



SPRING 2026 EDITION · CUSTOMER NEWSLETTER

Qbil-Trade API

Your integrations, your growth, and how to make them work even harder for you.

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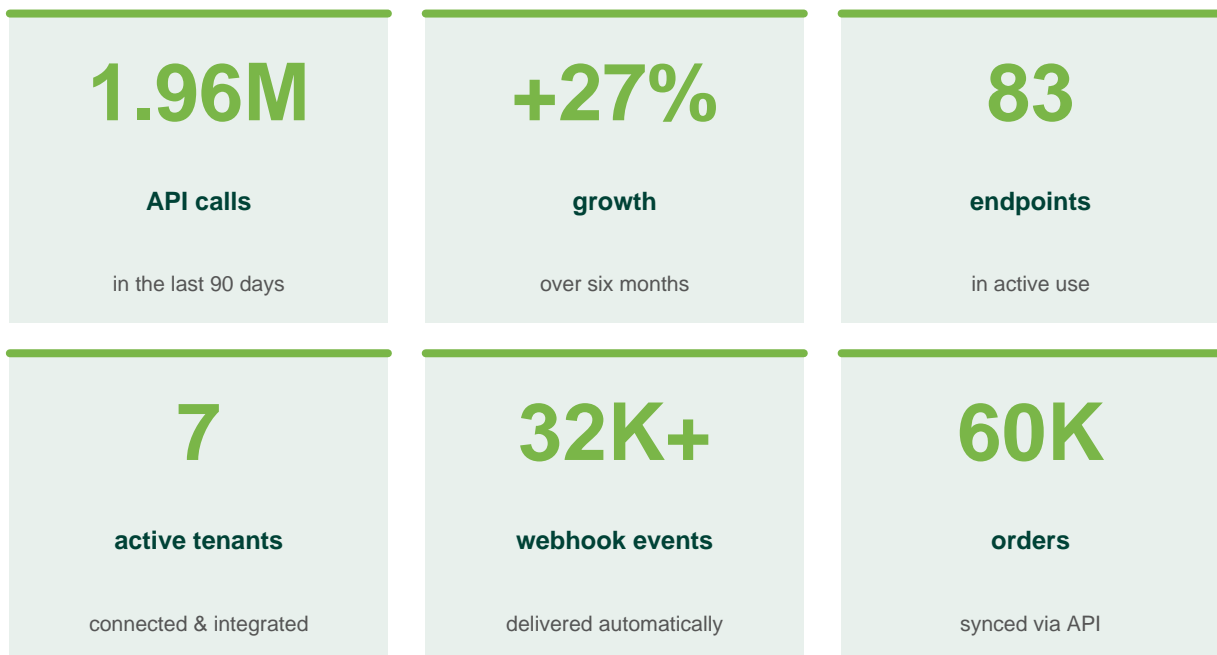
A note from the API team

Welcome to your spring update

Over the past six months we've watched the Qbil-Trade API grow into something genuinely exciting. More of you are connecting your systems directly to ours, automating work that used to be manual, and building integrations that quietly run in the background while your teams focus on the work that matters. This newsletter is a thank-you, an introduction for anyone new to the topic, and a few friendly tips on getting more out of your integration.

The platform at a glance

Between January and April 2026, the Qbil-Trade API handled close to **two million requests** from customer systems — a 27% increase over six months. That growth is yours: every number below comes from real integrations doing real work.



What this growth tells us

Three patterns stood out in the numbers, and all three are good news. Customers are connecting **more systems** than ever before — from container tracking platforms to operational dashboards. Integrations are **broadening in scope**: one customer expanded its API coverage 75-fold in a single month as new use cases opened up. And brand-new integrations are **spinning up quickly**, with one going from zero to a quarter of a million calls in just six weeks.

What we're investing in next

We're using everything we've learned to make the API faster, clearer, and easier to live with. Expect improvements to the developer portal, more efficient bulk endpoints for high-volume syncing, and expanded webhook coverage so you can spend less time asking the API "anything new?" and more time getting on with your day.

For everyone, not just developers

API calls, in plain English

If you've ever sat in a meeting and heard someone mention "API calls" and quietly wondered what they actually *are*, this section is for you. No jargon, no acronyms beyond the one in the title — just a clear picture of what's happening behind the scenes when your business connects to Qbil-Trade.

Think of it like a waiter

Imagine your business software is sitting at a table in a restaurant, and Qbil-Trade is the kitchen. Your software is hungry — it needs information, or it wants to update something. But it can't walk into the kitchen itself. Instead, it asks a waiter to carry the message back and forth. That waiter is the **API**.

Every time the waiter walks to the kitchen with a request and brings something back, that's **one API call**. "Bring me today's purchase orders" is an API call. "Update the status of this container to 'delivered'" is an API call. "Attach this document to that order" is an API call. Each one is a small, focused conversation between two systems.

What you might want	What the API does for you
"I want my warehouse system to know the moment a sales order is ready."	The API tells your warehouse system automatically — no email, no spreadsheet, no copy-paste.
"I want our finance team to see invoices without logging into Qbil."	The API hands the invoice data to your finance tool, which can then show it however your team prefers.
"I want to attach shipping documents to orders without opening Qbil."	The API accepts the file from your system and attaches it to the right order in seconds.
"I want my own dashboard with our trading numbers, refreshed every morning."	The API quietly delivers the figures overnight, and your dashboard is ready before your first coffee.

So what counts as “a lot” of calls?

A small, hand-built integration might make a few hundred API calls a day. A well-tuned production system can comfortably run hundreds of thousands a month — and the largest integration on our platform makes roughly 10,000 calls on a busy day. The number itself isn't what matters most. What matters is whether each call is doing useful work, or whether your system is asking the same question over and over just in case something has changed. That distinction is what the next section is about.

The takeaway

An API call is just a structured conversation between your software and ours. More calls isn't inherently better or worse — the goal is for each call to earn its keep. If your integration is doing useful work efficiently, you're exactly where you want to be.

A small change with a big payoff

Let us call *you* instead

Many integrations work by checking in regularly: every minute, every five minutes, every hour. “Anything new? Anything new? Anything new?” This pattern is called **polling**, and it's perfectly fine — but there's a more relaxed way to do the same job. It's called a **webhook**, and once you've set one up, your system can stop asking. We'll let you know.

The pizza analogy

You've ordered a pizza. Two options:

Option A — Polling. You phone the pizza shop every two minutes. “Is it ready yet?” “Is it ready yet?” You tie up your phone, you tie up their phone, and most calls end with “not yet.” Eventually, yes, you find out it's ready.

Option B — Webhook. You give the pizza shop your number, sit down, and get on with your evening. The moment your pizza is ready, they ring you. One call. Done.

Both options get you a hot pizza. One of them does it with a fraction of the phone calls, and lets everyone use their time better. Webhooks are Option B.

Polling — asking repeatedly

- Your system checks Qbil-Trade at fixed intervals.
- Most checks return “nothing new.”
- Updates arrive whenever the next check happens to land — could be minutes after the event.
- Uses bandwidth and compute on *your* side too, not just ours.
- Simple to build, harder to scale.

Webhooks — getting notified

- You tell us once which events to notify you about.
- We push a small message the moment something happens.
- Updates arrive in seconds, not minutes.
- Much less traffic on both sides — quieter and faster.
- A bit more setup, much less ongoing cost.

Could your integration benefit?

Here’s a quick way to tell. If your team or your integration developer can answer “yes” to any of these, webhooks are likely a good fit:

- Your integration polls the same endpoint frequently, even when most calls return no changes.
- You’ve seen API usage climb steadily without an obvious business reason behind it.
- Your downstream system needs near-real-time updates — for shipping status, order changes, document arrivals, or contract updates.
- Your team has ever said “the data is a few minutes behind” and wished it weren’t.
- You’re running scheduled nightly syncs that pull data in case something changed during the day.

How to get started

Webhook configuration is available today across all major Qbil-Trade objects — orders, contracts, relations, attachments, and more. Your integration developer can set them up directly, or our support team can walk you through the steps. The migration from polling to webhooks usually pays for itself within the first month: fewer wasted calls, faster updates, happier downstream systems. Reach out to your usual Qbil contact, or drop us a line at support@qbilsoftware.com — we’ll help you plan the switch.

Thank you for building with us.

Every integration on the platform is the result of a partnership between your team and ours. We’re looking forward to what the next six months will bring.

— The Qbil-Trade API team