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Drupal Web Services are Mutually Exclusive by [Zoltan Mesko](#)

Article published on June 4th 2012 | [Internet Business](#)

Drupal consumes content and data from other web applications, including Mollom, Flickr, and Facebook. You can configure your Drupal site to consume various web services by using contributed Drupal modules for each specific task or application you are trying to consume. Drupal can consume services from applications that will help your website prevent spam, integrate photos, integrate taxonomy and tags, and enhance your Drupal free tagging and autotagging abilities, and integrate with applications such as Facebook and Twitter.

Mollom is a web service that will help you to block spam on your Drupal site. It's a separate application that runs as a web service. Drupal can connect to the Mollom web service through a contributed module called Mollom. Mollom will offer you CAPTCHA options for your Drupal site as well as prevent and block comment spam and Drupal node form spam, including any spam that might populate your nodes through content type forms, story, page, and forum forms. It will prevent user registration from being compromised and prevent fake users from signing up on your site.

Another interesting concept here is that Mollom actually provides a higher availability backup server that a Drupal user can sign up for. This server would then kick in and work if the other Mollom application servers have failed. So Mollom also provides a fallback, but it will cost you to sign up for it. It's not a free service.

The Flickr and Flickr API modules allow Drupal to consume and access photos that are posted on the Flickr website. In order to use this web service, with Drupal functioning as the consumer, we'll need to set up a Flickr API key so that we can use this key in our configuration in our Drupal site. You will become used to this process when setting up Drupal as a web service consumer. In order for your Drupal site to communicate with the web service and use its functionality, you'll need to sign up for API keys for many of these modules and configurations.

Drupal can also connect to Facebook and run Facebook-style applications using the abundance of recent Facebook applications and contributed modules available. These include:

â€¢ Drupal for Facebook

â€¢ Facebook Connect

â€¢ Canvas Page

The Drupal for Facebook module is actually a larger scale module that allows you to program applications that run on Facebook and/or on your Drupal site but provides Facebook mechanisms. You can code up applications that run on your Drupal site and consume Facebook dataâ€”these are Facebook Connect-style applicationsâ€”using the standards that this web service provides.

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Article Keywords:

Drupal Web Services, Drupal Services

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