API

Powering the platform economy in financial services

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APIs in Financial Services

A closed environment

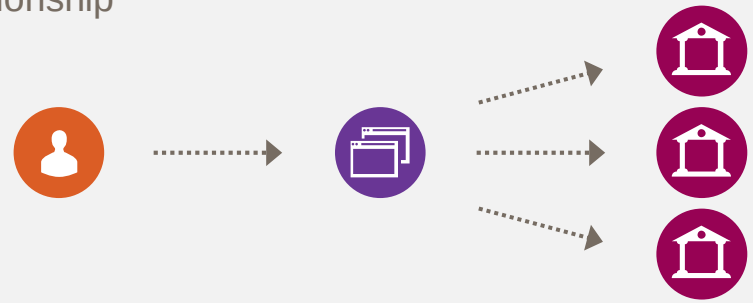
FIs have traditionally operated like castles protecting their territory, with moats to dissuade outsiders

So, an open platform economy has not flourished in financial services – *until now*

Powering open banking

Closed banking: Bank owns the customer relationship

Open Banking: Bank or third-party owns the customer relationship



Regulators have seen the power of APIs to open up retail banking markets and spurring competition

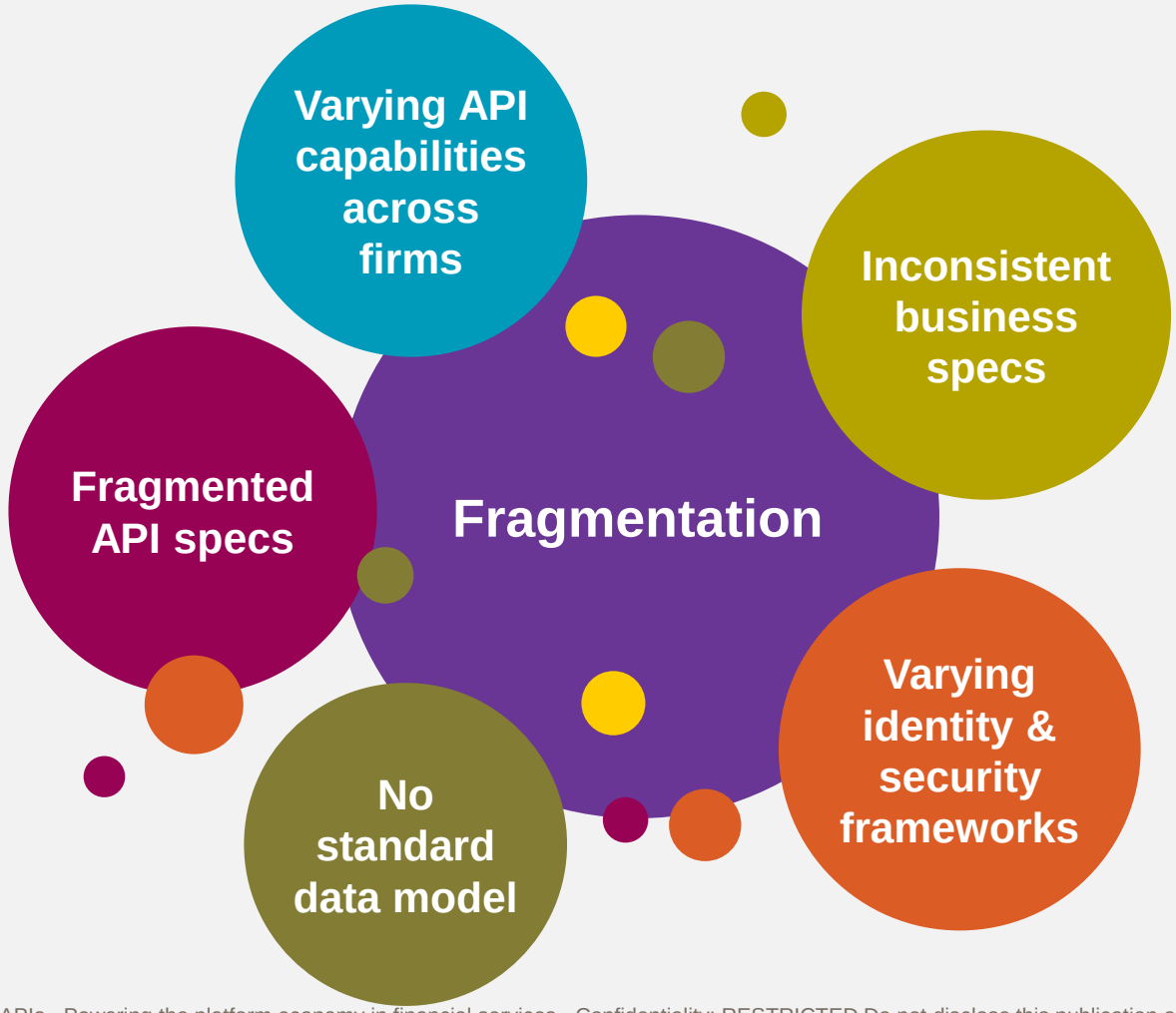
Pioneered in the EU and UK, Open Banking regulations are now a global phenomenon

Accelerating digital transformation

FIs now recognise the power of APIs to accelerate the transformation of their business models and services

They see APIs as a safe and secure way to stay competitive and outsource non-core services, operations and infrastructures

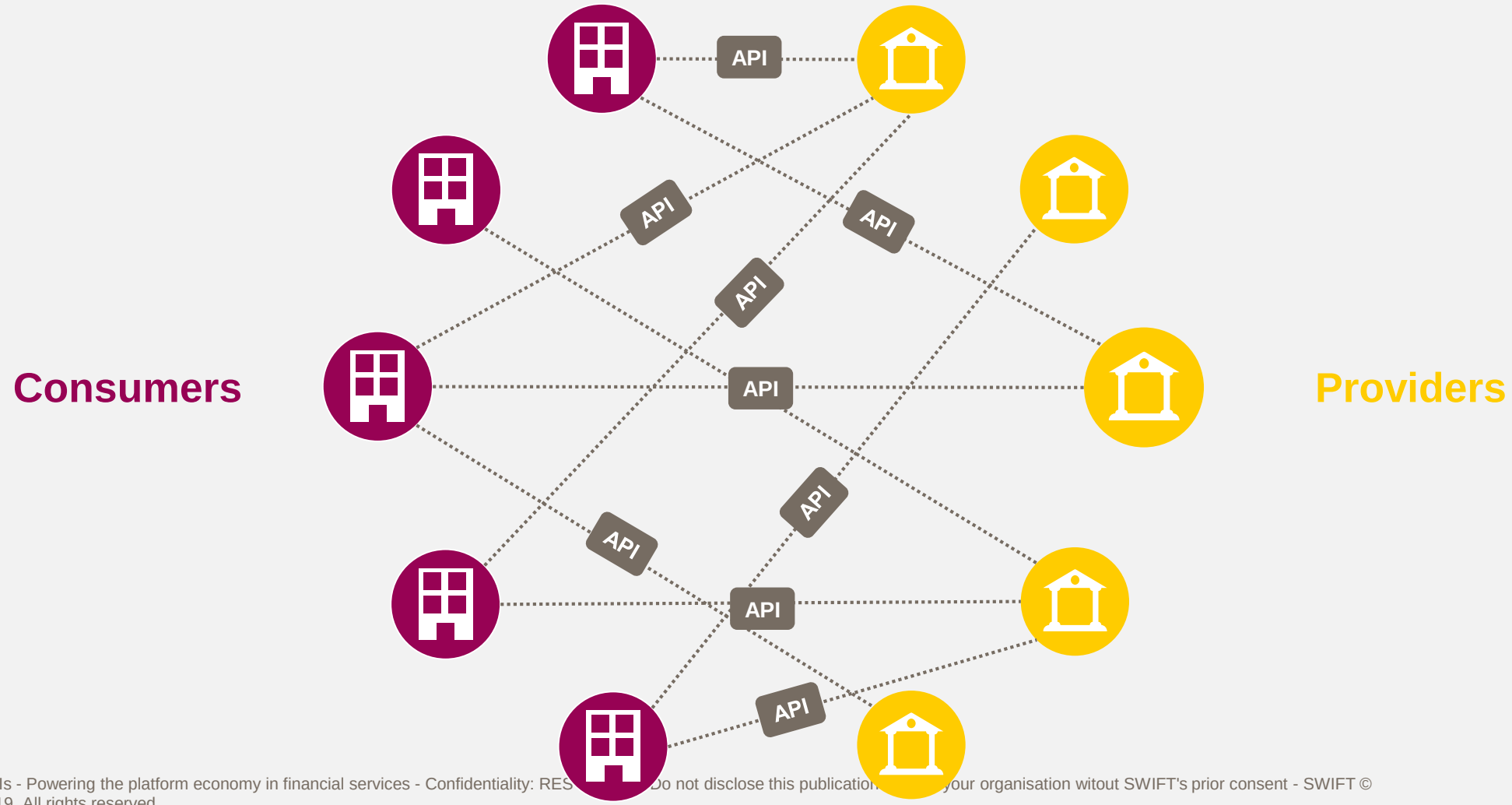
Enduring challenges



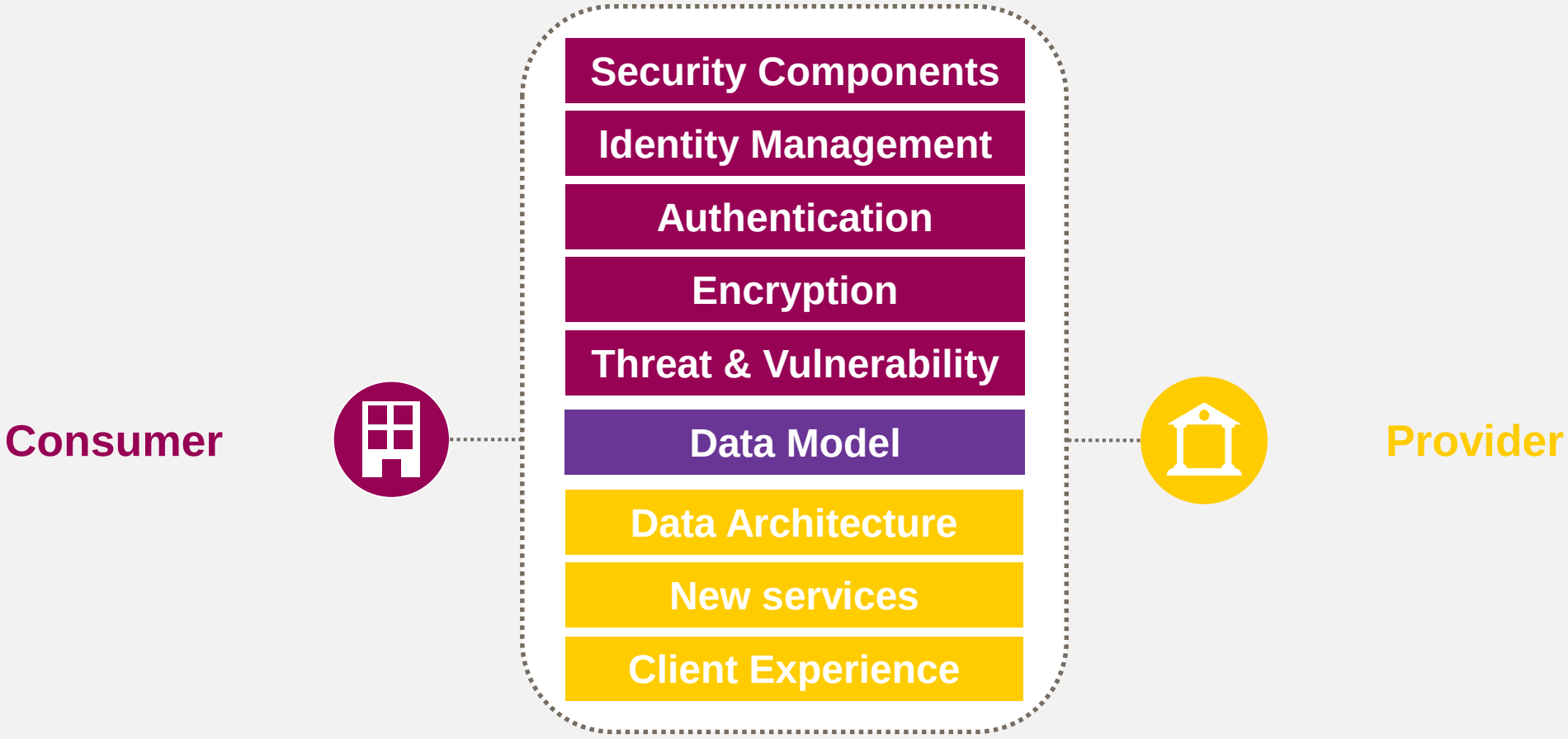
While APIs promise much – the API environment in financial services remains highly fragmented

What does this mean?

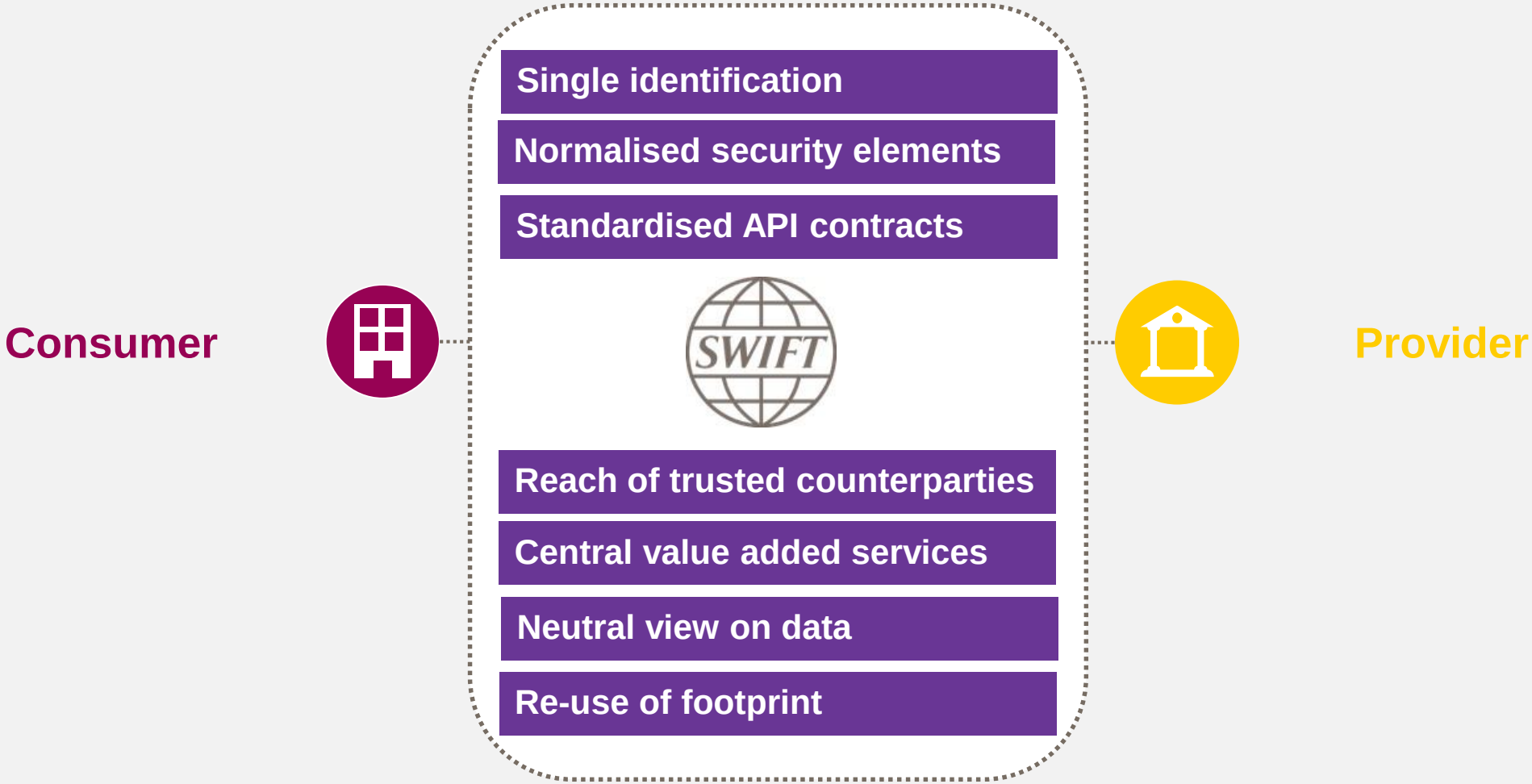
Many-to-many relationship…



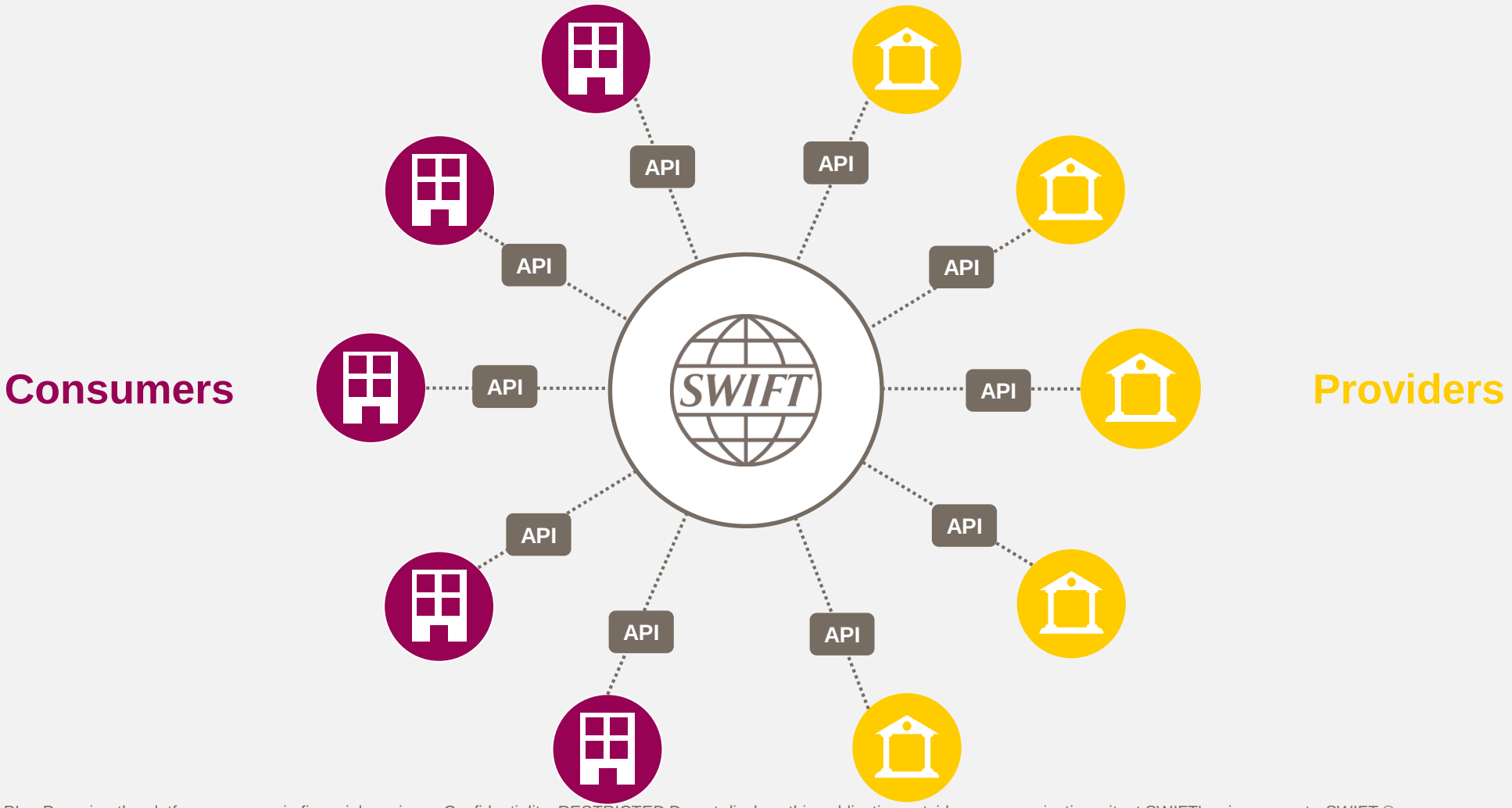
… each relation coming with its own technical and business stack



Standardised APIs …



… remove the friction



SWIFT Community API

What are we aiming to do?

01 **Cultivate a thriving API economy through standardisation**

02 **Help financial institutions to develop their API capabilities**

03 **Transform the user experience by opening SWIFT up to trusted developers**

04 **Connect SWIFT to other leading platforms for a true end-to-end experience**

The Community API Programme aims to enable wholesale API adoption in financial services

The Programme has four core objectives, serving as guiding principles for all its actions

APIs Securities use cases

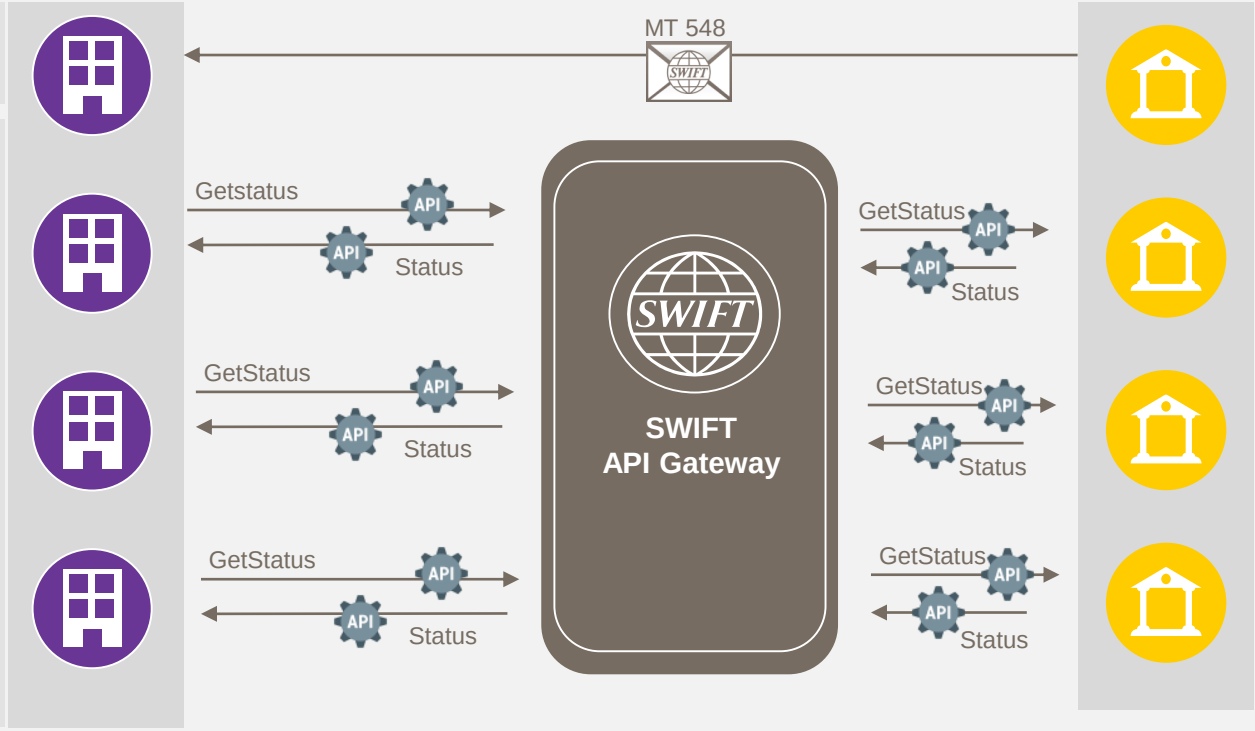
On demand and real-time status of settlement instructions

Almost RT capability to access status data

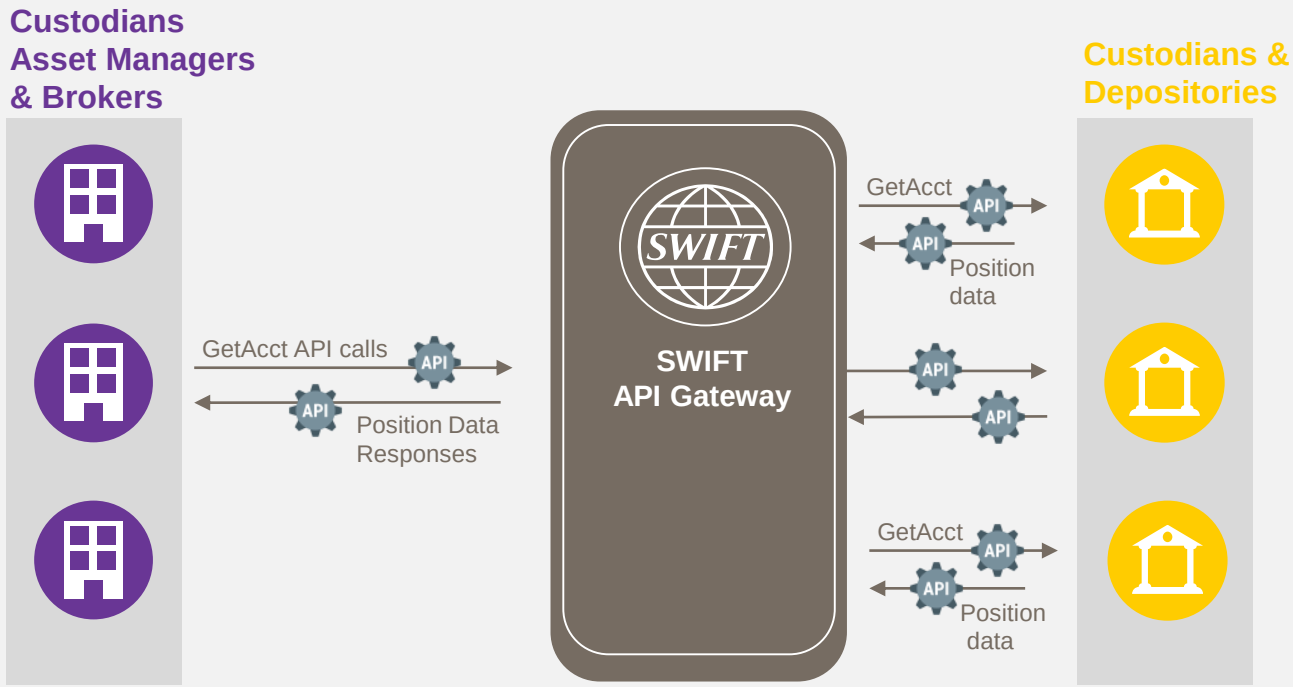
Messaging RT interpretation capability is already in place for back-office systems

“GetStatus for all failing transactions where settlement date is today”

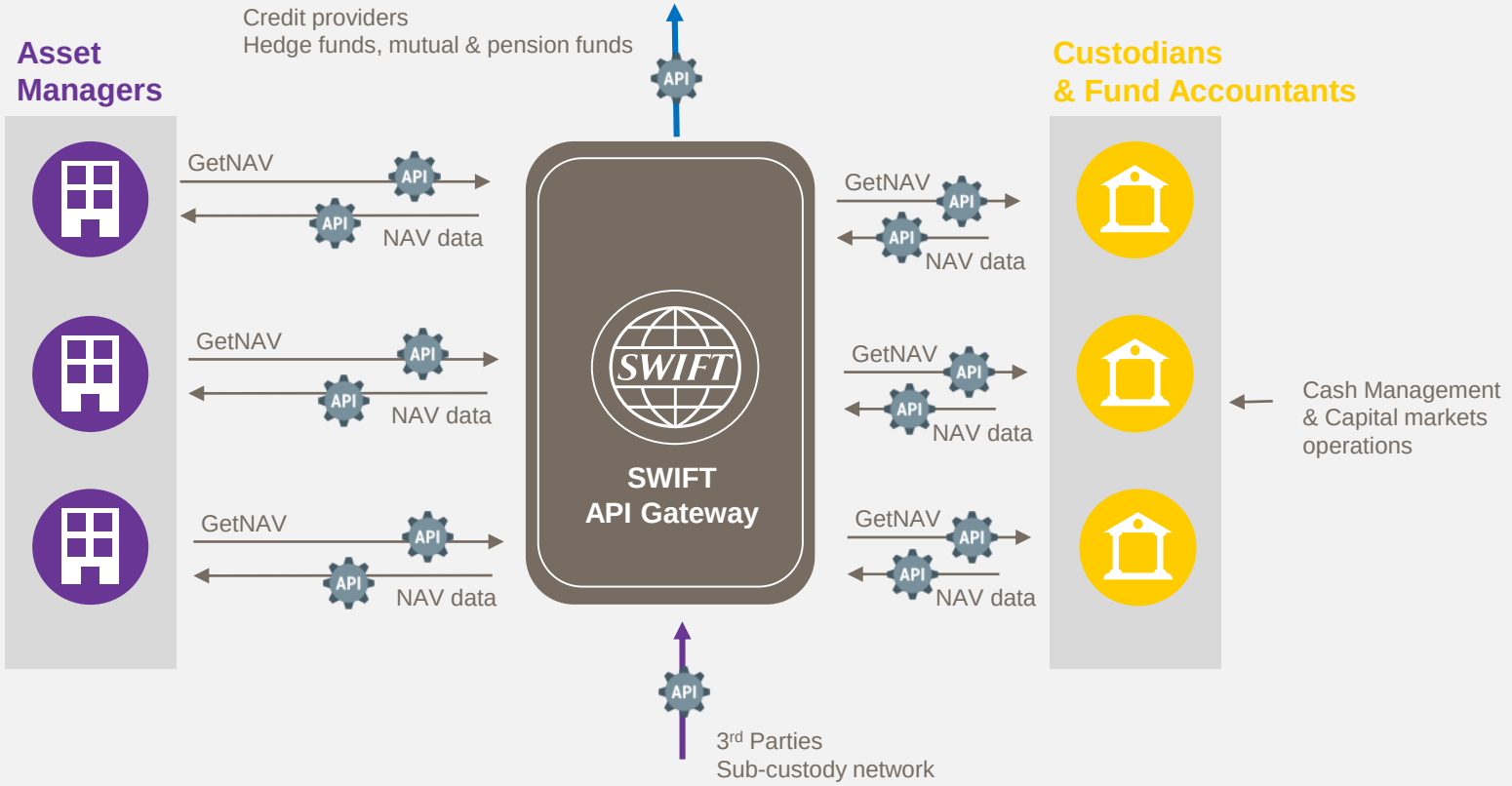
“GetStatus for all pending transactions where reason code is lack of cash”



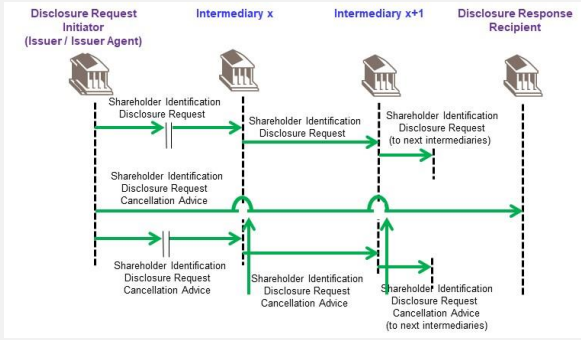
Request securities positions held across custodians and depositories



Ad-hoc access to NAV information across fund accountants



Shareholder identification disclosure request & answer



Issuers/ issuer's agents

CSDs/intermediaries

GetShareholder disclosure

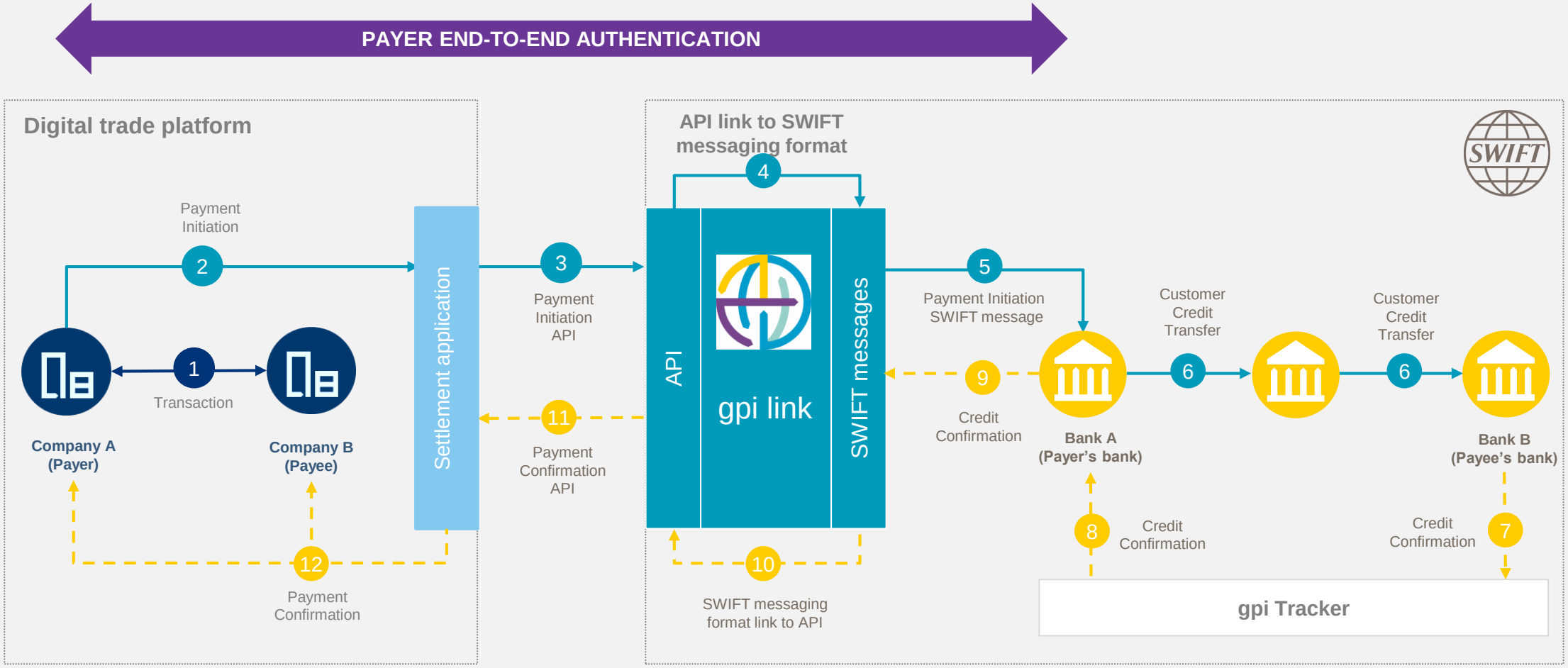
API

Shareholder identification

SWIFT

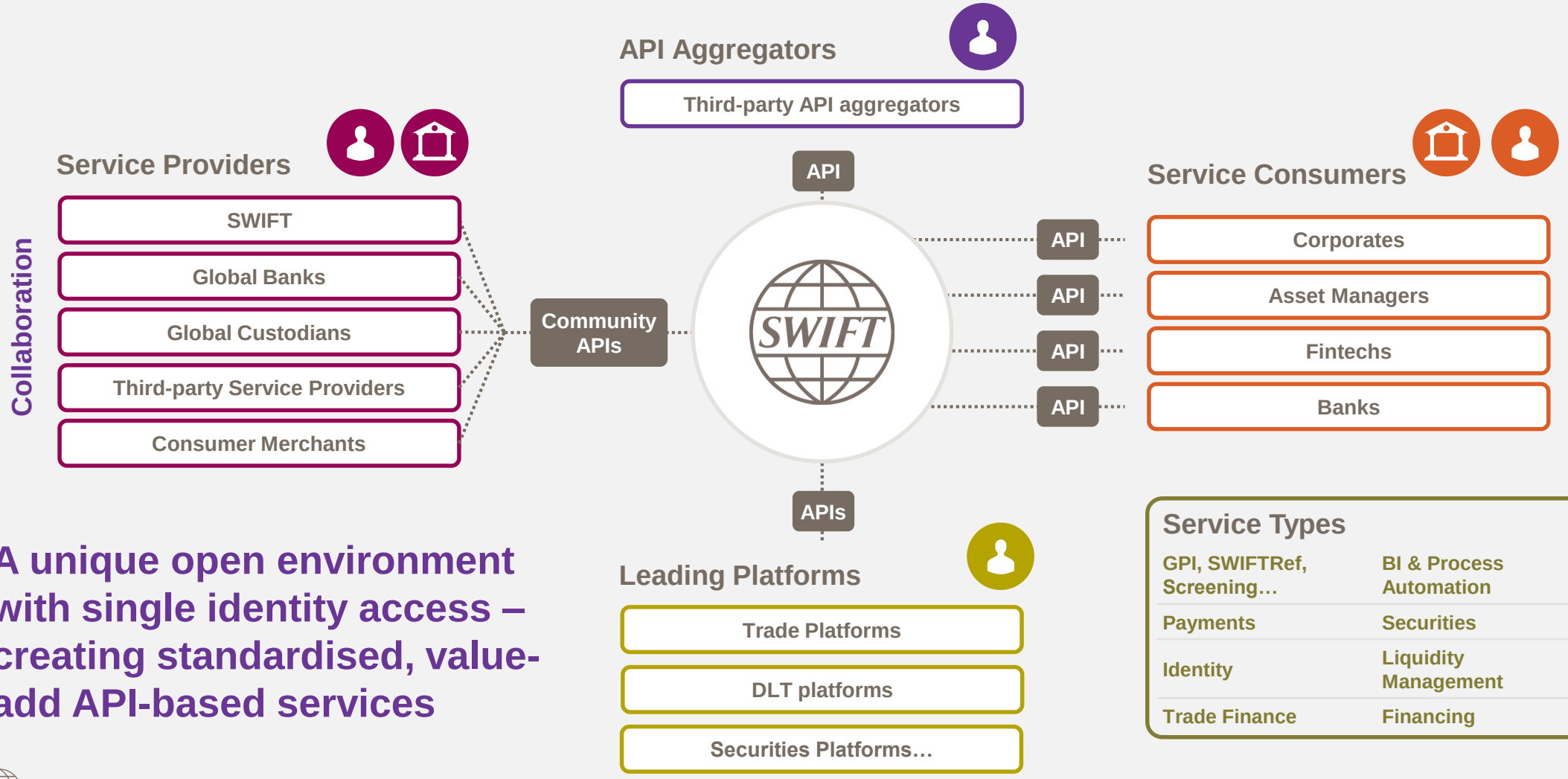
SWIFT API Gateway

gLink – A way to bridge ecosystems



Annex

The SWIFT two-sided platform – Vision State



A unique open environment with single identity access – creating standardised, value-add API-based services

Service Types

GPI, SWIFTRef, Screening…	BI & Process Automation
Payments	Securities
Identity	Liquidity Management
Trade Finance	Financing

SWIFTs approach to developing API products, for its own content as well as community content, is founded on three pillars

Modelling

Collaborative process of converting business process into technical specifications to design APIs, and finalize as API contracts.

Publishing

Publishing API contracts on the developer portal for the Community to self serve what is available, and can test using a sandbox

Consumption

Enabling seamless connectivity to consume APIs, bringing content providers and consumers together

SWIFT Content

Community Content

SWIFT Collaborative modeling tools and methodologies

SWIFT Developer Portal with Sandboxes and SWIFT API Catalogue

SWIFT API Gateway, with SWIFT content APIs and Community content APIs, with consumption options

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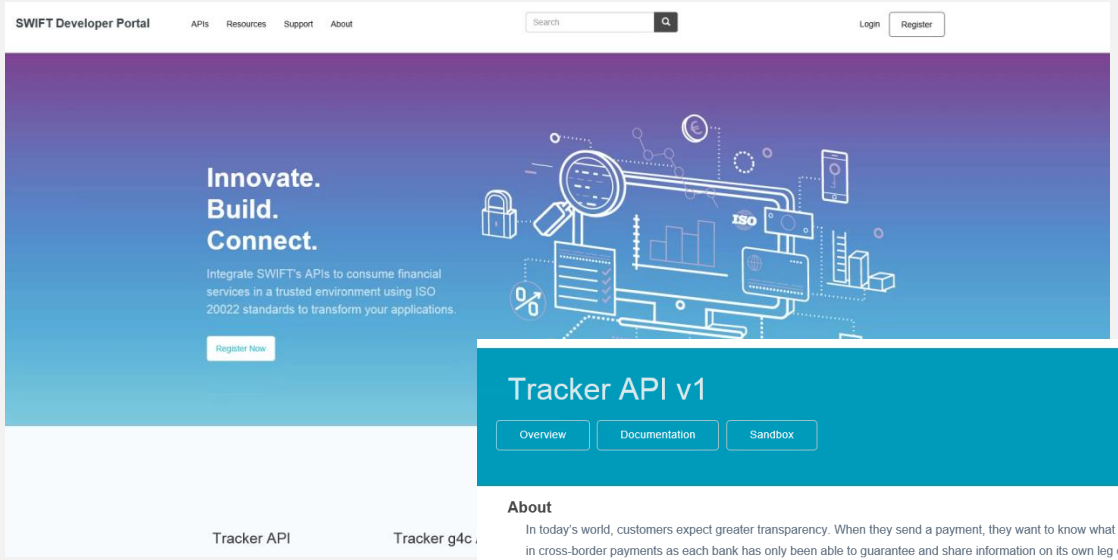
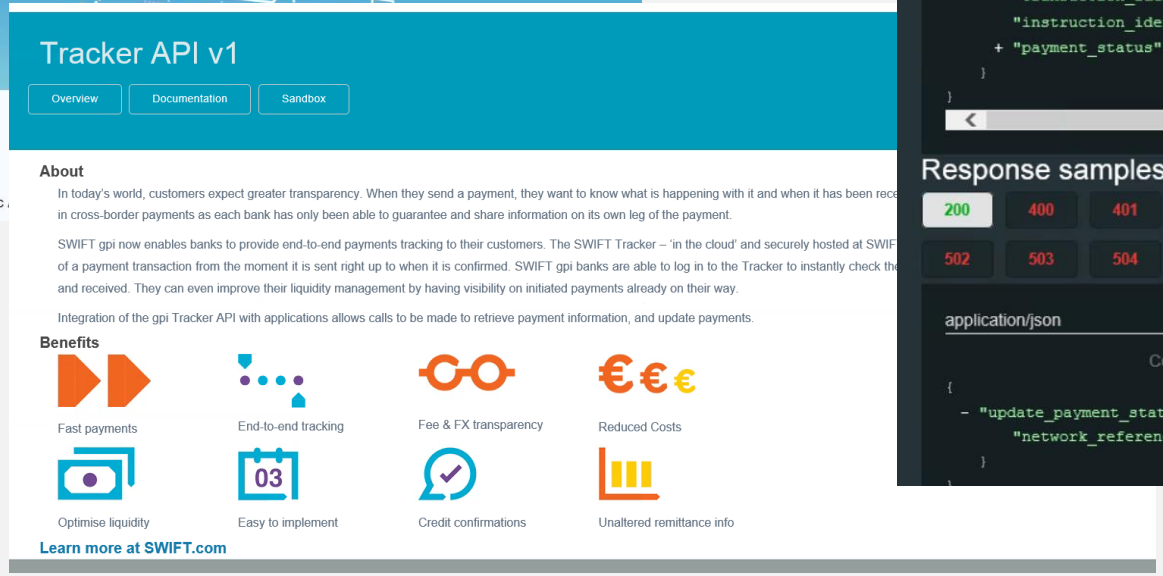
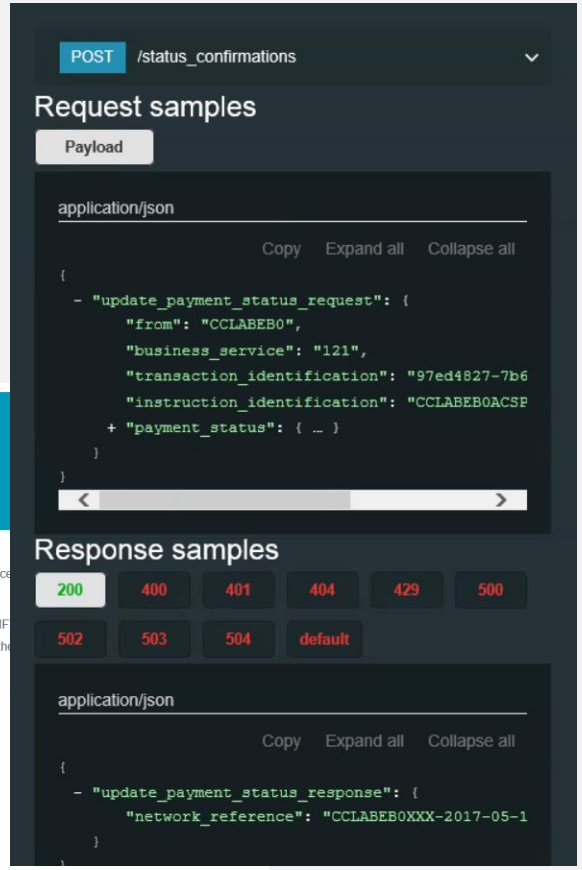
Our developer portal as publishing platform







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