

HD Cloud Quick Start Guide

HD Cloud is a powerful, scalable solution designed for content owners who need high-quality, flexible transcoding at an affordable price.

The following guide contains all the information you need to get started with using the system via the web-based GUI and RESTFUL APIs. There are more features and flexibility available, which are not covered here.

Sign up

If you haven't already signed up you can do so by visiting <http://hdcloud.com/accounts/pricing> and selecting the plan that is right for you. Once your account is created you can log into HD Cloud at <https://hdcloud.com/session/new>.

General Workflow

HD Cloud uses 3 main concepts in its workflow: Stores, Profiles, and Jobs. Stores are the file directories where HD Cloud can get source video files and place transcoded videos and/or images. Profiles are your encoding profiles that tell HD Cloud how to transcode your source videos. Jobs are the actions that tell HD Cloud what files from your Store(s) to get, what profiles to use, and where to place the final videos. Creating a Job requires that you have at least one Store and one Profile ready to use.

Create a Store

First, let's set up a Store. You must use the web interface to do this. Once logged into HD Cloud navigate to the **Create Store** page. You can set up Stores using either FTP or S3. We'll use FTP for purposes of illustration. First, enter a Name for this Store and then give it a Description. For an FTP Store you will need to enter the additional information related to your FTP server including Hostname, Username, and Password. You can also specify a Path if you like. HD Cloud will confirm whether the information you entered is valid and the Store has been created.

Get your Stores through the API

Congrats. You now have a Store to use with HD Cloud. Now we'll show you how to get your Store through the API. We will use curl to illustrate, but you can use any tool that lets you make HTTP requests.

```
$ curl "username:password@hdcloud.com/api/v1/stores.xml"
```

Your response will look like this:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<stores type="array">
  <store>
    <auth_token nil="true"></auth_token>
    <authorized type="boolean">>false</authorized>
    <cdn>FTP</cdn>
    <description nil="true"></description>
    <host>ftp.example.com</host>
    <id type="integer">188</id>
    <name>My FTP account</name>
    <password>password</password>
    <ref>/videos/</ref>
    <username>username</username>
  </store>
</stores>
```

We'll be using the ID--188 in this case--when we create a Job.

Review the Example Profiles

HD Cloud provides you a limited number of Profiles to get you started. You can create a new one but for now let's just use what is already there. Once you are comfortable with the whole system then feel free to go back into the web GUI and create some new Profiles.

Get your Profiles through the API

We'll continue to use curl here:

```
$ curl "username:password@hdcloud.com/api/v1/encoding_profiles.xml"
```

Your response will look like this:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<encoding_profiles type="array">
  <encoding_profile>
    <audio_sample_rate type="integer" nil="true"></audio_sample_rate>
    <audiobitrate type="integer">128</audiobitrate>
    <bitrate>1500</bitrate>
    <bitrate_tolerance type="integer">1500</bitrate_tolerance>
    <brightcove type="boolean">>false</brightcove>
    <brightcove_publisher_id nil="true"></brightcove_publisher_id>
    <created_at type="datetime">2009-12-04T20:43:43Z</created_at>
    <description>Optimised for high quality iPhone playback.</description>
    <framerate type="float">30.0</framerate>
    <id type="integer">616</id>
    <keyframe_interval type="integer" nil="true"></keyframe_interval>
    <letterbox type="boolean">>true</letterbox>
```

```

    <max_file_size type="float" nil="true"></max_file_size>
    <name>iPhone 2Pass H264</name>
    <output_ext>mp4</output_ext>
    <resolutions>480x320</resolutions>
    <thumbnail_interval type="float" nil="true"></thumbnail_interval>
    <thumbnail_offset type="float" nil="true"></thumbnail_offset>
    <time_duration type="integer" nil="true"></time_duration>
    <time_offset type="integer" nil="true"></time_offset>
    <updated_at type="datetime">2009-12-04T20:43:43Z</updated_at>
  </encoding_profile>
</encoding_profiles>

```

Note the encoding profile ID here, which is 616 in this example. We'll be using this as well in creating a Job.

API: post a Job

So now you have a Store and Profiles, the two ingredients required to create a Job. You can always create a Job or multiple Jobs through the web GUI but let's look at posting a Job via the API.

Using curl with --data sends POST parameters.

```

$ curl --data
"job[source_id]=170&job[destination_id]=171&files[]=ad072f.mov&encoding_profile_ids[]=616"
"username:password@hdcloud.com/api/v1/jobs.xml"

```

The response will contain information about the new job:

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<jobs type="array">
  <job>
    <id>145698</id>
    <current_step>file_ready</current_step>
    <current_progress></current_progress>
    <current_status>file_ready</current_status>
    <source_filename>ad072f.mov</source_filename>
    <status_url>http://hdcloud.com/api/v1/jobs/145698.xml</status_url>
  </job>
</jobs>

```

API: ping for Job status

Almost there! You've now started a Job. It will take some time for the transcode finish, so you can periodically ask HDCloud how it's doing by using this command:

```

$ curl "username:password@hdcloud.com/api/v1/jobs/145698.xml"

```

Your response will look like this:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<job>
  <id>145698</id>
  <current_step>encoding</current_step>
  <current_progress>28</current_progress>
  <current_status>Encoding: Pass 1</current_status>
  <source_filename>ad072f.mov</source_filename>
  <status_url>http://hdcloud.com/api/v1/jobs/145698.xml</status_url>
</job>
```

You can also get status for all your currently running Jobs by using:

```
$ curl "username:password@hdcloud.com/api/v1/jobs/current"
```

All Done!

If you keep using the command below eventually you will see that the Job has been completed:

```
$ curl "username:password@hdcloud.com/api/v1/jobs/145698.xml"
```

Your response will look like this:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<job>
  <id>145698</id>
  <current_step></current_step>
  <current_progress></current_progress>
  <current_status>completed</current_status>
  <source_filename>ad072f.mov</source_filename>
  <status_url>http://hdcloud.com/api/v1/jobs/145698.xml</status_url>
</job>
```

If you are using the command to get all current Jobs then once the response is blank you know all Jobs are completed.

You've done it. If you want, you can access your FTP Store to see if the file is there.

More Info

For information regarding HD Cloud's APIs you can visit: <http://hdcloud.com/api/v1/help>. If you need specific help or just have a general question contact HD Cloud at support@hdcloud.com.