

Salesforce Sales Cloud: GET /PATCH by externalId Functionality

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We have recently enhanced the swagger of the Salesforce Sales Cloud connector with the generic *GET /{objectName}/fields/{name}/{externalID}* and *PATCH /{objectName}/fields/{name}/{externalID}* endpoints. These can be used to retrieve or update, respectively, the desired records based on an externalId.

An external ID is a custom field that has the “External ID” attribute, meaning that it contains unique record identifiers from a system outside of Salesforce. Only the fields with the following data types can be external Ids: Number, Text, Email.

Using the *GET /{objectName}/fields/{name}/{externalID}*, as mentioned above, the customers can retrieve records with a specific external ID.

Example usage for retrieving a *TEST_ID__c* record using an external ID(*accounts* is the object name, the *externalID* field *name* is *TEST_ID__c* and the *externalID* field *value* is *589632*):

```
curl -X GET
"https://api.openconnectors.us2.ext.hana.ondemand.com/elements/api-v2/accounts/fields/TEST_ID__c/589632"
-H "accept: application/json"
-H "Authorization: User XXXXXX, Organization XXXXXX, ElementXXXXXX"
```

The response payload has the following structure:

```
{
  "LastModifiedDate": "2019-11-11T13:11:05.000+0000",
  "IsDeleted": false,
  "LastViewedDate": "2019-11-11T13:11:05.000+0000",
  "LastReferencedDate": "2019-11-11T13:11:05.000+0000",
  "Name": "TestName",
  "SystemModstamp": "2019-11-11T13:11:05.000+0000",
  "Type": "Prospect",
  "CleanStatus": "Pending",
  "CreatedById": "XXXXXXXXXXXX",
  "OwnerId": "XXXXXXXXXXXX",
  "CreatedDate": "2019-11-11T13:11:05.000+0000",
  "RecordTypeId": "0121r000000eDEfAAM",
  "attributes": {
    "type": "Account",
    "url": "/services/data/v46.0/subjects/Account/XXXXXXXXXXXX"
  },
  "PhotoUrl": "/services/images/photo/XXXXXXXXXXXX",
  "Id": "XXXXXXXXXXXX",
  "TEST_ID__c": "589632",
  "LastModifiedById": "XXXXXXXXXXXX"
}
```

The **PATCH** `/objectName/fields/{name}/{externalID}` endpoint can be used to create records or update existing records (upsert) based on the value of a specified external ID field.

- If the specified value doesn't exist, a new record is created.
- If a record does exist with that value, the field values specified in the request body are updated.

An example of a successful PATCH by `externalId` request (`accounts` is the object name, the `externalId` field `name` is `TEST_ID__c` and the `externalId` field `value` is `589632`):

```
curl -X PATCH
"https://api.openconnectors.us2.ext.hana.ondemand.com/elements/api-v2/accounts/fields/TEST_ID__c/589632"
-H "accept: application/json"
-H "Authorization: User XXXXXX, Organization XXXXXX, Element XXXXXX"
-H "Content-Type: application/json"
-d '{"Name": "TestName"}'
```

The response payload has the following structure:

```
{
  "id": "XXXXXXX",
  "success": true,
  "created": true*
}
```

* In case the record existed but has been updated, the *created* parameter value is set to false.
