CLI scripts and ezexec for integrations

Running integration code on the Exponential server from the command line - quick scripts with bin/php/ezexec.php, proper commands with eZScript in your extension, how the console finds them, siteaccess and user, exit...

Source file: doc/eng-us/help/integrators/cli-scripts-and-ezexec.md Last changed 2026-11-04
https://doc.exponential.earth/learninminutes/exphelp/viewer/help/integrators/cli-scripts-and-ezexec.md

This page is for integration developers whose code runs **on the Exponential server**: imports, exports, repairs, one-off migrations. On the command line the whole PHP API is available, there is no request timeout, and the run can be scheduled, logged and monitored. Two ways exist: `bin/php/ezexec.php` for a quick script, and a command of your extension for anything you keep.

Contents

1. ezexec: a quick script with the kernel loaded
2. A command in your extension
3. Siteaccess, user and environment
4. Exit codes, dry runs and output
5. Commands that ship with Exponential and help integrations

ezexec: a quick script with the kernel loaded

`php bin/php/ezexec.php <script.php>` does the bootstrap (settings, database, extensions, modules) and then includes your file. The script finds `$cli` (an `eZCLI`) and `$script` (an `eZScript`) ready to use:

PHP

```php
<?php
// var/tmp/count_imported.php: how many objects carry our remote id prefix?
$db = eZDB::instance();
$rows = $db->arrayQuery( "SELECT COUNT(*) AS n FROM ezcontentobject WHERE remote_id LIKE 'erp-pro
duct-%'" );
$cli->output( 'Imported products: ' . (int)$rows[0]['n'] );
```

Shell

```shell
php bin/php/ezexec.php var/tmp/count_imported.php -s <siteaccess>
```

If the included file returns something other than `1` (a plain file returns `1`), the exit code is `1`. Use `ezexec` for inspection and one-off fixes; anything that runs twice belongs in your extension as a command.

A command in your extension

The console (`bin/php/console`) finds scripts at run time: `extension/<ext>/bin/php/<name>.php` becomes the command `ext:<ext>:<name>`, with the one-line description taken from the `@description` tag of the first docblock.

PHP

```php
#!/usr/bin/env php
<?php
/**
 * @description Import products from the ERP export file (--file, --dry-run)
 */
require_once 'autoload.php';

$cli = eZCLI::instance();
$script = eZScript::instance( array( 'description' => "Import products from the ERP export file.\
n",
                                     'use-session' => false,
                                     'use-modules' => true,
                                     'use-extensions' => true ) );
$script->startup();
$options = $script->getOptions( '[file:][dry-run]', '',
                                array( 'file' => 'The export file to read',
                                       'dry-run' => 'Report what would change, change nothing' )
);
$script->initialize();

if ( !$options['file'] || !is_readable( $options['file'] ) )
{
    $cli->error( 'Give a readable --file' );
    $script->shutdown( 1 );
}

$importer = new myIntegrationProductImport( $cli, (bool)$options['dry-run'] );
$ok = $importer->run( $options['file'] );

$script->shutdown( $ok ? 0 : 1 );
```

Save it as `extension/myintegration/bin/php/importproducts.php`, make it executable, and run it:

Shell

```shell
php bin/php/console ext:myintegration:importproducts --file=var/import/products.csv --dry-run -s
<siteaccess>
php extension/myintegration/bin/php/importproducts.php --help
```

Keep the work in a class (`myIntegrationProductImport` above) so the same code runs from the command, a cronjob part and a test. The body of such an importer is on Writing an import script.

Siteaccess, user and environment

Topic	What to do
Siteaccess	Pass `-s <siteaccess>`; settings of that siteaccess and its access extensions apply. Without it, `DefaultAccess` is used
User	A script runs as the anonymous user until you make another user current with `eZUser::setCurrentlyLoggedInUser( $user, $user->attribute( 'contentobject_id' ) )`; use a service account (how)
Operating system user	Run as the user the web server runs as; files written as root may not be writable by the site afterwards. As root, scripts refuse to run unless `--allow-root-user` is given

Topic	What to do
Credentials of the other system	Read them from the environment or from your extension's INI in `settings/override`, never from the command line, where they end up in the shell history and the process list
Debug output	`-d` prints the debug output at the end; `--logfiles` writes log files

Exit codes, dry runs and output

- Exit `0` on success and non-zero on failure, so cron, deployments and monitoring can react.
- Offer `--dry-run` for every script that changes data, and say what would change.
- Respect `-q`: `$cli->output()` prints nothing with it; use `$cli->error()` for errors, which always print.
- For long loops, show progress with `$script->resetIteration( $total )` and `$script->iterate( $cli, $status, $text )`.
- Never print passwords, keys or personal data; mask them.

Commands that ship with Exponential and help integrations

Command	Use in an integration
`php bin/php/ezcsvimport.php --class=<class> <node> <file>`	Import objects of one class from CSV (`--creator`, `--storage-dir`)
`php bin/php/ezcsvexport.php --storage-dir=<dir> <node>`	Export a subtree to one CSV file per class
`php bin/php/updatesearchindex.php`	Rebuild the search index after a bulk change
`php bin/php/ezcache.php --clear-id=<ids>`	Clear caches after a bulk change (which)
`php bin/php/expcontentjob.php list`	Run, list, resume and cancel content jobs (large removes, copies, moves)
`php bin/php/ezsubtreeremove.php --apply`	Remove subtrees by node id, to the trash unless `--ignore-trash`
`php bin/php/console exp:logs`	Search and follow the log files
`php bin/php/console exp:audit tail`	Read the audit trail
`php bin/php/maintenance.php on|off|status`	Take the site offline for a migration window

`php bin/php/console list` shows every command of the installation.

Related pages

- CLI scripts and console commands
- eZScript and eZCLI
- Exponential Console
- Cronjobs for integrations
- Free documentation: this page is free to copy, translate and improve under the GNU FDL 1.3.

Become an Exponential Partner

Partners share their information, provide funding, contribute back and develop the products with us, and that is how Exponential grows. A partner website and dashboard are planned for mid-2027: please become a partner today to speed up our growth rate and land new features faster.

Partners: start here | How to apply

Exponential Copyright © 1998-2026 Exponential Foundation and 7x
Permission is granted to copy, distribute and/or modify this document under the terms of the GNU Free Documentation License, Version 1.3 or any later version published by the Free Software Foundation; with no Invariant Sections, no Front-Cover Texts, and no Back-Cover Texts. A copy of the license is included in the section entitled "GNU Free Documentation License".
This documentation is free documentation, licensed under the GNU Free Documentation License 1.3 or later:
https://www.gnu.org/licenses/fdl-1.3.html.