[Advanced users] Process federated search JSON data

Content updated: 08/20/2019

This article is designated for administrators.

About

If you're a developer building a video widget for your organization's intranet or another portal, this article explains how to request results from a federated search producer and use the JSON data it returns.

Your site administrator sets up the producer in the Federatedsearchinteractive module and gives you what you need to access it.

Before you start

Get the following from your site administrator:

- The producer's slug
- The app token ID and value
- Your partner ID
- The sample HTML code from the playground
- Optional. A sample JSON response
- Which settings you can change in the URL, if any
- If the producer includes custom metadata, the list of custom fields

Request results from a producer

1. Create a Kaltura Session (KS) with the app token. For instructions and sample code, see App Token Authentication. If the producer searches channels, or returns results for each user, include the user's ID when you create the KS. Usually, your back end, such as a CMS template, creates a new KS each time the page loads.
2. Request the producer's URL, using this format: `https://{your_site_url}/federatedsearchinteractive/{slug}/ks/{ks}/term/{search_term}`. The search term is optional.
3. Loop over the results in the JSON response, and show each entry in your widget.

The sample HTML code from the playground shows all three steps: building the URL (1), requesting it with jQuery's `getJSON` (2), and showing each entry (3).

Copyright © 2025 Kaltura Inc. All Rights Reserved. Designated trademarks and brands are the property of their respective owners. Use of this document constitutes acceptance of the Kaltura Terms of Use and Privacy Policy.

```
1 var url = 'http://1760021.mediaspace.kaltura.com/federatedsearchinteractive/intranethomewidget/ks/
                                                                                                    ';
2 $.getJSON(url, {}, function(response) {
3     var entry = $template = null;
      for (var i in response.entries) {
          entry = response.entries[i];
          $template = $('#thumbnail-template').clone();
          // it is generally better to compile template with your template engine of choice
          $template.find('img').attr({
              alt: entry.name,
              src: entry.thumbnailUrl + '/width/300/height/200/type/3' // type 3 means crop
          });
          $template.find('a').attr('href', host + '/media/t/' + entry.id);
          var name = entry.name.length > 50 ? entry.name.substring(0, 47) + '...' : entry.name;
          $template.find('h4').text(name);
          $('#grid').append($template.html());
      }
  });
```

Change settings in the URL

If your site administrator allows it, you can change some of the producer's settings by adding them to the URL:

- `/sortBy/{value}` - The order of the results: `0` = Most recent, `1` = Most viewed, `2` = Most liked, `3` = Alphabetical. For example, `/sortBy/2`.
- `/limitToCategoryOrChannel/{category_id}` - Results from one category or channel only. For example, `/limitToCategoryOrChannel/1542261`.
- `/limitToItemsNum/{value}` - The number of results. The maximum is `50`.

Link to more results

A producer returns up to 50 results. To let users see more, add a link such as *Watch more videos* to your widget, which opens the video site.

If your widget has a search box, add `search/searchkeyword/` and the search term to the end of the link, so users can continue their search on the site.

JSON fields

Each entry in the response includes the following fields:

Copyright © 2025 Kaltura Inc. All Rights Reserved. Designated trademarks and brands are the property of their respective owners. Use of this document constitutes acceptance of the Kaltura Terms of Use and Privacy Policy.

```
▼Object
  version: "1.0"
  status: 0
  errorCode: null
  errorMessage: null
  ▼entries: Array[8]
    ▼0: Object
      entryType: "1"
      lastUpdatedAt: 1495079591
      mediaType: 1
      id: "1_xy298aq8"
      referenceId: null
      name: "The Blazitor Lab"
      description: "The global leader in pharmaceutical technologies. Collaboratively administrate empowered markets
      tags: ""
      msDuration: 18719
      isSticky: false
      rootEntryId: "1_xy298aq8"
      thumbnailUrl: "http://cdnsecakmi.kaltura.com/p/1760021/sp/176002100/thumbnail/entry_id/1_xy298aq8/version/100000"
      capabilities: ""
    ▶1: Object
    ▶2: Object
    ▶3: Object
    ▶4: Object
    ▶5: Object
    ▶6: Object
    ▶7: Object
```


Field	Description
`entryType`	`1` = media hosted in Kaltura, `externalMedia.externalMedia` = YouTube video.
`mediaType`	`1` = video, `2` = image, `5` = audio.
`id`	The entry's unique ID. Use it to play the entry in a Kaltura player.
`referenceId`	The ID of the matching item in another system, if the entry has one.
`name`	The entry's name. Use it as the title.
`description`	The entry's description.
`tags`	Tags that the entry's owner added. You can use them to build tag search links to the site.
`msDuration`	The length of the media, in milliseconds.
`isSticky`	`true` if the entry is promoted, so it always appears at the top of the results.

Copyright © 2025 Kaltura Inc. All Rights Reserved. Designated trademarks and brands are the property of their respective owners. Use of this document constitutes acceptance of the Kaltura Terms of Use and Privacy Policy.

Field	Description
rootEntryId	If the entry is a clip of a longer video, the ID of the original video. Otherwise, the same as id.
thumbnailUrl	The URL of the entry's thumbnail. Use it as is, so you always get the latest thumbnail. To set the size, add /width/{value}/height/{value}/type/3 to the URL, for example, /width/478/height/269/type/3. /type/3 crops the image from the center. For all thumbnail options, see The Kaltura Thumbnail API..
capabilities	Contains quiz.quiz if the entry is a video quiz.

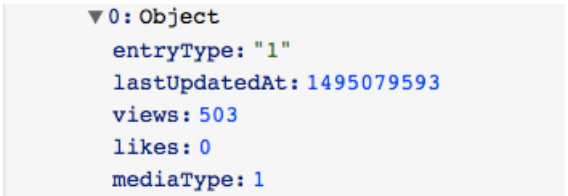
Optional fields

Depending on how your site administrator set up the producer, each entry can also include:

- customData - Custom metadata fields. Ask your site administrator which fields are included.



- views and likes - The number of views and likes.



Copyright © 2025 Kaltura Inc. All Rights Reserved. Designated trademarks and brands are the property of their respective owners. Use of this document constitutes acceptance of the Kaltura Terms of Use and Privacy Policy.