Build an OpenAPI Specification with authentication

Some services or data sources require you authenticate to their system in order to perform operations. The types of authentication accepted by the API is declared in the OpenAPI Specification, in the security object. The authentication methods supported by Nintex Xtensions are:

- no authentication
- basic authentication
- API key authentication
- OAuth2.0

Authentication components

Authentication for custom connectors consists of three components:

- The security object defined in the OpenAPI Specification, which declares which authentication method to use.
- The security template, where any additional security information required by the authentication method is configured when the OpenAPI Specification is imported into Nintex Workflow Cloud.
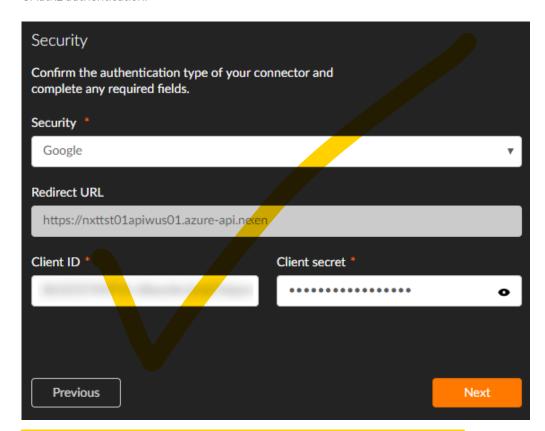- The connection in Nintex Workflow Cloud, which stores the authentication credentials to use.

Security objects

Security objects are defined within a securityDefinitions object, and then referenced inside the HTTP method object of every operation that requires authentication.

Note: Nintex Xtensions only supports one authentication type per OpenAPI Specification. If the API you want to import supports multiple authentication methods, select one to use in your OpenAPI Specification.
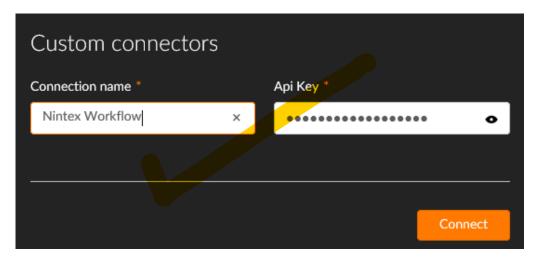
Security templates

Security templates record any additional security information required while importing the custom connector into Nintex Workflow Cloud, such as the client ID and shared secret for OAuth2 authentication.
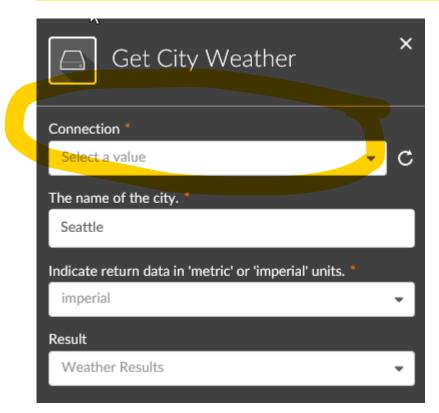

Nintex Workflow Cloud automatically provides the correct security template for the authentication type defined in the OpenAPI Specification.

Connections

In Nintex Workflow Cloud, authentication credentials for both native and custom connectors are stored in connections. If a connector requires authentication, workflow designers must create a connection before they can use the actions. Nintex Workflow Cloud detects the method of authentication declared in the OpenAPI Specification, and provides the correct fields required to establish the connection.

Custom connectors

Connection name *

Nintex Workflow   ✕

Api Key *

••••••••••••••••••••   👁

Connect

For custom connectors, a connection can be created while configuring the action.

Get City Weather   ✕

Connection *

Select a value   ▾   ⟳

The name of the city. *

Seattle

Indicate return data in 'metric' or 'imperial' units. *

imperial   ▾

Result

Weather Results   ▾

See Create a connection.

Authentication examples

Create a new GitHub repository and post an issue using Basic authentication.

[Build a custom connector with basic authentication to create a GitHub repository](#)

Use API key authentication to convert currency and create an automatic international purchase approval workflow.

[Build a custom connector with API key authentication to retrieve exchange rates](#)

Use OAuth2 authentication to create a new task list in the Google Tasks of the connected user.

[Build a custom connector with OAuth2 authentication to create a Google task list](#)

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