Partnering for a Safer Internet: The Role of APIs

To protect users and other organizations from bad actors, we build and share Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) that detect and block online threats, and help make the internet safer for everyone.

**BUILD**

We create safety APIs to protect across three key areas. Some examples of these APIs are:

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<th>Security</th>
<th>Information Quality</th>
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<td>Content Safety API</td>
<td>Safe Browsing API</td>
<td>Perspective API</td>
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<td>CSAI Match API</td>
<td>Project Shield API</td>
<td>Vision API</td>
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<td>Hash Matching API</td>
<td>VirusTotal API</td>
<td>FactCheck API</td>
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**SCALE**

To scale our impact we share our safety APIs with partners:

- **46M**: In 2022, Cloud Armor API blocked one of the largest Layer 7 DDoS attacks in history, at 46M requests per second.
- **2B**: Perspective API is called by 1000+ partners almost 2B times a day.
- **4B**: The Child Safety Toolkit (Content Safety API + CSAI Match API) processed 4B+ images and videos in the last 30 days.

**LIMIT**

To ensure only trusted partners have access to our APIs and that they are used in a compliant and safe manner, we take three critical steps:

- Vet
- Restrict
- Enforce

We limit access of our safety APIs to carefully vetted partners, restrict unauthorized usage of these tools, and strictly enforce our terms of service policies. Empowering our trusted partners with safety APIs allows us to work together, and create a safer internet for everyone.

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Google’s Safety APIs

Child Safety APIs

**Content Safety**
Google’s proprietary model helps partners classify and prioritize billions of Child Sexual Abuse Material images. It uses ML classifiers to help identify never-before-seen CSAM imagery for fast review, removal, and reporting.

**CSAI Match**
YouTube’s proprietary technology (and the first technology to use hash-matching) to identify Child Sexual Abuse Imagery (CSAI) videos and systematically flag for partners to review, confirm, report, and act upon.

**Hash Matching**
We provide Google’s Hash Matching API to NCMEC to help them prioritize and review CyberTipline reports more efficiently, allowing them to hone in on those reports involving children who need immediate help.

Security APIs

**Cloud Armor**
Protects websites, services, and APIs against advanced targeted and automated Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attacks, which censor information.

**reCAPTCHA**
Defends websites from fraudulent activity, spam, and other abuses. reCAPTCHA Enterprise uses an adaptive risk analysis engine to keep automated software from engaging in abusive activities.

**Apigee**
Google Cloud’s full lifecycle API management platform enables businesses to design, secure, deploy, monitor, and scale APIs.

**Safe Browsing**
Our Safe Browsing API allows client applications to check URLs against our constantly-updated lists of unsafe web resources. This tool protects 5 billion devices a day by warning users against sites that host malware or unwanted software.

**VirusTotal**
Allows developers to submit files or URLs for analysis and receive a report on whether or not they are infected with malware.

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## Information Quality APIs

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<th>Perspective</th>
<th>Vision</th>
<th>FactCheck</th>
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<td>Open-source API that uses machine learning to identify “toxic” comments. Used not only to facilitate interactions between humans, but also to help promote high-quality human interactions with large language models and generative AI.</td>
<td>Allows developers to easily integrate vision detection features within their applications. This includes image labeling, face and landmark detection, optical character recognition (OCR), and tagging of explicit content.</td>
<td>Aims to facilitate the work of fact checkers, journalists and researchers in discovering what has &amp; hasn’t been debunked globally. With this tool, users can search claims from among 300K fact checks from reputable publishers.</td>
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<th>Text Moderation</th>
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<td>The Civic Information API allows developers to build applications that let citizens and voters in the U.S. know about their political representation, ballot information, and voting locations. During supported elections, voters can look up their polling place, early vote and dropbox locations, and candidate information.</td>
<td>Google’s Text Moderation tool, available through the Cloud Natural Language API, helps organizations scan for sensitive or harmful content. This tool is able to identify a wide range of harmful content, including hate speech, bullying, and sexual harassment.</td>
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### Every day you’re safer with Google

We invest in building and sharing APIs that detect and block online threats to ensure that **every day you’re safer with Google**. Visit our [Safety Center](https://safety.google) to learn more about how we keep more people safer online than anyone else.