

Can be developed by institutions, partners, or Ex Libris



#### Who can use it?

Cloud Apps can be searched and activated by any user



### What it provides?

Additional functionality, productivity shortcuts, or integrations with other systems





# **Examples**





### Over 50 Cloud Apps out there...





It gives the possibility to select one or more users or partners and print their addresses. The





Easy setup of Alma's libraries & locations into InnReach

#### Switch PO-Line type

Liron Menda

Alma | Cloud App

Change a PO Line from Physical to Electronic. It is done by creating a new PO Line, and

#### Libris Holdings

Royal Institute of Technology - Sweden Alma | Cloud App

Cloud App which connects records in Alma to Libris Holdings. Libris is the Swedish



Orbis Cascade Alliance Alma Cloud App

This Cloud App developed by the Orbis Cascade Alliance generates individual spine labels to send to



Alma | Cloud App

This app allows you to perform the scan in operation on file of barcodes. Supports configuring





Alma | Cloud App

Create, update, and delete Alma users from a list in a comma separated file. Supports flexible



Address manager Marie Varlková Alma | Cloud App

An app to add/edit user addresses of type "alternative" in Alma. It displays the available



Download BIB omid soleimani

Alma | Cloud App

The Download BIB app allows users to select a record in an Alma screen and download the



#### Display user statistical category type

Technion Israel Institute of Technology Alma Cloud App

Display users' statistical category types, for users in Alma screens such as Borrowing Requests and



#### Last Copy Alma | Cloud App

This app can be used to identify whether a potential candidate for weeding is the last publicly-



#### Appointment Scheduler

Josh Weisman Alma | Cloud App

Provides an interface to schedule appointments or events for Alma users. Features include: Define

#### Invoice Line Tax Calculator

Alma | Cloud App

This app allows you to configure tax rates per invoice line type. When you select invoices from a



This Cloud App is adding features to help handling Borrowing Request activities more



#### Trove Search

Nishen Naidon Alma | Cloud App

Search TroveSimilar to the Hathi Trust app, use metadata from bib records and resource sharing



#### **POL Post Correction**

Metadata Hangzhou Alma | Cloud App

When viewing a Purchase Order Line with status SENT: modify the Currency, Vendor, and Fund



Ori Miller Alma Cloud App

Print Bib Records

Allows quickly printing records from the repository hit list. Provides an XSL-based printing



#### **Touchnet Payment** Helper

Josh Weisman

Alma Cloud App

Integrates a "Pay with Touchnet" option when accessing a user with an open balance. For

#### Delete Your Sets



Alma Cloud App

This app enhances the existing Manage Sets admin page in Alma, allowing users to bulk



Look up title sequence number via external API and enhance the call number field based on this



#### SpineOMatic Cloud App

Mark Cobat

Alma | Cloud App

Prints spine and other labels for items from Alma, Supports defining layouts, templates,



Refine bibliographic records with services that adhere to the OpenRefine standard.



#### Receive New Serial Items

Ori Miller Alma | Cloud App

Currently in BETA. Search for (or navigate to) a continuous PO line. Supports specifying the



#### Alma

Alma | Cloud App

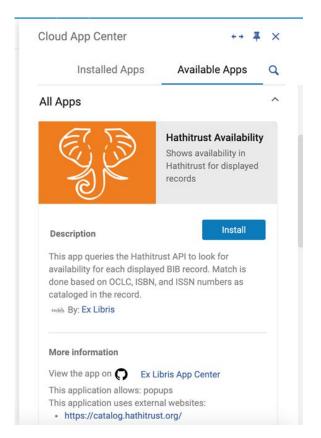
This app provides an integration with the Japanese NACSIS catalog. Currently supports the

**NACSIS Holdings for** 



# **Cloud Apps basics**

- Cloud Apps are easily searched, installed, and launched within Alma by the end user
- •Cloud Apps can respond to the context of the user's session, thereby offering additional functionality depending on the screen.
- •Since Cloud Apps run in the Ex Libris platform, they don't require an API key or other local runtime environment.





### Demo

- Activate Cloud Apps for the Institution
- Search for Bib records, and open the list of Cloud Apps
  - Explain "Suggested for this page"
- Run the Cloud App
  - The iFrame
    - Open in a new tab and show headers
  - Info from Alma: AlmaPageMetadata.get()
  - F12 show API requests





# **Behind the scenes**





## **Using Alma's APIs**

#### **REST APIs**

Acquisitions

Analytics

Bibliographic Records and Inventory

Configuration and Administration

Courses

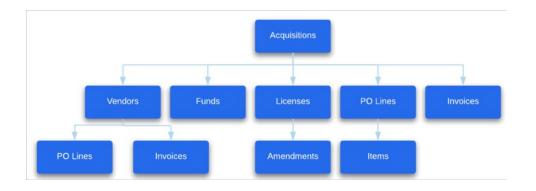
Provider Zone

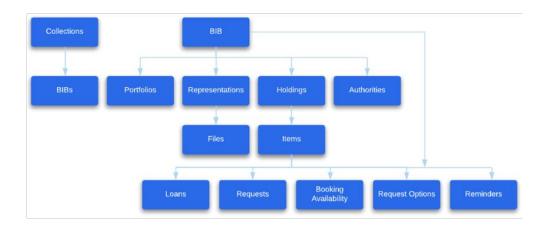
Electronic Resources

Resource Sharing Partners

Task Lists

Users and Fulfillment





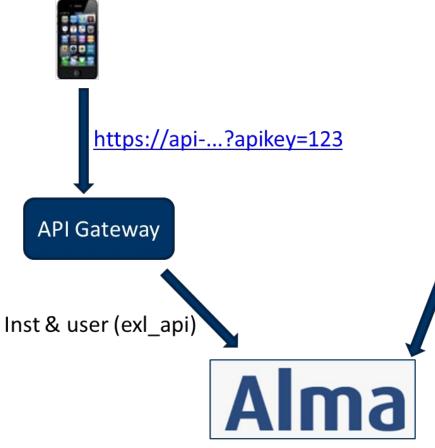


### Calling Alma's REST APIs

```
this.restService.call('/conf/libraries').subscribe(result => {
   console.log(result);
});
```

```
let user = { first_name: "John", last_name: "Smith", account_type: { value: "INTERNAL" } };
this.restService.call({    url: '/users',    method: HttpMethod.POST,    requestBody: user }).subscribe( user => {
        console.log('User created', user);
});
```





# Cloud Apps

Same Inst & user as used for the UI

Allow all for exl\_api. For other users according to their roles (as allowed from the UI)



### Security

- Cloud App is hosted in sandboxed iframe from another domain
- Developer needs to indicate (in manifest.json) what his app could do.



#### HathiTrust Availability

Shows availability in HathiTrust for displayed records

#### Description

Activate

This app queries the HathiTrust API to look for availability for each displayed BIB record. Match is done based on OCLC, ISBN, and ISSN numbers as cataloged in the record.

By: Ex Libris

#### More information

View the app on:

Ex Libris App Center

Version: v1.0.0

This application allows: popups

This application uses external websites:

https://catalog.hathitrust.org/

### **iFrame (inline Frame)**

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<body>
<h1>The iframe element</h1>
<iframe src="https://www.w3schools.com" height="300px" width="500px" id="myIframe">
</iframe>
</body>
</html>
```

Menu ▼

HTML

The language for building web pages

Learn HTML

Q

Login



### Send the message from the parent element:

```
const myiframe = document.getElementById('myIframe')
myIframe.contentWindow.postMessage('message', '*');
```

### And listen to it in the iframe:

```
window.onmessage = function(event){
   if (event.data == 'message') {
      console('Message received!');
   }
};
```



# Send the message from the iframe:

```
window.top.postMessage('reply', '*')
```

### And listen to it in the parent:

```
window.onmessage = function(event){
    if (event.data == 'reply') {
        console('Reply received!');
    }
};
```







### <iframe sandbox="allow-forms allow-modals" src="https://www.something.com/"></ifr</pre>

Flag	Details
allow-forms	Allows form submission.
allow-modals	Allows the resource to open new modal windows.
allow-orientation-lock	Allows the resource to lock the screen orientation.
allow-pointer-lock	Allows the resource to use the Pointer Lock API.
allow-popups	Allows the resource to open new popups or tabs.
allow-popups-to-escape- sandbox	Allows the resource to open new windows that will not inherit the sandboxing.
allow-presentation	Allows the resource to start a presentation session.
allow-same-origin	Allows the resource to maintain its origin.
allow-scripts	Allows the resource to run scripts.
allow-top-navigation	Allows the resource to navigate the top-level browsing context.
allow-top-navigation-by-user- activation	Allows the resource to navigate the top-level browsing context, but only if initiated by a user gesture.



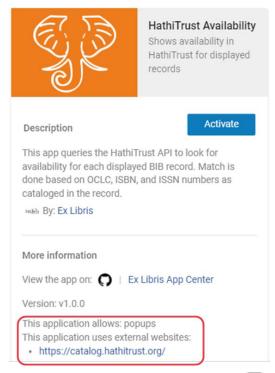
```
"contentSecurity": {
    "sandbox": {
        "popups": true,
        "modals": true
    }
},
```

This application allows: modals, popups



### **CSP** headers

- Content Security Policy limits the outbound requests and frames that the Cloud App is allowed to make
- Developers can specify in a special manifest file that the app makes outbound requests to other sites

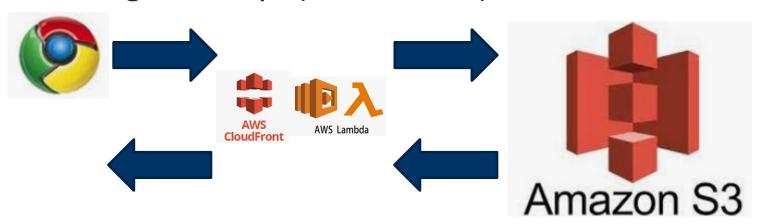


```
▼ Response Headers
```

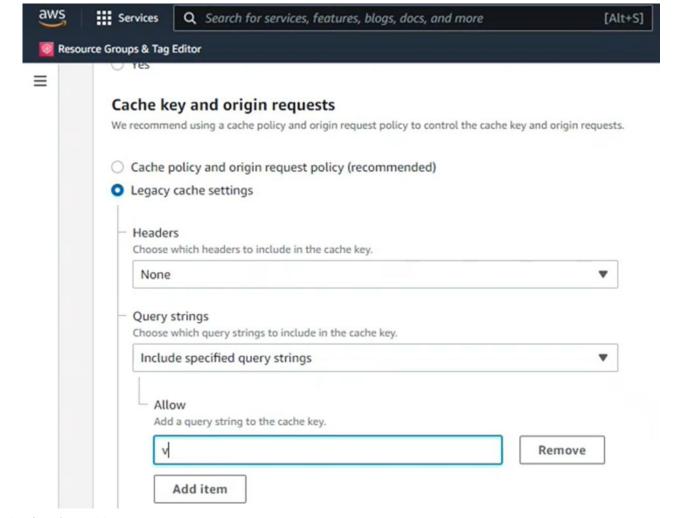
```
age: 11
content-encoding: gzip
content-security-policy: default-src 'none'; style-src 'self' https://apps01.ext.exlibrisgroup.com 'unsafe-inline' fonts.googleapis.com; scri
pt-src 'self' https://apps01.ext.exlibrisgroup.com; font-src 'self' fonts.gstatic.com *.ext.exlibrisgroup.com; img-src 'self' data: http
s:; connect-src 'self' https://catalog.hathitrust.org/; frame-src 'self'
content-type: text/html
```

# **Using AWS CloudFront**

- •For 3 reasons:
  - CDN
  - Change in req. (add index.html)
  - Change in Resp. (CSP header)







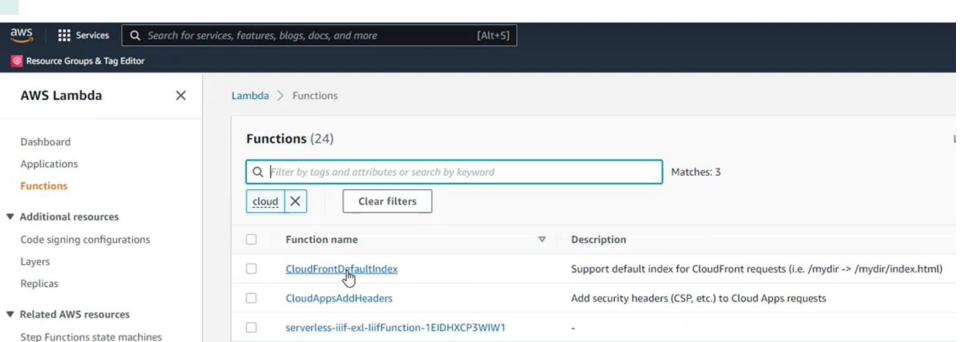


### Function associations - optional Info

Choose an edge function to associate with this cache behavior, and the CloudFront event that invokes the function.

	Function type		Function ARN / Name	Include body
liewer request	No association	•		
iewer response	No association	•		
Origin request	Lambda@Edge	•	:function:CloudFrontDefaultInd	dex:1
rigin response	Lambda@Edge	•	arn:aws:lambda:us-east-1:149	9120







File	Size	Type
<u>□</u> .		
□ . □ ašsets/		
5.ae5a17ecb506d2d78021.js	1.87 KB	JavaScript File
favicon.ico	5.30 KB	Icon
	2.32 KB	Chrome HTML.
main.325faf4e1ee4e7f65570.js	883.60 KB	JavaScript File
polyfills-es5.a8fbd8ec6dd62b6edcaa.js	129.65 KB	JavaScript File
polyfills.a3f823dd8032b9cfaf23.js	43.93 KB	JavaScript File
gruntime.c2c48efc9377477ba24f.js	2.22 KB	JavaScript File
styles.d528c72f933131041969.css	1.42 MB	Cascading Style



Lambda > Functions > CloudAppsAddHeaders CloudAppsAddHeaders Copy ARN Throttle Actions ▼ ▼ Function overview Info Description CloudAppsAddHeaders Add security headers (CSP, etc.) to Cloud Apps requests Last modified Layers (0) 11 days ago Function ARN arn:aws:lambda:us-east-1:149912001890:function:CloudAppsAddHeaders x (+) index.is Function URL Info 'use strict'; 35 if (contentSecurity) { 36 Object.entries(contentSecurity).forEach(([key, val]) => { const aws = require('aws-sdk'); 37 key = camelToKebab(key); const s3 = new aws.S3({ region: 'eu-central-1' }); 38 if (key in csp && Array.isArray(val)) { const bucket = 'apps01.ext.exlibrisgroup.com'; 39 const whitelist = entities.encodeNonUTF(val.join(" ")); async function fetchManifest(dir) { 40 csp[key] = `\${csp[key]} \${whitelist}'; const params = { Bucket: bucket, Key: dir + '/assets/manifest.json' }; 41 i 42 3) 10 const response = await s3.getObject(params).promise(); 43 11 return JSON.parse(response.Body); 44 let arr = []; 12

```
} catch(e) {
                                                                                                            45
                                                                                                                     for (const directive in csp) {
 13
         return ();
                                                                                                            46
                                                                                                                         arr.push('${directive} ${csp[directive]}');
 14
                                                                                                            47
 15
                                                                                                            48
 16
                                                                                                                     return arr.join("; ");
 17 // Mock html-entities
                                                                                                          i 49 }
     const entities = {
                                                                                                            50
 19
       encodeNonUTF: string => string
                                                                                                                 const camelToKebab = string => string.replace(/([a-z0-9])([A-Z])/g, '$1-$2').toLowerCase();
i 20
                                                                                                            52
 21
                                                                                                            53
                                                                                                                 exports.handler = async (event) => {
 22
     const getCsp = (contentSecurity) => {
                                                                                                            54
 23
         const csp = {
                                                                                                            55
                                                                                                                     //Get contents of response
 24
             "default-src": "'none'",
 25
                                                                                                            56
                                                                                                                     const response = event.Records[0].cf.response;
             "style-src": "'self' https://apps01.ext.exlibrisgroup.com 'unsafe-inline' fonts.googleapis.com",
 26
             "script-src": "'self' https://apps01.ext.exlibrisgroup.com",
                                                                                                            57
                                                                                                                     const headers = response.headers;
 27
             "font-src": "'self' fonts.gstatic.com ".ext.exlibrisgroup.com",
                                                                                                            58
                                                                                                                     const uri = event.Records[0].cf.request.uri;
 28
             "img-src": "'self' data: https:",
                                                                                                            59
 29
             "connect-src": "'self'".
                                                                                                            60
                                                                                                                     if (uri.endsWith('index.html')) {
 30
             "frame-src": "'self'"
                                                                                                            61
                                                                                                                       const manifest = await fetchManifest(uri.substring(1, uri.lastIndexOf('/')));
 31
                                                                                                            62
                                                                                                                       const cspPolicy = getCsp(manifest.contentSecurity);
 32
         if (process.env.NODE_ENV !== "production" && !process.env.LAMBDA_TASK_ROOT) {
                                                                                                            63
                                                                                                                       headers['strict-transport-security'] = [{key: 'Strict-Transport-Security', value: 'max-age=63072000'}];
 33
             csp["script-src"] = 'unsafe-eval' 'unsafe-inline' ${csp["script-src"]}';
 34
                                                                                                            64
                                                                                                                       headers['content-security-policy'] = [{key: 'Content-Security-Policy', value: cspPolicy}];
                                                                                                            65
 35
         if (contentSecurity) {
 36
                                                                                                            66
             Object.entries(contentSecurity).forEach(([key, val]) => {
 37
                 key = camelToKebab(key);
                                                                                                            67
                                                                                                                     //Return modified response
```

# "Installing" a Cloud App

Activated Apps

Available Apps





### Orbis Cascade Label Printer

Print spine labels directly to your label printer

### Description

Activate

Print labels from any item record. Supports settings for appearance and configurable prefixes.



By: Orbis Cascade Alliance



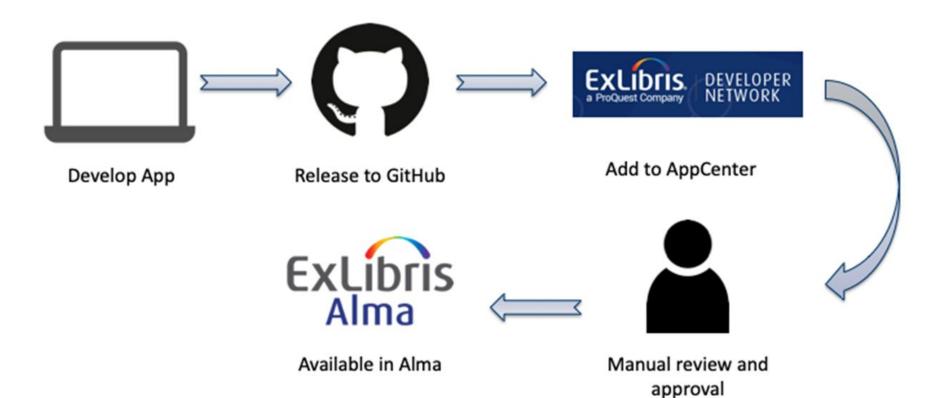
select institutionid, user\_id, cloud\_app\_id, cloud\_app\_config from user\_cloud\_apps
order by institutionid, cloud\_app\_id, user\_id;

Query Result ×

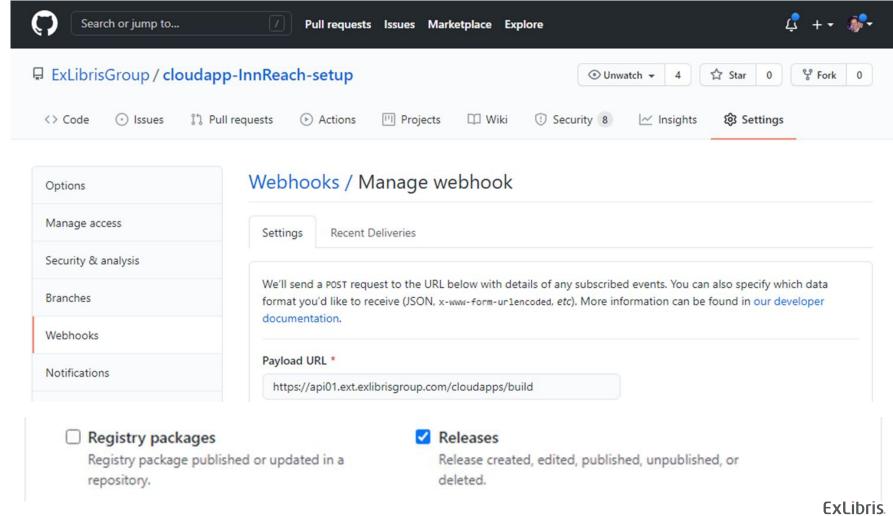
♦ INS	STITUTIONID & USER_ID	CLOUD_APP_CONFIG
135	3976 1919846040003976 exlibrisgroup/alma-refine	(null)
136	3976 1935580120003976 exlibrisgroup/alma-refine	(null)
137	3976 -l exlibrisgroup/alma-scheduler	{"locations":[{"id":"l3ba8bdl-cc8l-45e0-9eae-5eacea603e30","color":"purp
138	3976 814288470003976 exlibrisgroup/alma-scheduler	(null)
139	3976 814337050003976 exlibrisgroup/alma-scheduler	(null)
140	3976 814338080003976 exlibrisgroup/alma-scheduler	(null)
141	3976 1917835420003976 exlibrisgroup/alma-scheduler	(null)
142	3976 1917837780003976 exlibrisgroup/alma-scheduler	(null)
143	3976 1917841640003976 exlibrisgroup/alma-scheduler	(null)
144	3976 1919822080003976 exlibrisgroup/alma-scheduler	(null)
145	3976 1919823760003976 exlibrisgroup/alma-scheduler	(null)
146	3976 1919824770003976 exlibrisgroup/alma-scheduler	(null)
147	3976 1919838730003976 exlibrisgroup/alma-scheduler	(null)
148	3976 1935580120003976 exlibrisgroup/alma-scheduler	(null)
149	3976 1935581960003976 exlibrisgroup/alma-scheduler	(null)
150	3976 3526653540003976 exlibrisgroup/alma-scheduler	(null)
151	3976 4601143830003976 exlibrisgroup/alma-scheduler	(null)
152	3976 8019393020003976 exlibrisgroup/alma-scheduler	(null)
153	3976 -l exlibrisgroup/print-bib-record	{"customXsls":[{"name":"Helveticat Standard","xsl":" xml version=\"1.0\</td
154	3976 814288470003976 exlibrisgroup/print-bib-record	{"xslFile":"MARC21ColumnarFormat.xsl"}
155	3976 814326890003976 exlibrisgroup/print-bib-record	{"xslFile":"instConfig:Helveticat Standard"}
156	3976 814329080003976 exlibrisgroup/print-bib-record	{"xslFile":"instConfig:Helveticat Standard"}
157	3976 814329370003976 exlibrisgroup/print-bib-record	{"xslFile":"instConfig:Helveticat Standard"}
158	3976 814329640003976 exlibrisgroup/print-bib-record	(null)



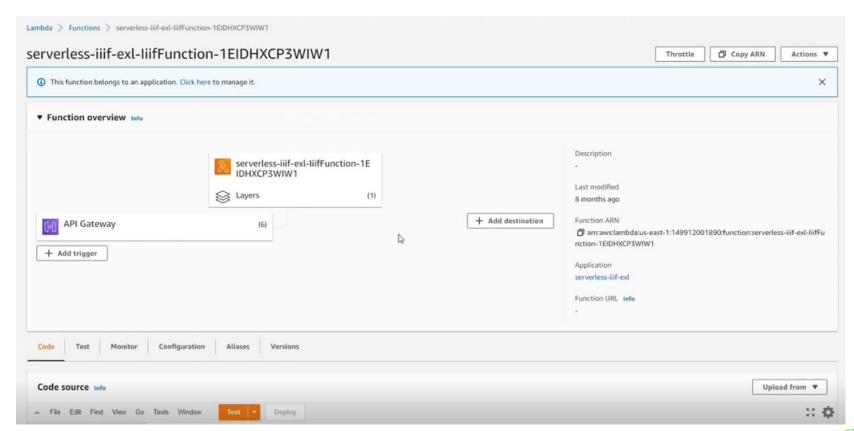
# **Publishing a Cloud App**



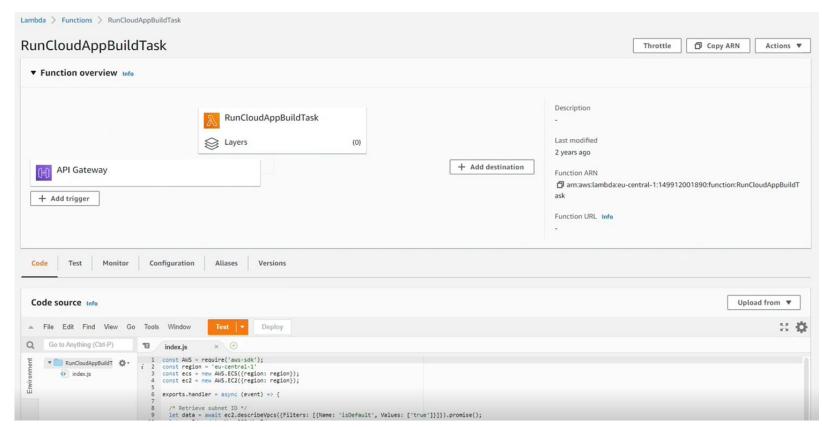




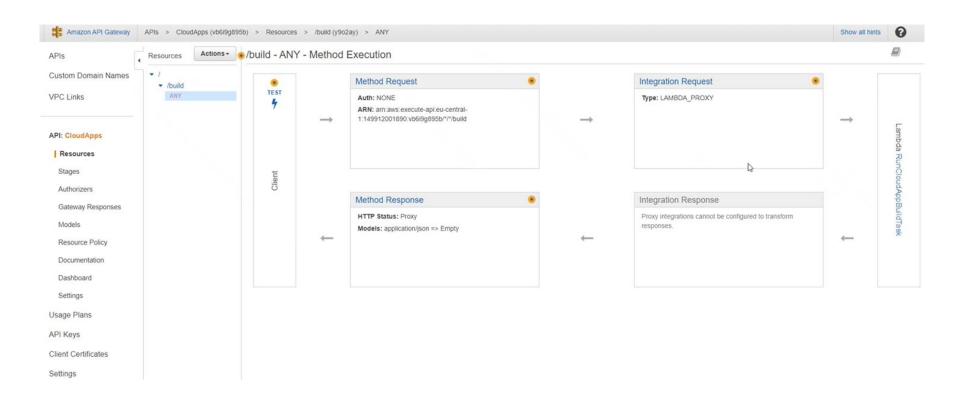
Part of Clarivate













```
echo "
 echo "
 echo "
 exit 1;
fi
REGEX="https?:\/\/[^\/]*(\/.*\/).*$"
URL=$1
VERSION=$2
WORKING DIR="repo/"
if [ -d "$WORKING DIR" ]; then rm -Rf $WORKING DIR; fi
if [[ $URL =~ $REGEX ]]
then
 APP PATH=$ (BASH REMATCH[1])
else
 echo "Invalid URL: " SURL
 exit 1;
fi
echo ">> Checking out
git clone --quiet -b "$VERSION" --depth 1 "$URL" "$WORKING DIR"
cd "SWORKING DIR"
echo "
npm install -- silent
echo "
ng build --no-progress --prod --base-href "$APP PATH" --outputPath=../output/
echo "
aws s3 sync -- quiet .. /output "
echo "
cd ..
curl -s
                                            com/apps.json' > apps.json
python ./tmp/parseJson.py "$APP PATH" "$VERSION" > apps.json.UPDATED
echo "
aws s3 cp apps.json.UPDATED "
                                                                         " -- region=eu-central-1 -- content-type application/json
```



# What's new?





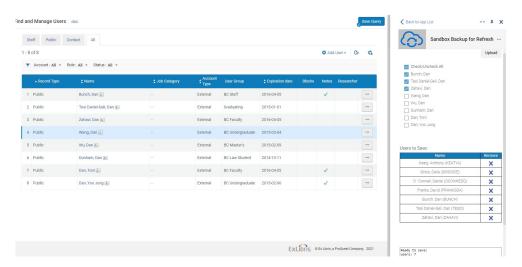
### Integration with the new MD-Editor

- App shows all records opened
- First record is the in focus
- Support for Holdings records
- Refresh from the Cloud App reloads the doc

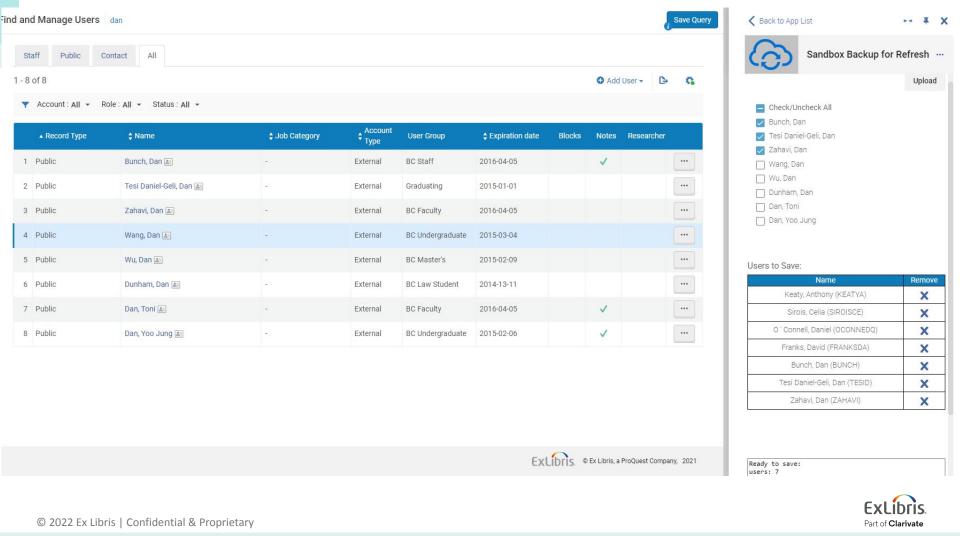


### What else?

- New APIs that were requested for Cloud App Development
- Visibility of additional Alma pages to the Cloud App
- More info for the getInitData() service







### **Summary**

- Budgetary pressure and pandemic conditions contribute to a trend towards agility and efficiency.
- A library management system which is open and supports industry standards and REST APIs facilitates writing scripts and software which can automate repetitive tasks, enable efficient workflows, and power integrations with other systems in the library ecosystem.
- An open platform which supports an app model can accelerate innovation, making it easier to develop, deploy, and use apps. This model accelerates innovation, allowing institutions to provide custom workflows and integrations in their library system without relying solely on the system vendor.



Q&A







# Thank you!

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