

NUROX API SPECIFICATION LANGUAGE (NASL)

Technical Specification

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0 Foreword (non-normative)

This specification was developed by nuroX in cooperation with domain experts from software configuration management, DevOps SMEs, and enterprise-grade software developers. It aims to fill the discoverability and contract-management gaps left by existing code-first and schema-centric approaches (e.g., OpenAPI, gRPC-Protobuf). The language defined herein—NASL, the NUROX API Specification Language—is designed for global use across industries that rely on REST-style or REST-like HTTP interfaces.

1 Scope

This document specifies:

- Syntax and semantics of NASL files expressed in YAML 1.2 (§5-§7).
- Rules for declaring endpoints, parameters, request/response payloads, versioning, and non-functional hints such as cacheability and idempotency (§6).
- Conformance requirements for tooling (validators, code generators, linter plugins) and for NASL documents that claim compliance (§8).
- Interoperability mapping guidelines to widely-adopted specifications such as OpenAPI 3.1, AsyncAPI 3.0, GraphQL SDL, and gRPC Protobuf (§9).

The specification **does not** define transport security, authentication, or message encryption; it references existing standards (TLS 1.3, OAuth 2.1, OIDC 2.0) for those concerns.

2 Normative References

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this specification. For dated references, only the edition cited applies; for undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

Ref ID	Title	Publisher
[RFC 9110]	HTTP Semantics	IETF (RFC Editor)
[RFC 8259] The JavaScript Object Notation (JSON) Data Interchange Format		IETF (<u>IETF Datatracker</u>)
[YAML 1.2]	YAML Ain't Markup Language — Version 1.2	yaml.org (<u>yaml.org</u>)
[JSON-Schema-	A Media Type for Describing JSON	JSON Schema WG / IETF draft
Core 2020-12]	Documents	2020-12 (json-schema.org)
[RFC 8927]	JSON Type Definition (JTD)	IETF (RFC Editor)
[OAS 3.1]	OpenAPI Specification Version 3.1	OpenAPI Initiative (OpenAPI Initiative Publications)
[IANA-JSON]	Media-type registration application/json	IANA (<u>IANA</u>)



[RFC 3986]	Uniform Resource Identifier (URI): Generic Syntax	IETF (<u>IETF Datatracker</u>)
[AsyncAPI 3.0]	AsyncAPI Specification v3.0	AsyncaPI Initiative (asyncapi.com)
[SAE EIA-649C]	Configuration Management Standard	SAE International (<u>SAE</u> International)

3 Terms, Definitions, and Abbreviations

TERM	DEFINITION
CACHEABLE	Response may be stored by clients or intermediaries in accordance with RFC 9111.
CONFORMANCE CLASS	Subset of NASL functionality against which a product or document can claim compliance (see §8).
EBNF	Extended Backus-Naur Form—a family of metasyntax notations, any of which can be used to express a context-free grammar.
ENDPOINT	A unique pair of path + HTTP method exposed by a service.
NASL	NUROX API Specification Language—a YAML-based, contract-first description language for HTTP APIs.
PROJECTION	Tailored response model optimised for a consumer's context (e.g., dashboard widget).

4 Introduction

4.1. Problem Statement

In code-first ecosystems (e.g., .NET minimal APIs) the contract for an endpoint like

app.MapGet("/api/scrm/dashboard", ([AsParameters] DashboardQuery q) => ...);

is **implicit**—developers must delve into source files, IDE hover docs, or generated Swagger to learn the required query parameters and payload shape. This hampers:

- Contract-first development and parallel front-/back-end work.
- UX design reviews by non-developers.
- Automated compliance checks (e.g., GDPR field exposure, PCI masking).

4.2. Objective of NASL

NASL makes the contract **explicit and centrally governed**. A NASL excerpt:



```
endpoints:
    - id: dashboard-summary
    path: "/"
    method: GET
    parameters:
        - name: dateFrom ; type: datetime ; default: "30 days ago"
        - name: dateTo ; type: datetime ; default: "now"
        - name: entityType; type: enum[all,supplier,customer] ; default: all
        response: DashboardSummaryView
        cacheable: true
```

delivers a self-contained, diff-friendly artefact that:

- Accelerates front-end mocking and CI tests.
- Enables static validation before runtime.
- **Provides** a single source of truth for auditors, architects, and integrators.

5 Overview (Informative)

NASL is deliberately *small-surface*, *big-impact*: five design pillars (Table 5-1) map cleanly onto the stages you already run through in product design, implementation and release. The diagram on the previous page shows each pillar lighting-up a tangible component in the tool-chain.

5.1. Feature-to-Component Map

NASL PILLAR	WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE IN THE FILE	WHICH COMPONENT(S) USE IT	CONCRETE PAY-OFF
YAML 1.2 grammar	Indent-only, comment- friendly docspath: "/orders/{id}"	Design Tools → NASL Spec → Document Parser	UX or BA can diff & review the contract in Git before any code exists.
Strict type system	type: enum[jet, avgas, diesel]union[Card, Wire, Crypto]	Schema Validator → Type System → Code Generator	Build breaks the moment a wrong value sneaks in; generated DTOs carry the same guarantees into .NET 9 & TS 5.
Non- functional metadata	cacheable: trueidempotent: PUTtimeout: 3s	API Generator → Generated Artifacts	Ops can wire HTTP caching & retries straight from the spec—no tribal knowledge.
Tool-chain- agnostic	Sqialect: nasi/2025-07		Same NASL file produces controllers, clients <i>and</i> human docs. Language wars avoided.
Semantic versioning	service.version: v1.2.0deprecated: 2026- 01-31	Registry → Backend / Frontend build gates	SBOMs & pipelines know exactly which breaking changes land when; old clients keep compiling against v1.1.* until ready.
	YAML 1.2 grammar Strict type system Non-functional metadata Tool-chain-agnostic Semantic	YAML 1.2 grammar Indent-only, comment-friendly docspath: "/orders/{id}" Strict type system type: enum[jet, avgas, diesel]union[Card, Wire, Crypto] Non-functional metadata cacheable: trueidempotent: PUTtimeout: 3s Tool-chainagnostic \$dialect: nasl/2025-07 Semantic versioning service.version: v1.2.0deprecated: 2026-version: v1.2.0deprecated: v1.2.0deprecated	THE FILE COMPONENT(S) USE IT THE FILE COMPONENT(S) USE IT THE FILE COMPONENT(S) USE IT COMPONENT(S) USE IT COMPONENT(S) USE IT COMPONENT(S) USE IT Design Tools → NASL Spec → Document Parser Strict type system type: enum[jet, avgas, diesel]union[Card, Wire, Crypto] Cacheable: trueidempotent: purtimeout: 3s Tool-chain- agnostic API Generator → Generated Artifacts Transpiler targets: .NET 9, Rust 1.80, TS 5.x Registry → Backend / Frontend build gates



5.2. Happy-Path Through the Ecosystem

1. Design kick-off

A UX designer in Figma sketches a new "Widget 1" widget → exports an endpoint checklist into the repo. A systems engineer writes the matching NASL snippet.

2. Validation & Registry

A commit hook calls the Validation CLI. $Pass \rightarrow$ the spec is version-tagged, signed, and stored in the NASL Registry under dashboard/1.2.0.nasl.yaml.

3. Code & Doc Generation

The same CI job invokes:

- Code Generator → .cs minimal-API stubs + strong-typed Widget1Query record.
- Documentation Generator → HTML site & internal PDF.
- API Generator → OpenAPI 3.1 overlay for external integrators.
 Artifacts land in *Generated Artifacts* and flow to both Backend and Frontend pods.

4. Implementation

Backend devs open Widget1Controller.cs containing empty handler stubs and TODO markers.

Front-end devs import @nurox/sdk/dashboard generated from the same spec—no manual typings needed.

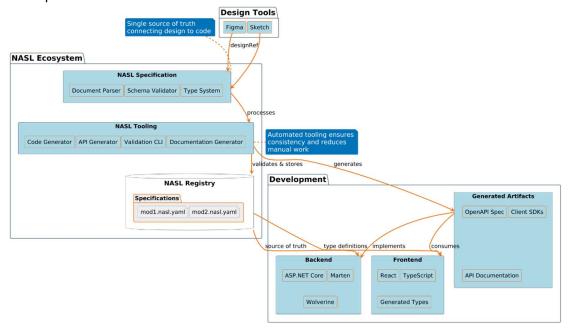
5. Runtime

Live pods fetch the signed spec from the Registry at boot:

- If a breaking major version appears (v2 .x), pods can refuse to start, alerting Ops.
- Non-breaking minors (v1.3.0) hot-load if the strict type check passes.

6. Governance & Audit

Because every NASL file carries Classification: Proprietary & Confidential, DLP scanners can flag leaks; CM tooling (SAE EIA-649C compliant) traces every deployed artifact back to its exact spec hash.





6 NASL EBNF Grammar (Normative)

6.1. Grammar

6.1.1. Top-level document structure

6.1.2. NASL-related

```
(* Specification section *)
<specification> ::= "specification:" <newline> <indent> <spec-fields>
<spec-fields> ::= <version-field> <module-field> <interface-field> <design-ref-</pre>
field>
                  [<description-field>] [<tags-field>]
<version-field> ::= "version:" <string> <newline>
<module-field> ::= "module:" <pascal-case-identifier> <newline>
<interface-field> ::= "interface:" <pascal-case-identifier> <newline>
<design-ref-field> ::= "designRef:" <uri> <newline>
<description-field> ::= "description:" <string> <newline>
<tags-field> ::= "tags:" <string-array> <newline>
(* Authorship section *)
<authorship> ::= "authorship:" <newline> <indent> <authorship-fields>
<authorship-fields> ::= <principal-field> <witness-field> <created-at-field>
                        <last-modified-field> <change-log-field>
<principal-field> ::= "principal:" <email> <newline>
<witness-field> ::= "witness:" <email> <newline>
<created-at-field> ::= "createdAt:" <iso-datetime> <newline>
<last-modified-field> ::= "lastModified:" <iso-datetime> <newline>
<change-log-field> ::= "changeLog:" <newline> <change-log-entries>
<change-log-entries> ::= {<change-log-entry>}
<change-log-entry> ::= <indent> "-" <change-entry-fields>
<change-entry-fields> ::= "date:" <iso-date> <newline>
                          "author:" <email> <newline>
                          "witness:" <email> <newline>
                          "changes:" <string> <newline>
                          ["version:" <version-string> <newline>]
```



6.1.3. Target Platform

6.1.4. API Configuration

```
(* API Configuration *)
<api> ::= "api:" <newline> <indent> <api-fields>
<api-fields> ::= <base-field> <authentication> <versioning> [<rate-limit>]
[<cors>]
<base-field> ::= "base:" <api-path> <newline>
<api-path> ::= "/" {<path-segment>}
<path-segment> ::= <kebab-case-identifier> "/"
<authentication> ::= "authentication:" <newline> <indent> <auth-fields>
<auth-fields> ::= "type:" <auth-type> <newline>
                  "rationale:" <string> <newline>
                  ["config:" <config-object> <newline>]
<auth-type> ::= "jwt-bearer" | "api-key" | "oauth2" | "cookie-session" | "mutual-
tls"
<versioning> ::= "versioning:" <newline> <indent> <versioning-fields>
<versioning-fields> ::= "strategy:" <versioning-strategy> <newline>
                        "rationale:" <string> <newline>
                        ["config:" <config-object> <newline>]
<versioning-strategy> ::= "header" | "url-path" | "query-param" | "content-
negotiation"
```

6.1.5. Projections



6.1.6. Endpoints

```
(* Endpoints *)
<endpoints> ::= "endpoints:" <newline> {<endpoint-entry>}
<endpoint-entry> ::= <indent> "-" <endpoint-fields>
<endpoint-fields> ::= "id:" <kebab-case-identifier> <newline>
                       "path:" <endpoint-path> <newline>
                       "method:" <http-method> <newline>
                       "description:" <string> <newline>
                       "platforms:" <platform-array> <newline>
                       [<parameters>]
                       [<body>]
                       <response>
                       [<endpoint-metadata>]
<http-method> ::= "GET" | "POST" | "PUT" | "PATCH" | "DELETE"
<platform-array> ::= "[" ("all" | <platform-list>) "]"
<platform-list> ::= <string> {"," <string>}
<parameters> ::= "parameters:" <newline> {<parameter-entry>}
<parameter-entry> ::= <indent> "-" <parameter-fields>
<parameter-fields> ::= "name:" <identifier> <newline>
                        "type:" <type-spec> <newline>
                        "location: " <param-location> <newline>
                        ["required:" <boolean> <newline>]
                        ["default:" <value> <newline>]
                        ["validation:" <string> <newline>]
<param-location> ::= "query" | "path" | "header"
<body> ::= "body:" <newline> <indent> <body-fields>
<body-fields> ::= "type:" <type-reference> <newline>
                   ["required:" <boolean> <newline>]
<response> ::= "response:" <newline> <indent> <response-fields>
<response-fields> ::= "type:" <type-reference> <newline>
                       ["status:" <http-status> <newline>]
                       ["cacheable:" <boolean> <newline>]
                       ["ttl:" <integer> <newline>]
```

6.1.1. Data Contracts



6.1.2. Type Specifications

6.1.3. UI Widget Bindings

6.1.4. Common Rules

```
(* Common Rules *)
<identifier> ::= <letter> {<letter> | <digit> | "_"}
<pascal-case-identifier> ::= <upper-letter> {<letter> | <digit>}
<camel-case-identifier> ::= <lower-letter> {<letter> | <digit>}
<kebab-case-identifier> ::= <lower-letter> {<lower-letter> | <digit> | "-"}
<string> ::= '"' {<any-char-except-quote>} '"'
<integer> ::= ["-"] <digit> {<digit>}
<number> ::= <integer> ["." <digit> {<digit>}]
<boolean> ::= "true" | "false"
<email> ::= <identifier> "@" <identifier> "." <identifier>
<uri> ::= <scheme> "://" <host> {<path-segment>}
<iso-datetime> ::= <iso-date> "T" <time> "Z"
<iso-date> ::= <year> "-" <month> "-" <day>
<duration> ::= <integer> ("s" | "m" | "h" | "d")
<version-string> ::= <integer> "." <integer> ["." <integer>]
<value> ::= <string> | <number> | <boolean> | <null>
<string-array> ::= "[" [<string> {"," <string>}] "]"
<config-object> ::= "{" {<identifier> ":" <value>} "}"
```



6.1.5. Character Classes

6.2. EBNF Tree

6.2.1. NASL Document

```
NASL Document
   · YAML Header (required)

    File path comment

    NASL version comment

    specification (required)

    — version: string
     -- module: PascalCase
     -- interface: PascalCase
     -- designRef: URI
      - description: string (optional)
    tags: string[] (optional)
   authorship (required)
    -- principal: email
       - witness: email
       - createdAt: ISO datetime

    lastModified: ISO datetime

        changeLog: array
        - entry
              - date: ISO date
              - author: email
              - witness: email
              changes: string
            version: string (optional)
   platforms (required)
     -- platform[]
            type: enum
             — responsive-web
              ios-app
              — android-app
              desktop-app
             — api-only
           - versions: string[] (optional)
          - breakpoints: enum[] (optional)
              - mobile
               - tablet
              desktop
              - wide
            capabilities: string[] (optional)
```



```
api (required)
  - base: path (/api/...)

    authentication

        type: enum
           - jwt-bearer
           - api-key
           - oauth2
           cookie-session
          mutual-tls
       rationale: string
    config: object (optional)
   versioning
      - strategy: enum
          header
           - url-path
           - query-param
          content-negotiation
       rationale: string
      config: object (optional)
    rateLimit (optional)
       requests: integer
        window: duration
    cors (optional)
      - origins: string[]
      — methods: HTTP method[]
endpoints (required)
-- endpoint[]
      - id: kebab-case
       path: string
        method: enum
          - GET
            POST
          - PUT
           - PATCH
        L- DELETE
      - description: string
        platforms: array
          - "all" | platform-type[]
        parameters (optional)
          - parameter[]
               - name: identifier
               type: type-spec
               location: enum
                  - query
                   - path
                L— header
               - required: boolean (optional)
               - default: value (optional)
             — validation: string (optional)
        body (optional)
           - type: type-reference
            required: boolean (optional)
```



```
response
           - type: type-reference

    status: HTTP status (optional)

           - cacheable: boolean (optional)
           - ttl: integer (optional)
           - realtime: boolean (optional)
           paginated: boolean (optional)
         — pageSize: integer (optional)
       handler: string (optional)
        projection: string (optional)
       - widgets: string[] (optional)
      authorization: string (optional)
       rateLimit: object (optional)
        deprecated: boolean (optional)
        deprecationNotice: string (optional)
projections (optional)
   projection[]
       name: PascalCase
        type: enum (optional)
           - marten-aggregate
           - event-view
           - sql-view

    cached-view

       - sources: string[]
       refreshStrategy: enum
           - real-time
           - event-driven
           - scheduled
          on-demand
       refreshRate: duration (optional)
        retention: duration (optional)
       - indexes: string[] (optional)
data-contracts (optional)
    [TypeName: PascalCase]
        description: string (optional)
        fields
            [fieldName: camelCase]
                type: type-spec
                   - Primitives
                       - string
                        number
                        boolean
                        datetime
                        date
                       - time
                   Complex Types
                       - Type[]
                                          (array)
                       - enum[...]
                                         (enumeration)
                       - number[min-max] (range)
                       Type?
                                         (nullable)

    TypeReference

                                         (custom type)
               description: string (optional)
               required: boolean (optional)
                validation: string (optional)
                widget: kebab-case (optional)
                example: value (optional)
```



6.2.2. Visual Type System Tree

```
Type System
   Primitive Types
      string
       - number
       - boolean
       - datetime
       - date
      - time
    Composite Types
    - Array: Type[]
     -- Enum: enum[value1, value2, ...]
      -- Range: number[min-max]
    Nullable: Type?
    Type References

    PascalCaseTypeName

   Value Types
       - string: "text"
       number: 123, 45.67

    boolean: true, false

       - null
       - object: { key: value }
```

6.2.3. Naming Convention Tree



6.3. NASL Class Diagram (informative)

Annex A provides the respective UML-class re5presentation of this language.

7 Conformance Requirements

A product, service, or document **MAY** advertise itself as **"NASL-Conformant"** only when *all* requirements in § 6.1–§ 6.5 are met.

Where the word **MUST** appears, fulfilment is mandatory for *every* conformance class; **SHOULD** marks strong recommendations; **MAY** marks optional features.

7.1. Schema-Validity Test (C-01)

- a) A NASL file MUST validate against the normative JSON Schema published at https://spec.nurox.ai/nasl/2025-07/schema/core.json.
- b) Validation is performed with the JSON Schema 2020-12 processor operating in *strict* mode (no implicit type coercion).
- Implementers SHOULD expose CLI/CI targets named nasl-validate to automate this test.

7.2. Reference-Resolution Test (C-02)

- a) \$ref keywords MUST resolve:
- b) Relative paths inside the same document.
- c) Cross-document URIs rooted at the NASL Registry (nasl://registry/...) or HTTP(S).
- d) Resolvers MUST NOT access file-system paths outside the spec root (.. escapements are illegal).
- e) Cyclic \$ref chains MUST raise a validation error.

7.3. Conformance Classes & Feature Matrix (C-03)

Class	Core Goals	Mandatory Sections / Keywords	Optional in lower classes?
A — Core Syntax	Basic contract- first interop	specification, authorship, platforms, all endpoints without body/response complex types	N/A
B — Extended Types	Typed payloads & data- contracts	Everything in Class A plus data-contracts, complex type-spec, nullable, enum, range, array syntax	Yes
C — Non- Functional	Runtime & ops metadata	All of Class B plus : cacheable, ttl, realtime, paginated, rateLimit, cors, platforms.breakpoint, projections section	Yes



Binding UX glue layer Class C plus widget-bindings Yes (future)		UX glue layer	Class C plus widget-bindings	Yes
--	--	---------------	-------------------------------------	-----

Claiming a higher class automatically implies conformance to all lower classes.

<u>Implementer rule-of-thumb:</u>

- a) CLI validators MUST fail if a document declares conformance: B but omits any B-level keyword.
- b) Runtime libraries SHOULD ignore unknown keywords unless they start with x-nasl, in which case they SHOULD surface them via an extension mechanism.

7.4. Forward-Compatibility Rule (C-04)

Parsers MUST:

- a) Ignore unknown top-level keys and endpoint-level keywords that are not defined in the declared \$schema version.
- b) Preserve the order and verbatim content of unrecognized key/value pairs when round-tripping (load \rightarrow modify \rightarrow save).
- c) Fail hard only when a future keyword conflicts with a required one (e.g., two path keys).

7.5. Document-Structure Checklist (Informative)

SECTION	REQ'D IN CLASS	NOTES
YAML HEADER COMMENTS	А	Must show file path & NASL version
SPECIFICATION.VERSION	Α	Follows semver (major.minor.patch)
AUTHORSHIP.PRINCIPAL	Α	Valid RFC 5322 email
API.AUTHENTICATION.TYPE	Α	Selection from fixed enum
BODY.TYPE & RESPONSE.TYPE	В	type-reference MUST point into data-contracts
RESPONSE.CACHEABLE	С	Boolean; ttl optional but integer seconds if present
PROJECTIONS	С	If projection.type: sql-view then indexes SHOULD be non-empty
WIDGET-BINDINGS	D	Requires dataPath JSONPath pointer

A convenient **one-page PDF checklist** is provided in Annex B for audit teams.



7.6. Conformance Statement Template

```
Product XYZ version ... claims NASL Class B Conformance.

Validation results:
- C-01: Pass (schema hash alb2c3d...)
- C-02: Pass (all $ref resolved)
- C-03: Class B features complete
- C-04: Parser ignores unknown x-acme-feature extension
```

Vendors SHOULD attach this statement (or machine-readable JSON) to release artefacts for automated supply-chain scanning.

7.7. Non-Conformance Handling

Any violation of **C-01–C-04 MUST** raise a NASL-ERR-CONFORMANCE error with:

```
{
  "code": "NASL-ERR-C02-REF",
  "message": "$ref resolution failed at '#/endpoints/3/response/type'",
  "severity": "fatal",
  "doc": "https://spec.nurox.ai/nasl/errors#C02"
}
```

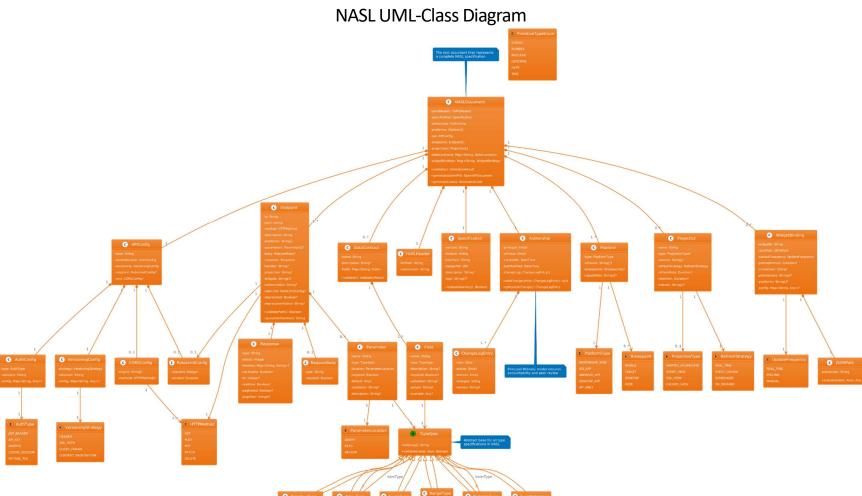
Pass the four core tests, pick a class (A-D), and you are safely "NASL-Conformant." Everything else is gravy—and future-proof.

8 Change Log (To be auto-generated)

Rev	Date	Section(s)	Change	Author
0.1	2025-07-15	All	Initial industry draft	WA



ANNEX A





ANNEX B

NASL COMNFORMANCE AUDIT CHECKLIST

1) Core Conformance Tests

Ref	Pass / Fail	Item	
C-01		Schema Validity – file validates against <i>core JSON Schema 2025-07</i> with a JSON-Schema 2020-12 strict processor.	
C-02		\$ref Resolution – all \$ref links resolve (relative or nasl:// / https://), no cycles, no path escapes.	
C-03		Conformance Class – declared Class A / B / C / D is present <i>and</i> every mandatory keyword for that class exists; higher-class keywords used only when prerequisites met.	
C-04		Forward-Compatibility – parser ignores unknown future keywords and preserves them on round-trip.	

2) Document Structure Checks

- i. YAML header comment shows file path and NASL version.
- ii. specification block contains: version, module, interface, designRef.
- iii. authorship block contains: principal, witness, createdAt, lastModified.
- iv. platforms section lists at least one platform entry.
- v. api section defines base path and authentication.type.
- vi. Each endpoint has: id, path, method, response.type.

Class-specific additions

CLASS

EXTRA ITEMS TO VERIFY

B +	data-contracts section exists; all type-reference values resolve.		
C +	Non-functional flags valid (cacheable, ttl, rateLimit, cors, etc.). If projections present → refreshStrategy & sources mandatory; indexes recommended for sql-view.		
D	widget-bindings present → dataPath (JSONPath) & updateFrequency valid; pollingInterval required when updateFrequency = polling.		

3) Audit Sign off

can link directly to the requirements.

7						
Auditor:	Da	te:				
Result: Pass	☐ Minor NC	☐ Major NC				
Keep this checklist as a markdown snippet inside your repo (/docs/audit/annex-d.md) so CI pipelines						