

# Testing through the REST API

You can use the Parasoft REST API to remotely create and update virtual assets, as well as create, update, and execute test assets, directly on the Parasoft server. This enables third-party integrations, custom programmatic interactions, and access via additional user interfaces such as Parasoft CTP.

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## Prerequisites

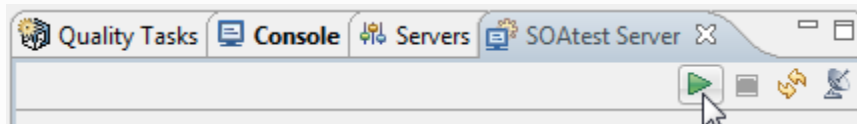
- The SOAtest server must be running
- The Virtualize server must be running
- Server API-enabled license



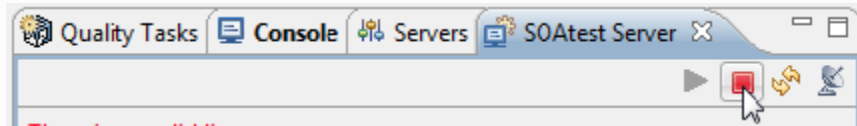
### How do I start SOAtest Server

From the cli: `soatestcli -startServer`

From the UI: Click the **Start Server** button in the SOAtest Server view.



If the **Start Server** button is grayed out and the red **Stop Server** button is enabled, this means that the server is running.



### Make Sure Your License Supports SOAtest Server

If you are using the combined SOAtest/Virtualize distribution, a Virtualize license is required to run SOAtest Server. In some instances, you may only have a license for SOAtest, i.e., if you are updating to a paid license from the Community License. Contact your Parasoft representative for additional information about licensing options.

## About the REST API

The REST API enables you to perform core operations, without using the desktop GUI, as well as integrate with other applications or tools that part of your Dev/Test infrastructure. You can create, update, and delete data sources, test suites, virtual assets, tools, environments, etc. For details, see the API documentation by opening the following URL in a browser:

`http://<host>:9080/soavirt/api`

Your tools may be deployed on different ports.

## REST API v5

Available versions: [v1](#) [v2](#) [v3](#) [v4](#) [v5](#)

[XSD schemas](#)

[Raw Swagger API definition](#)

[Message error codes](#)

[Download jump start Maven project](#)

(Follow instruction in `com.parasoft.soavirt.rest.api.client/README`)

Username and password:

(User credentials are required to try the operations below)

### assets :

[Show/Hide](#) | [List Operations](#) | [Expand Operations](#) | [Raw](#)

POST	/v5/assets/data	Returns asset search fields
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### children :

[Show/Hide](#) | [List Operations](#) | [Expand Operations](#) | [Raw](#)

GET	/v5/children	Returns the immediate children of the specified resource
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### datasources :

[Show/Hide](#) | [List Operations](#) | [Expand Operations](#) | [Raw](#)

POST	/v5/datasources/copy	Copies Data Source
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POST	/v5/datasources/move	Moves Data Source
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DELETE	/v5/datasources	Deletes Data Source
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### CSV :

[Show/Hide](#) | [List Operations](#) | [Expand Operations](#) | [Raw](#)

POST	/v5/datasources/csv	Creates CSV Data Source
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GET	/v5/datasources/csv	Returns CSV Data Source
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GET	/v5/datasources/csv/columns	Returns CSV Data Source columns
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## Returning Requests in GZIP Format

The REST API can return requests in GZIP format. This results in smaller payloads being sent over the wire, which decreases the amount of time it takes to read responses from the server.

To have requests returned in GZIP format, the client accessing the REST API just needs to set the following HTTP header:

Accept-Encoding: gzip