Connector Development Quick Start

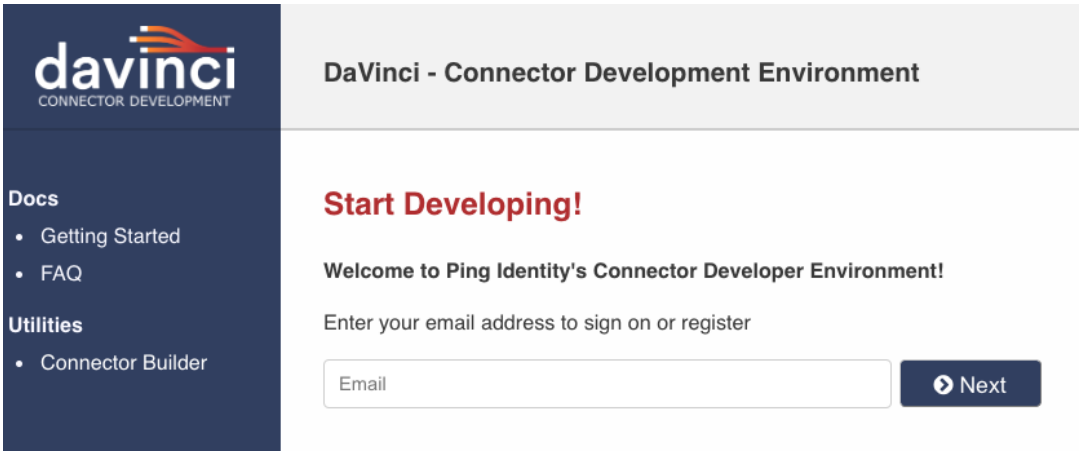
WELCOME / OVERVIEW

To accelerate connector development, Ping has created a hosted development experience. Gone are the days of installing software, standing up services, then the inevitable troubleshooting of wiring the two together. Simply log in to the portal, create a new connector project and start building.

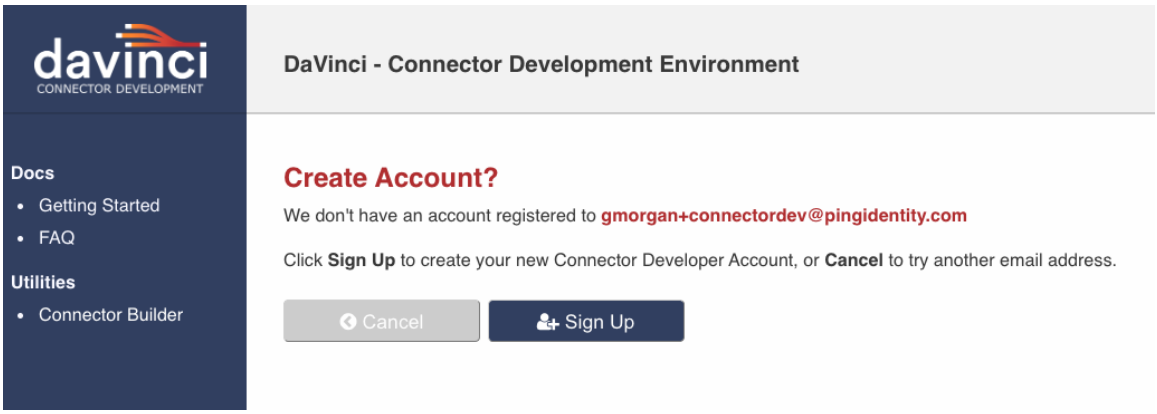
Within the development environment, you'll have a fully-featured isolated DaVinci portal and a web-based instance of Visual Studio Code that comes pre-wired to the underlying DaVinci services. This enables you to quickly iterate on your connectors' capabilities.

CREATING A DEVELOPER ACCOUNT

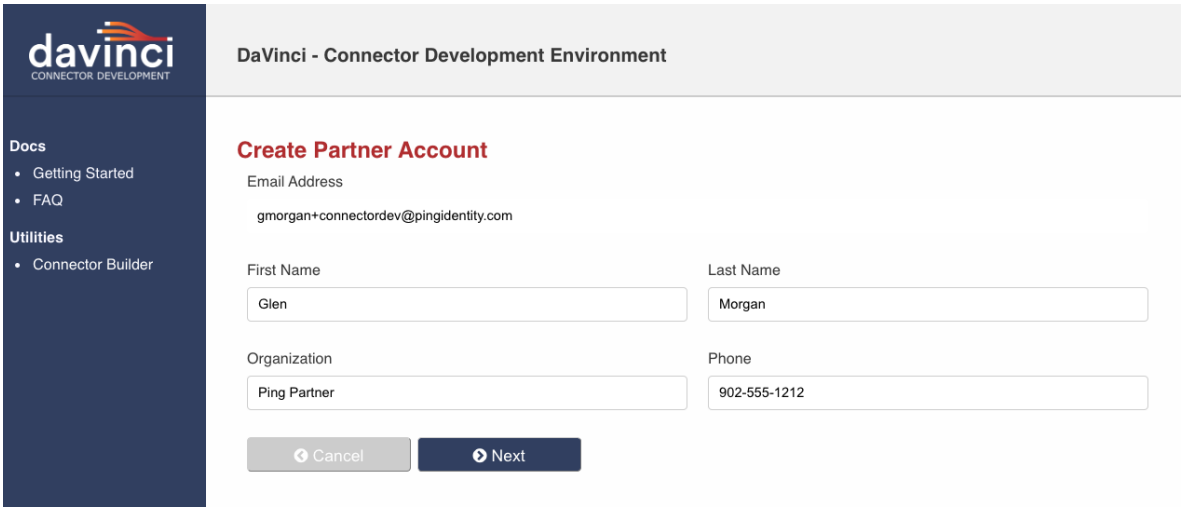
To create a developer account, navigate to https://davinci.pingidentity.cloud/. Enter your email address then click the **>>** button to proceed.



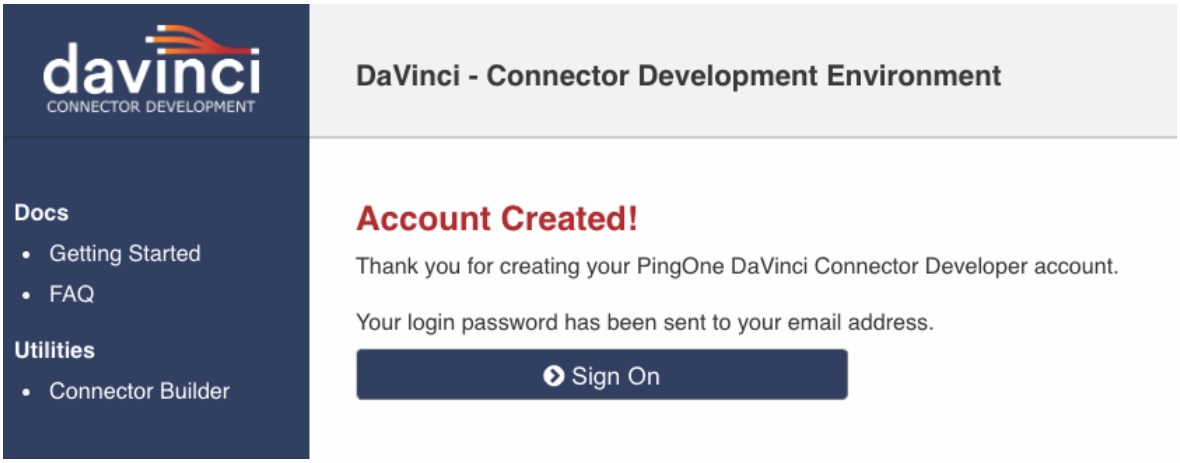
If this is your first time in the Developer Environment, you'll be prompted to register.



Fill out your account information then click the next button to proceed to the terms and conditions acceptance screen.

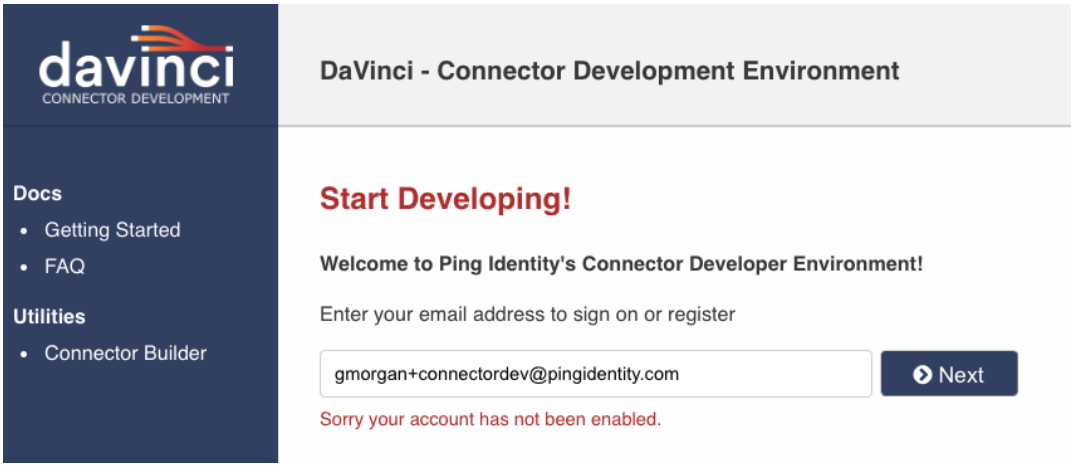


Once the terms and conditions have been accepted, you'll receive a confirmation. Your credentials are emailed to the address you provided.



Your account registration is then sent to the DaVinci Connector Team for review. Once it is approved, you'll receive an email notifying you that you're eligible to proceed. Note: Depending on when you register, it may take up to 2 business days for approval.

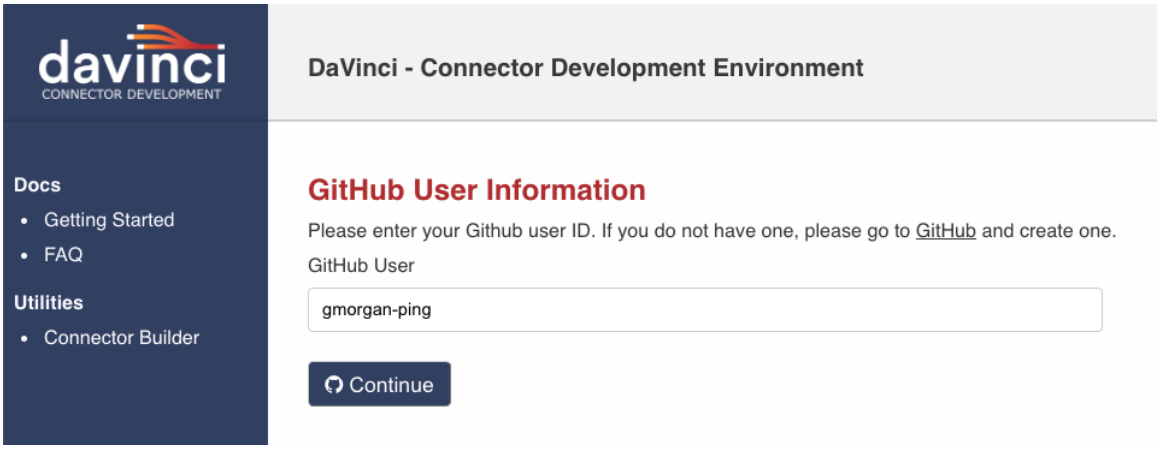
If you try to log in before approval, you'll see the following error message



LOGIN TO THE DEVELOPER ENVIRONMENT

Once your developer account has been approved, navigate to the login page at https://davinci.pingidentity.cloud/

Upon your first login, you'll be asked to provide your GitHub User Id as each DaVinci Connector project is saved to its own private GitHub repository. If you do not have a GitHub account, you'll need to create one before proceeding.



CONNECTOR PROJECT DASHBOARD

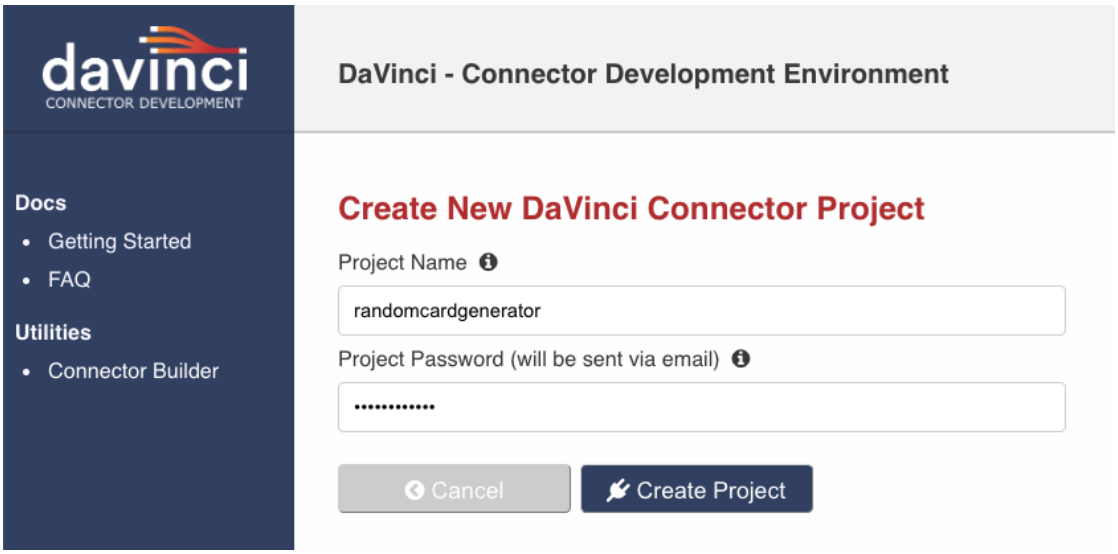
The project dashboard lists all your DaVinci Connector projects. From here, you can manage project settings and services. To create a new project, click the **+ New** button.

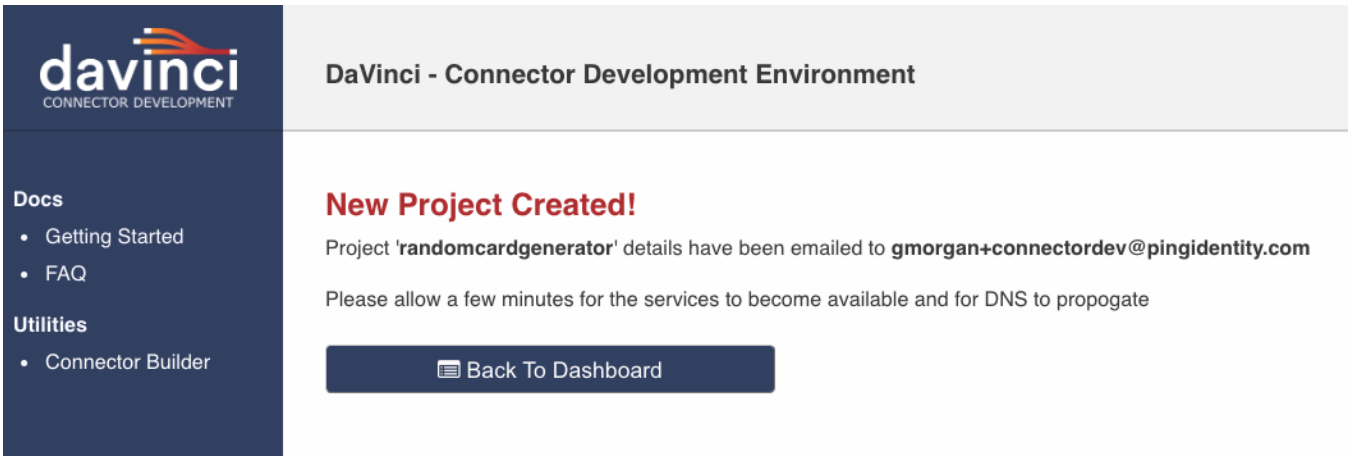
CREATING YOUR FIRST CONNECTOR PROJECT

From the New Connector Project screen, enter a project name and set a project password. This password is separate from your developer user login and is used to authenticate into your project's DaVinci Admin Portal and VS Code instance.

Note: The project name must only include lower-case alphanumeric characters and hyphens.

Click **Deploy Project**





A confirmation message will be displayed and 2 emails will be sent. The first email will contain your project name, service endpoints, and login credentials.

Project 'randomcardgenerator' has been successfully created.

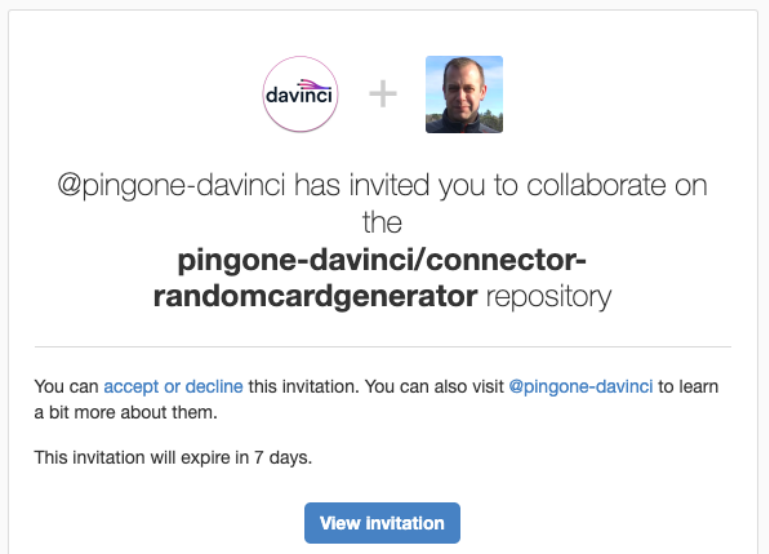
Admin Portal randomcardgenerator-admin-portal.dev-davinci.com
API Endpoint randomcardgenerator-api.dev-davinci.com
VS Code URL randomcardgenerator-vscode.dev-davinci.com

Project Credentials

Username: gmorgan+developer@pingidentity.com
Password: [redacted]

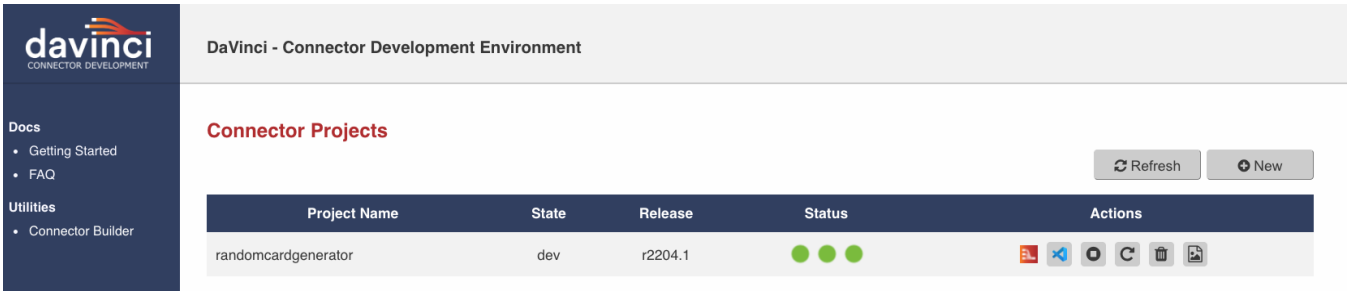
The second email will be a Github repository invitation for your newly created project. Before accepting the invitation, please ensure you are logged into GitHub, otherwise you'll be presented with a 404 error.

Please note that the source repository is private. Only you and Ping Identity will have access to it.



PROJECT DASHBOARD

Back at the project dashboard, your connector projects and their respective statuses are displayed. Once all services are running, you'll see 3 green circles that represent the status of the DaVinci Admin Portal, DaVinci API service, and VS Code.



To launch either the Admin Portal or VS Code for your project, click on their links.

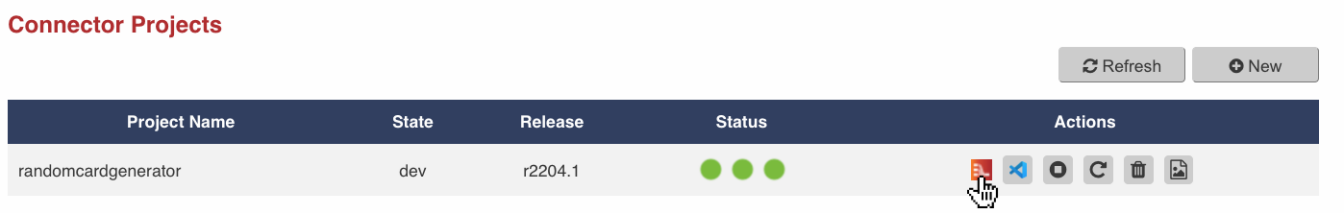
From the Actions list, you can **stop**, **restart** or **delete** the project and upload an **icon** for your Connector.

The dashboard also provides the connector's **release state** (dev, demo, marketplace, prod) and project **release template version**.

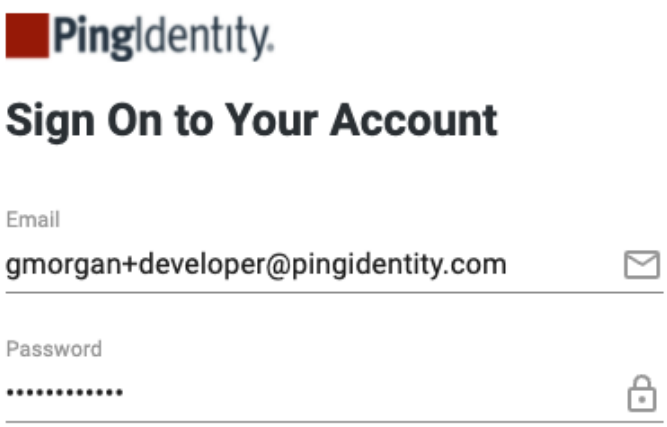
DAVINCI ADMIN PORTAL

While your project is in the **dev** environment, it will run within its own isolated deployment space without access to other DaVinci tenants or projects.

To launch your project's DaVinci Admin Portal, click the portal link.



To login to the portal, enter your **developer account** email address and the **project password** (emailed to you)

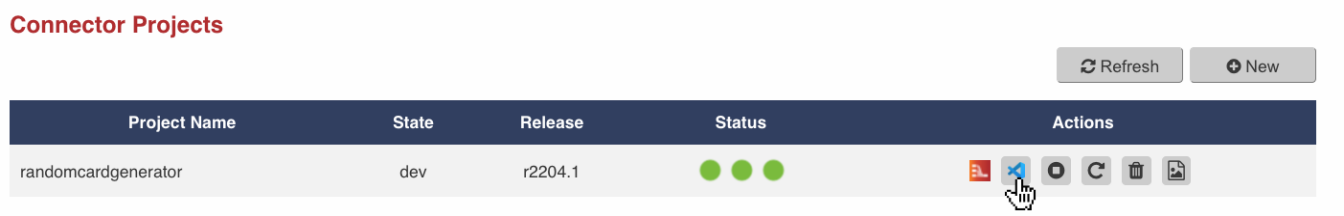


DEVELOPING YOUR CONNECTOR

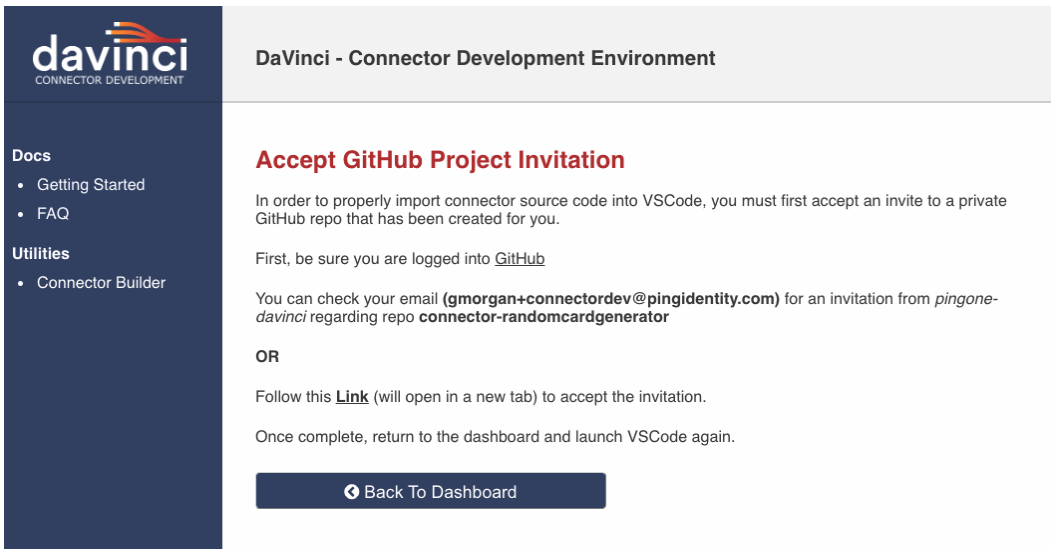
All coding for the connector project is performed in Visual Studio Code. To streamline connector development, the hosted instance of VS Code is preconfigured to publish your project to your DaVinci Admin portal.

From VS Code, you can develop, deploy, debug and execute your project's connector.

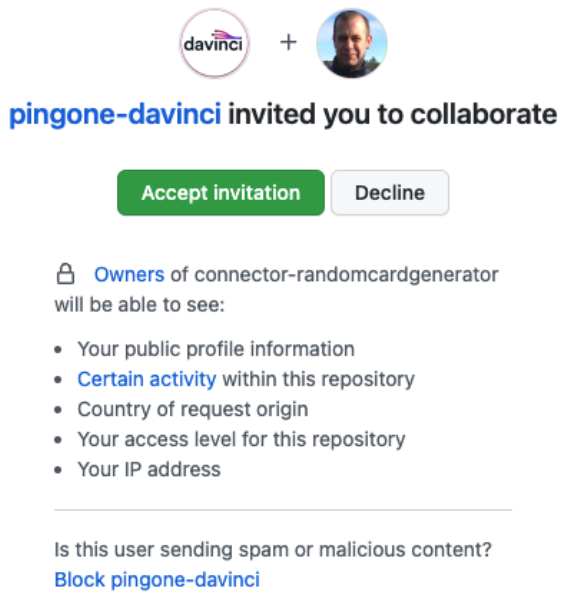
To launch, click on the icon from the project dashboard.



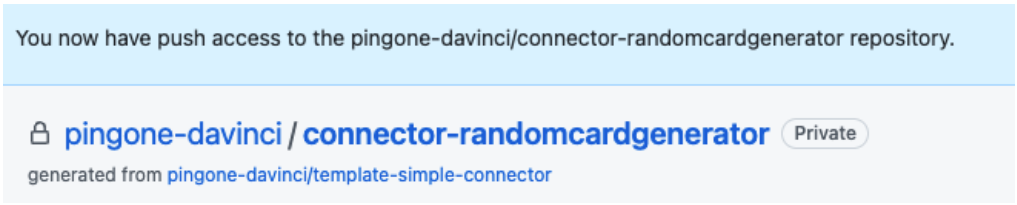
The first time to launch VS Code for your project, a dialog will be presented ensuring that you have accepted the Github repo invitation. Accepting the invitation is required to continue so that the base connector project can be cloned into your workspace.



Ensure you are currently logged into the Github account that the invitation has been sent to otherwise you'll receive a 404 error.

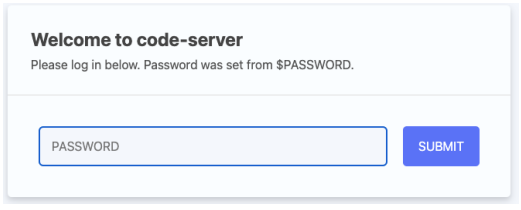


When the invite is accepted in Github, you'll be presented with the repo. You may close this window for now or bookmark it for future reference.



Now, you can return to the dashboard then relaunch VS Code. As the invitation has been accepted you'll be signed into the private instance.

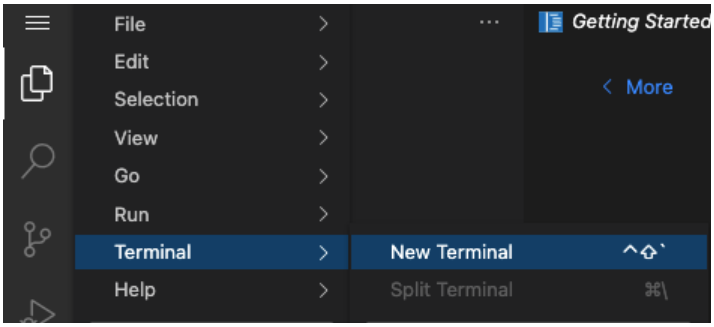
Note: If you bookmark VS Code's URL, you'll need to enter your project's password to successfully log in.



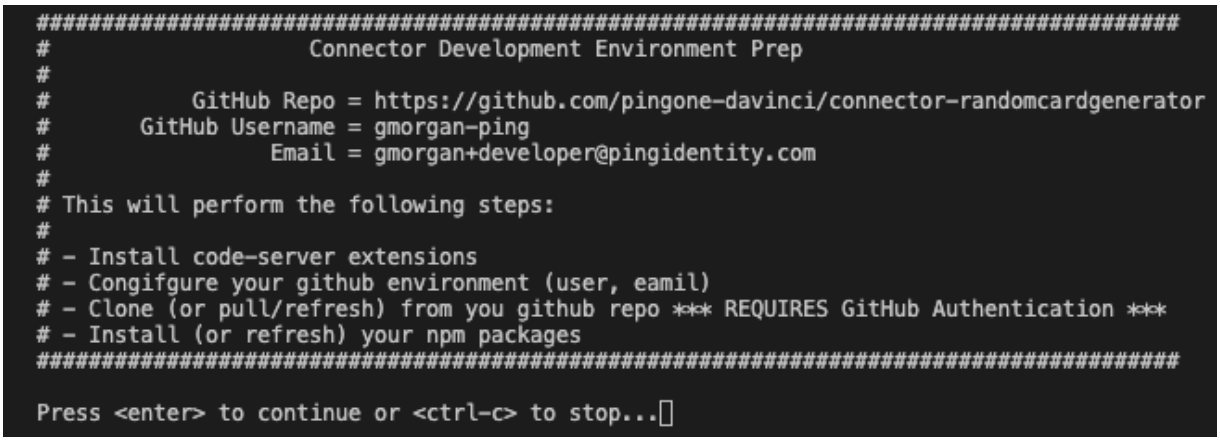
INITIALIZING THE CONNECTOR PROJECT

After launching VS Code for your newly created project, you'll need to initialize the project with your repositories' code base.

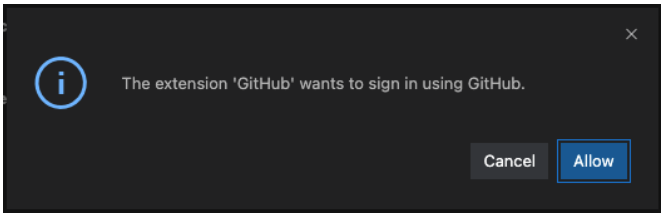
This is done by clicking the top-left menu (☰) then selecting Terminal -> New Terminal



Once the terminal is opened, you'll be prompted to press Enter to kick off the Environment Prep script.

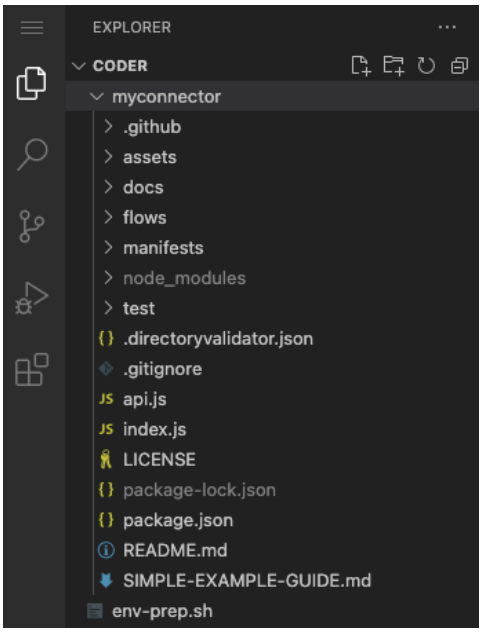


During the initial cloning of the repository, you'll receive a Github authorization prompt, click **Allow**.



Once the env-prep.sh script completes, your environment is ready for connector development!

You'll notice several directories and files have been added.



Assets Directory
This is the location of your connector icon. The icon can be uploaded on the main project dashboard.

Docs Directory
As a part of the connector certification process, you'll be required to provide user documentation in markdown format before the connector is accepted by Ping Identity. See the *Contributed.md* file for more information. The *ReadMe.md* file will be autogenerated from comments in the project's manifest.js file.

Flows Directory
To ensure customers understand how to use your connector, we require you to provide reference flow(s) demonstrating its capabilities.

Manifests Directory
A connector will have at least one manifest.js file that describes the capabilities/attributes/schemas/metadata of your connector.

Test Directory

Place your connector's unit tests in this directory. Note: To ensure the integrity and functionality of your connector, Ping requires unit tests before certification.

CONNECTOR BUILDER OVERVIEW

To quickly get started with building your connector's capabilities, Ping has created a Connector Builder application that enables you to define Connector metadata, attributes, capabilities and input and output schemas.

We recommend that developers new to Connector building, use this tool to ensure that your manifest.js and index.js are well-formed.

You can launch the Connector Builder from the Project Dashboard or at https://davinci-connector.pingidentity.cloud/

GENERAL INFORMATION

Click the Update button within the General Information section to set your Connector's top-level details.

Connector ID
The connector id must be globally unique. Only upper and lowercase letters and numbers are allowed

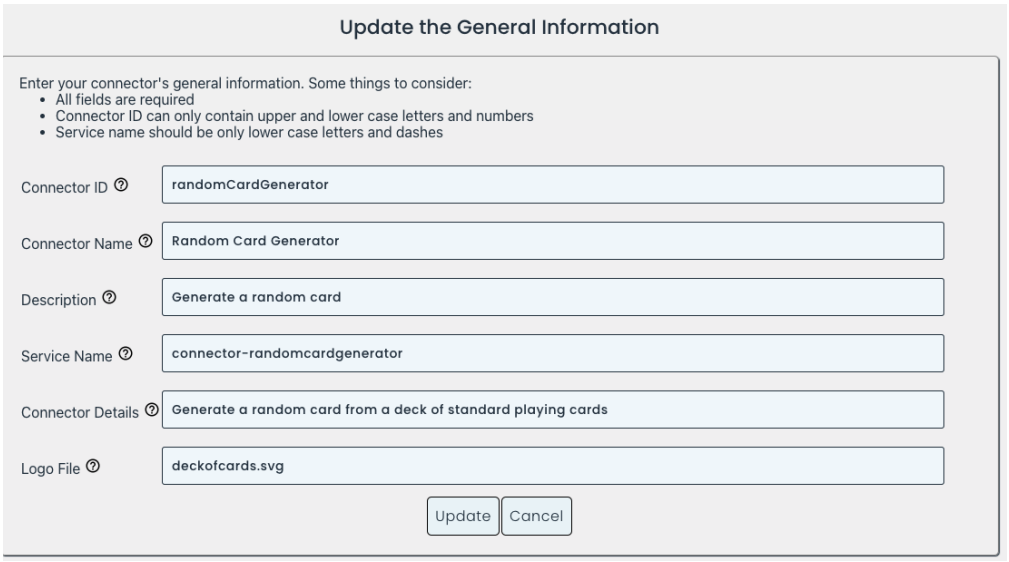
Connector Name
This is a simple string to name your connector. If the service your connector is feature-rich to the extent that you might implement multiple connectors to avoid crowding a single connector with diverse capabilities, try naming your connector specifically with what you are planning to do.

Description
A simple description to briefly explain what the connector does. Keep it brief.

Service Name
This is the ID of the Redis service to and from which events will be exchanged with the orchestration engine. This must be unique to your connector to avoid messaging issues. It is recommended to you the format *connector*-[name]. Note only lowercase letters and dashes are permitted.

Connector Details
This should be a longer description of your connector and its capabilities. It is displayed in the Admin Portal's *Connectors -> New Connector* as a description text field and has ample area to go into more details about the specifics of your connector.

Logo File
The logo file name must match what is being provided in the assets directory in the source repository.



Click **Update** to apply your settings

PROPERTIES

Properties are values that your connector will accept such as API keys, URLs, or input parameters.

Name
The name of the property. Only upper and lowercase letters and numbers are allowed

Display Name
The user-friendly name of the property is shown in the configuration UI

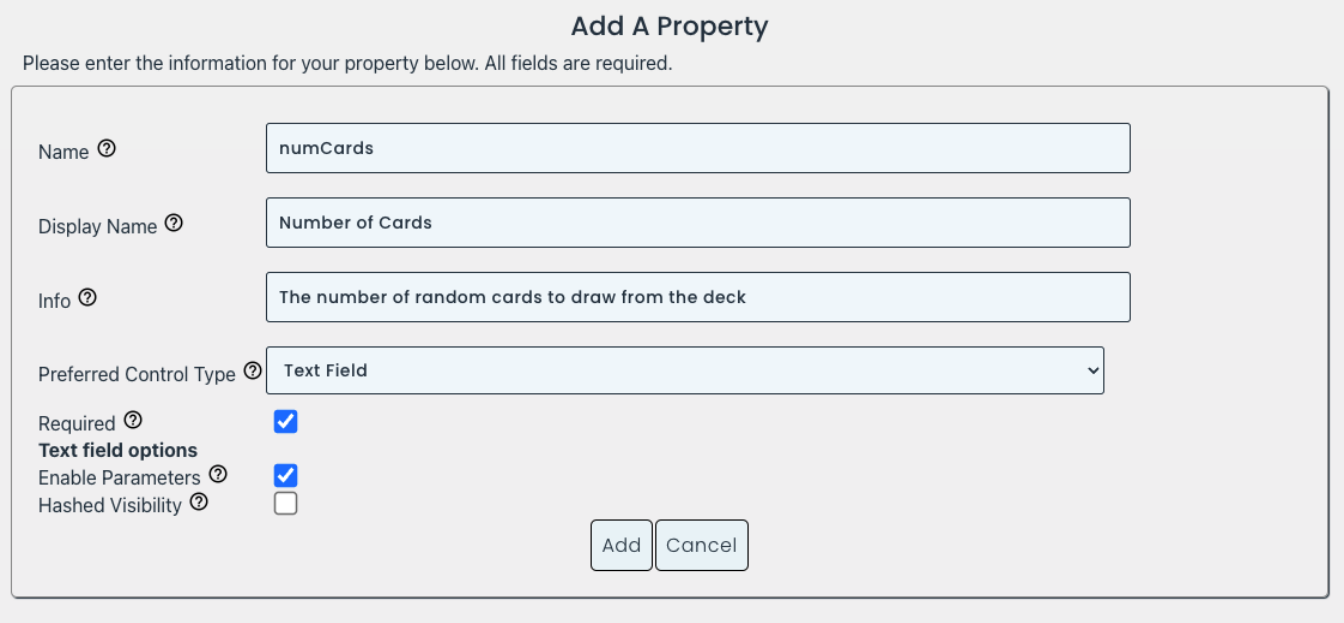
Info
This field is displayed next to the input to describe what the value should be

Preferred Control Type
Governs the type of field that is rendered on the UI panel to assign a value to the property passed into the connector capability when it is invoked

Required
If required, the property value must be configured

Enable Parameters
The enable parameters displays the variable picker tool in the UI field. This button is represented with two curly braces **{}** and allows to pick global variables, flow variables, or output payload from connectors executing earlier in a flow

Hashed Visibility
Hide the values typed into the configuration i.e. sensitive data



Click Add to apply your property. You may have as many properties as needed.

CAPABILITIES

The functionality that your connector will make available. Typically one capability per API call (Eg. updateUser, getRiskScore, setMFADevice)

Click Add to create a Capability

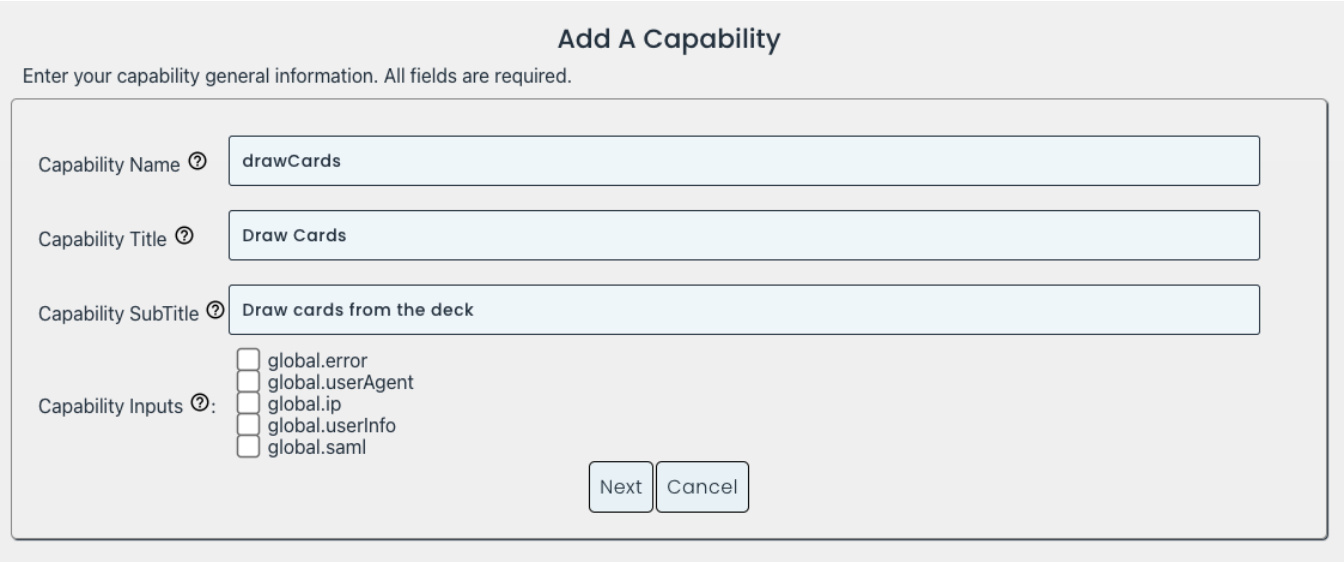
Capability Name
The name of the capability. Only upper and lowercase letters and numbers are allowed

Capability Title
The user-friendly name of the capability as displayed in the connector UI

Capability Subtitle
The subtext for the title of the capability displayed in the connector UI

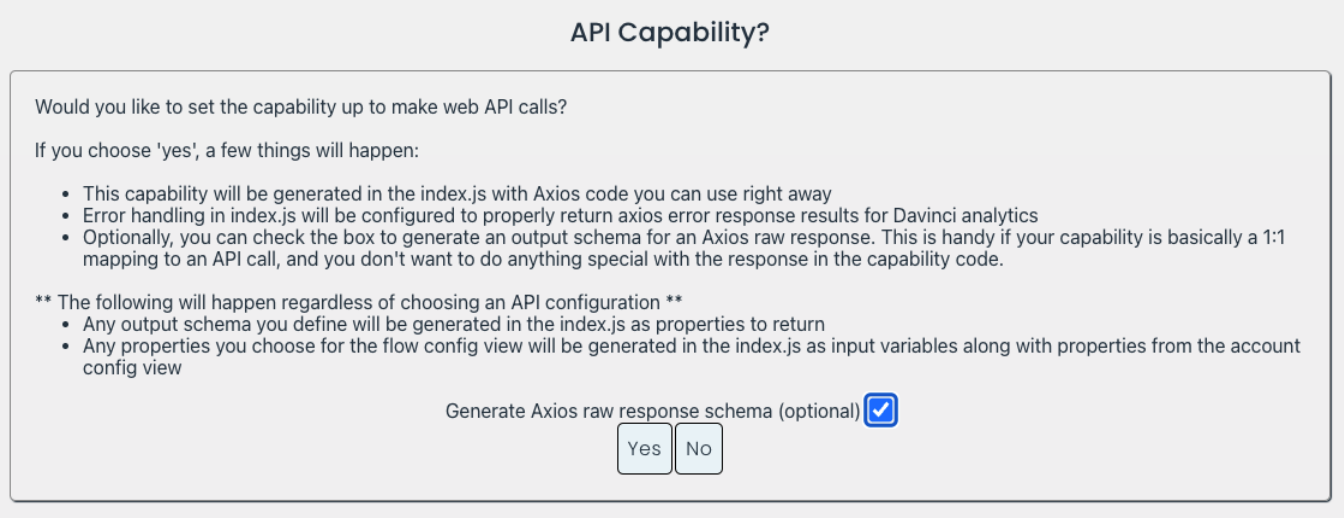
Capability Inputs

These are optional. They are global values that can be passed to the capability. For example, if your capability needed the user's IP address, you would select global.ip

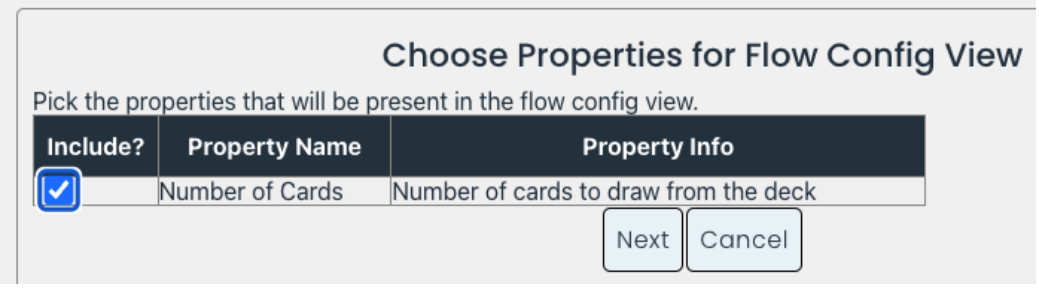


Click Next

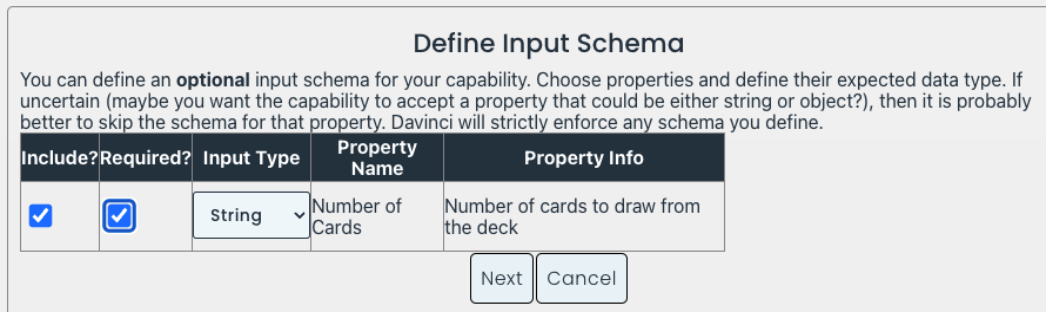
Next, you'll be asked if this capability will make an API call. If it will, select "Generate Axios raw response schema' and click Yes. If your capability doesn't make API calls, select No.



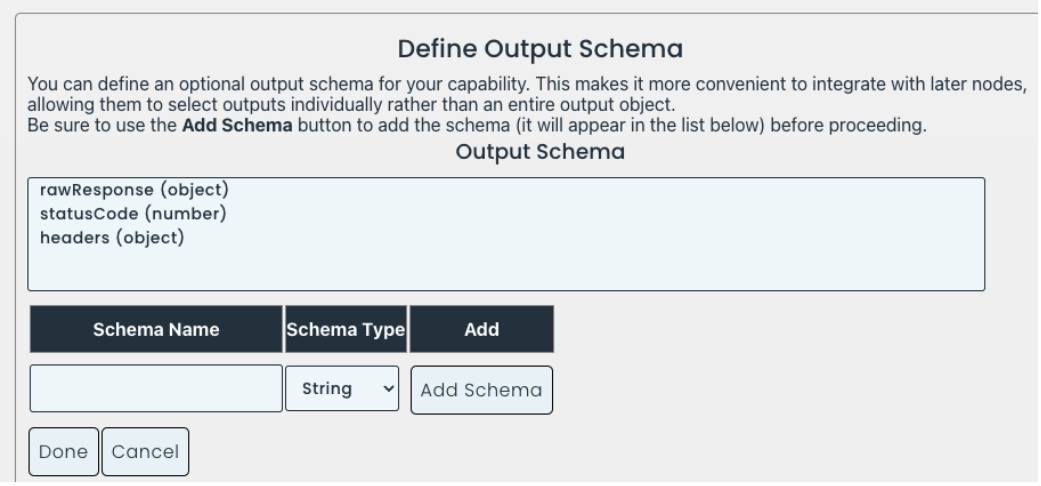
Next, you may select which properties your capability will require.



Next, specify the optional Input Schema



Finally, you can define your output schema. If you are uncertain what JSON payload your capability will return, you may leave this as the default and click done. All configuration changes can also be defined afterward in the manifest.js

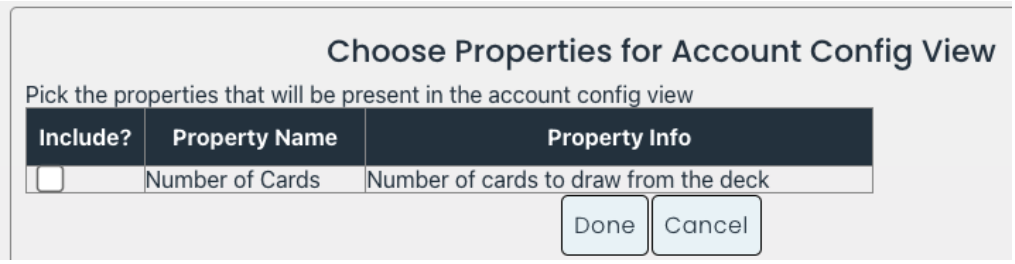


Click Done, and repeat this process if your connector has more than one capability.

ACCOUNT CONFIGURATION VIEW

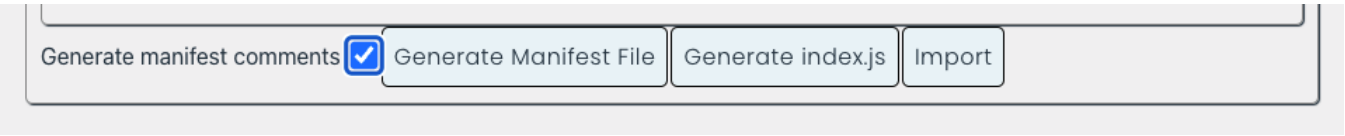
If your connector has global properties you required defining such as API Base URL, Secrets, Client IDs, they can be specified here.

These properties will be displayed in the connector settings tab.

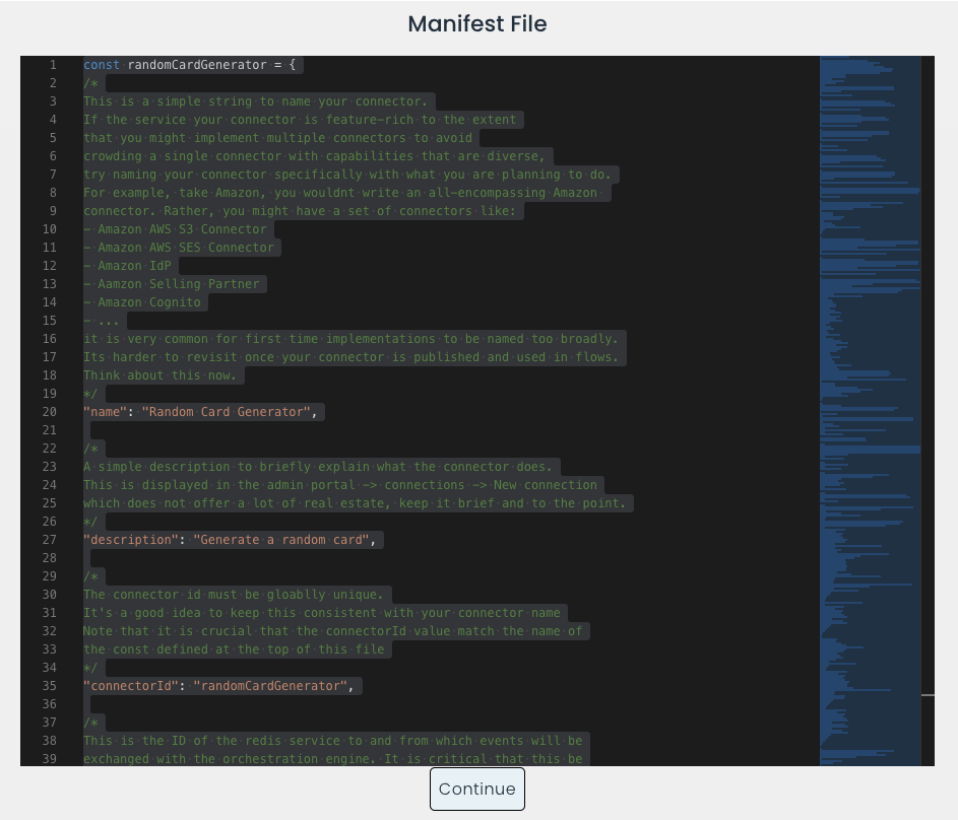


GENERATING MANIFEST AND INDEX JAVASCRIPT FILES

Once the settings have been defined within the Builder application, you can generate your manifest and index javascript files



Click the Generate Manifest File button, then copy all of the displayed text. You can replace the content of your existing manifest file with the generated one. Repeat this process for creating the index.js file



IMPORTING EXISTING MANIFEST

It is possible to import an existing manifest file and modify its properties and capabilities. At present, this feature is experimental and may not produce accurate results.

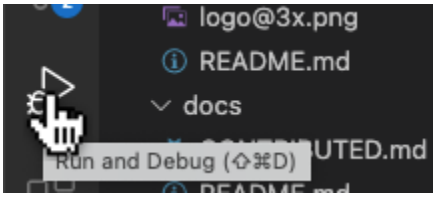
RUNNING AND DEBUGGING

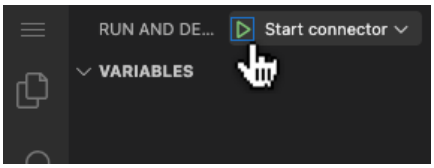
Once you have implemented some or all the connector's capabilities you can launch the connector service from VS Code.

Whenever changes are made to the manifest.js file, you will need to run the script **update-manifest.sh** from the terminal. The update-manifest script updates the database that DaVinci uses to populate the connector list in the Admin Portal.

```
PROBLEMS 1   OUTPUT   TERMINAL   DEBUG CONSOLE

coder@vscode-0:~$ update-manifest

################################################################################
#               Updating Manifest via SDK (proxy on TAP vscode)
#
#    Manifest File: /home/coder/myconnector/manifests/manifest.js
#
################################################################################

{"time":"2022-03-25T12:01:18.191Z","logLevel":"info","message":"SingularKey Logging Started..."}
{"time":"2022-03-25T12:01:18.199Z","logLevel":"info","message":"Initiating communication with proxy"}
(node:886) Warning: Accessing non-existent property 'initalize' of module exports inside circular dependency
(Use `node --trace-warnings ...` to show where the warning was created)
null listening at http(s)://localhost:9393
{"time":"2022-03-25T12:01:18.670Z","logLevel":"info","message":"Updating Manifest"}
{"time":"2022-03-25T12:01:18.696Z","logLevel":"info","message":"Updated Manifest"}
coder@vscode-0:~$
```

Next, you'll need to start the connector microservice by clicking Run and Debug from the left menu, then **Start Connector**. If you have any breakpoints set, the connector when launched within a flow will break at those breakpoints allowing you to inspect your code.



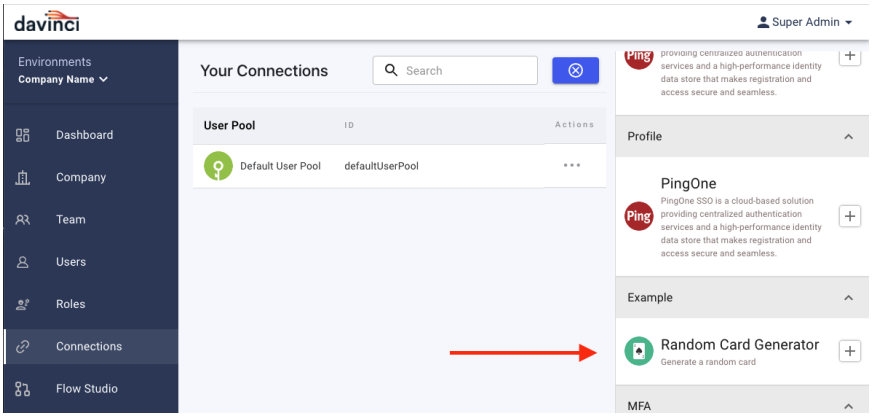


USING YOUR CONNECTOR

Once the update-manifest script has been executed and your connector is running, you will be able to use it within DaVinci.

Navigate to the project's instance of the Admin Portal then to Connections.

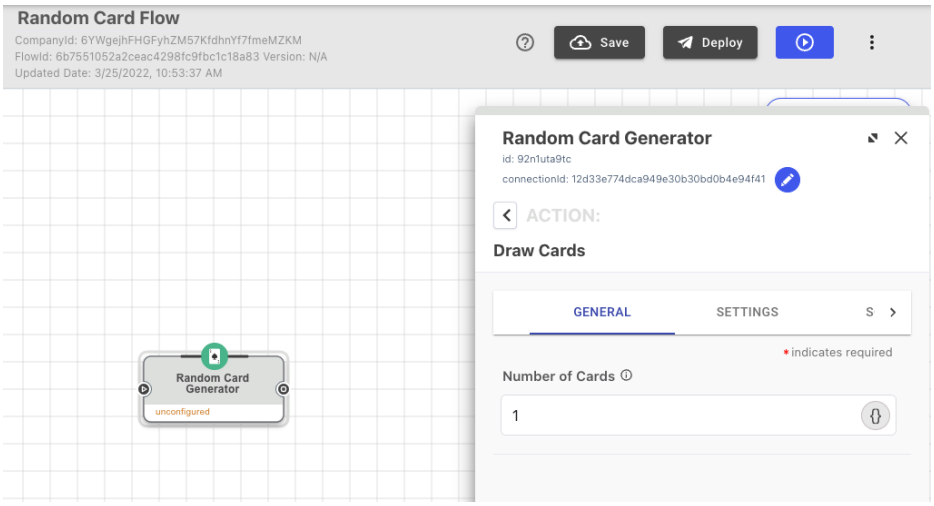
From the Add Connections list, your connector should appear. Note the category your connector appears in is specified in the manifest.js file.



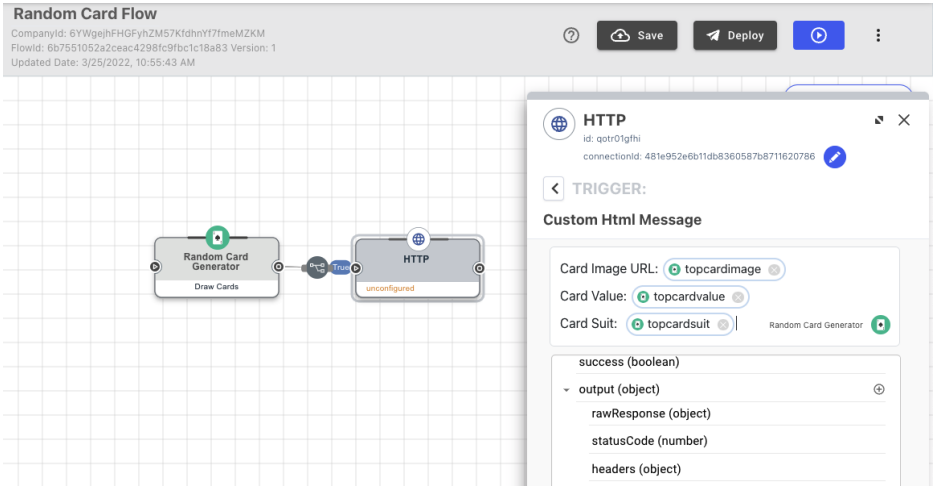
Click the **+** button to add. Give the instance a name and click **Create**

In the Flow Studio, create a new flow and add your connector.

Select the capability and enter the properties.



Next, you may wish to display the results of your connector. In this example, an HTTP connector is used

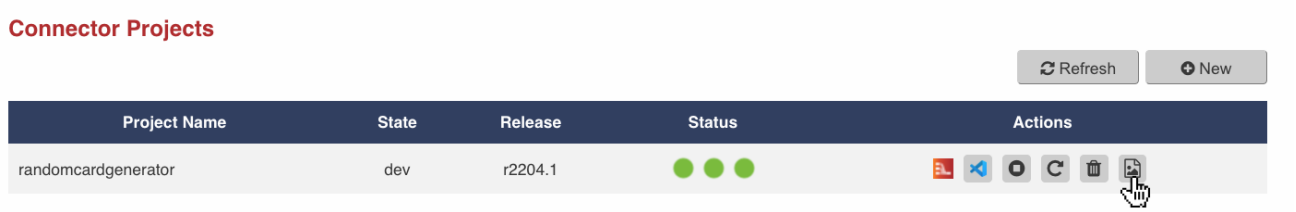


Save, deploy and run your flow.

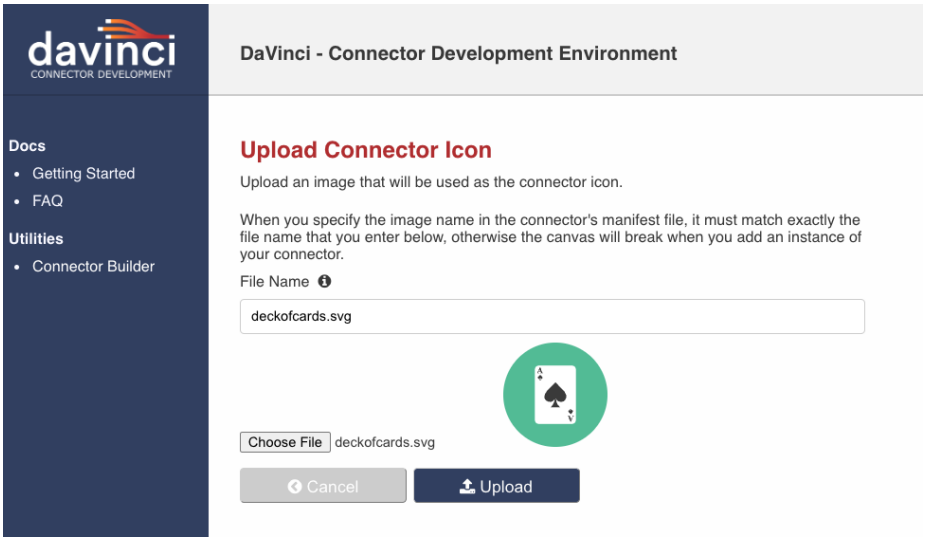
If you have breakpoints, the flow will pause.

ADDING CONNECTOR ICON

Adding your connector's icon is done on the project dashboard. Click the icon button for your project



The file name and uploaded file name must match what is declared in your manifest.js file



SAVING CHANGES BACK TO GITHUB

While the VS Code instances have mounted volumes, you'll want to routinely commit your changes back into Github.

Initially, your branch is Main, however, you are not permitted to directly update Main without performing a pull request.

For routine development, it is recommended that you create a topic branch while it is in active development, then once your connector is ready for submission perform a pull request.

```
coder@vscode-0:~/myconnector$ git status
On branch dev-branch
Changes not staged for commit:
  (use "git add <file>..." to update what will be committed)
  (use "git checkout -- <file>..." to discard changes in working directory)

        modified:   index.js
        modified:   manifests/manifest.js

no changes added to commit (use "git add" and/or "git commit -a")
coder@vscode-0:~/myconnector$ git add .
coder@vscode-0:~/myconnector$ git commit -m "Implemented drawCard capability"
[dev-branch c7d8282] Implemented drawCard capability
 2 files changed, 257 insertions(+), 438 deletions(-)
 rewrite index.js (67%)
 rewrite manifests/manifest.js (98%)
coder@vscode-0:~/myconnector$ git push origin dev-branch
Enumerating objects: 9, done.
Counting objects: 100% (9/9), done.
Delta compression using up to 4 threads
Compressing objects: 100% (5/5), done.
Writing objects: 100% (5/5), 2.84 KiB | 2.84 MiB/s, done.
Total 5 (delta 1), reused 0 (delta 0)
remote: Resolving deltas: 100% (1/1), completed with 1 local object.
remote:
remote: Create a pull request for 'dev-branch' on GitHub by visiting:
remote:      https://github.com/pingone-davinci/connector-randomcardgenerator/pull/new/dev-branch
remote:
To https://github.com/pingone-davinci/connector-randomcardgenerator.git
 * [new branch]      dev-branch -> dev-branch
coder@vscode-0:~/myconnector$
```