

# Five Factors to Consider When Selecting an API Management Provider<sup>1</sup>

The application economy is built on continuous innovation from organizations that are bringing new and engaging apps to market, unlocking data silos to improve the customer experience and expanding digital ecosystems in order to tap into new revenue streams. This requires organizations to adapt and modernize both architecture and app development practices to enable an agility to better compete in today's economy. This requires a solid API strategy to move at the speed of innovation.

CA API Management is a market leading API Management (APIM) vendor that provides more than your traditional API Management solution covering the full lifecycle of API Management. **While there are a number of API Management solutions in the market today, it is not often a platform delivers both the breadth and scale needed for the large enterprise moving along their digital transformation journey.** CA API Management (APIM) is the only APIM vendor named as a leader in each of the top four API management analyst reports:

[Gartner](#), [Forrester](#), [KuppingerCole](#) and [Ovum](#). If your team is considering an Enterprise APIM solution such as Apigee, or other similar solutions, you should consider the following five factors before making a vendor or platform decision. To better identify how CA APIM stacked up against a competing solution, INOVIS interviewed current and former users of each of the two platforms. Interviews and our internal assessment focused on each of the solutions' ability to meet each of the five key selection factors noted to the left. In the assessment, Inovis found that CA APIM met all five selection factors and provided excellent capabilities to meet the modern enterprise's APIM needs.

## Five Factors to Consider

- EASE OF USE
- SCALE
- SECURITY
- FLEXIBILITY
- BREADTH

**There are five key factors to consider when making your choice:**

**1. Is the solution easy to utilize? Is it user-friendly, more importantly, is it developer-friendly? Is it easy to deploy and manage with APIM agents that show value quickly?**

CA APIM is user friendly, easy to use and enables accelerated development of APIs and policies alike. Speed and complexity across the application delivery chain requires performance management that can span across physical to virtual or on-premises to hosted components and support of new modern application technologies - all this is possible with CA's offering.

- CA APIM can easily connect SOA, ESB, and legacy applications. CA's internal testing of CA APIM has demonstrated that CA APIM can aggregate data including NoSQL up to 10x faster than other solutions. Clients can point and

<sup>1</sup> Derived from INOVIS' customer/vendor interviews and gathered industry data.

click to generate enterprise-grade REST APIs from multiple data sources, with runtime business logic and event processing.

Control is simplified and developer access to data is readily available so that clients may build a wider partner or public developer ecosystem.

- CA APIM offers a visual user interface with quick drag-and-drop capabilities to instantly create APIs or setup complex security policies. Developers can also leverage hundreds of pre-built policies and code blocks for re-use from the library. And for those developers that want to roll up their sleeves, they can leverage the comprehensive SDKs that CA offers and can drag them easily into their existing code projects.
- CA provides instant enterprise-class APIs from data sources, allowing developers to create mobile apps that can easily and securely access corporate data. INOVIS's analyses demonstrated that Apigee's API creation and development capabilities aren't as strong as those of CA's APIM offering, and creation, design, adaptation and orchestration aren't as robust in Apigee's solution.

Apigee is more limited in its capabilities. There isn't one place to view everything in a single dashboard as is desired by enterprise clients. Apigee doesn't offer a single integrated console for its clients that is easy to use.

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### 2. How scalable is it?

A wealth of data quickly becomes too much data. Billions of data points a day require new approaches to visualization and intelligent analytics to sift through the metrics and identify the relevant variables. Performance must be tested continuously, pre- and post-production to ensure customer satisfaction and retention.

- CA API Gateway's performance and ability to handle a high-volume of transactions by creating high performance yet cost-effective digital platforms is achieved by industry-leading product expertise, years of product maturity and by scaling via APIs with effective throttling, prioritization, caching, and routing.
- CA API Gateway can be configured to dynamically scale up or down as needed.
- Beyond the simple configurable properties that enable such high scaling, CA API Gateway is available in a wide range of form factors that include lightweight, deployable containers such as Docker.
- CA APIM has been deployed for mission-critical use cases across hundreds of customers worldwide. A large retail chain in the U.S. has deployed more than 65 CA API Gateways in production to achieve 99.99% uptime to support their wide footprint of stores and partners across the country. A customer in the U.S. communications service industry has stated that it has been able to achieve over 4000 TPS with their CA APIM implementation. Our internal tests have shown that, in some cases, the CA API Gateways can achieve over 40,000 TPS with defined parameters.

Apigee's solution is limited in terms of performance and overall features/functionality. Certain Apigee customers indicated that Apigee's solution has caused some clients to experience latency issues on occasion as they scaled their APIs. Apigee's API lifecycle across development, testing, and production can be difficult to manage. Moreover, INOVIS determined that Apigee's solution lacks a number of features that a large enterprise with development and production environments in varied geographies would need.

### 3. How secure is the solution?

CA protects against threats, Open Web Application Security Project (OWASP) vulnerabilities and controls access with Single Sign-On (SSO) and identity management. CA also provides end-to-end security for apps, mobile, and IoT.

Mobile access can no longer be considered 'special' and must be fully integrated into the security and performance picture to meet today's business needs.

Ability to protect the mobile app to the API is critical, while maintaining speed.

- CA APIM provides SDKs to enable enterprise-grade SSO, allowing mobile/IoT clients to participate as an equal workstation on the corporate network, regardless of location.
- CA APIM supports secure consumption of backend APIs through configuration of mutual SSL between the Gateway and the mobile device. It protects REST, SOAP and OData APIs against DoS and API attacks. Inherent support for OAuth and OpenID deliver mobile app authentication, social login and single sign-on.
- CA's unique partnership with Samsung enables tight Samsung KNOX integration that delivers SSO with the mobile SDK while allowing customers to create policy assertions requiring device integrity and app containerization checks as a condition to accessing APIs.
- CA speeds development with app services such as SDKs, data transformation, mobile security, generation of documentation and client-side code that can reduce time-to-market all in a highly secure environment.

Apigee doesn't possess the same depth and breadth of security as CA's APIM solution. Apigee's security and access control is somewhat limited. Most enterprise clients require stronger security than Apigee has to offer. Specifically, Authorization/SSO, risk-based access, OAuth/OpenID Connect, security firewalling and mobile security aren't as strong in Apigee's solution.

### 4. How flexible is the solution - how many deployment choices do you have?

Full SaaS, on-premises and hybrid options are critical to meet the variety of deployment requirements needed today. Based on its interviews with customers of CA APIM and customers of competitive APIM solutions, INOVIS determined CA has the most secure and flexible deployment options in the API space.

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- CA APIM can be implemented as a SaaS, on-premises or as a hybrid solution.
  - This allows mission critical and highly secure runtime components behind the firewall.
  - Less mission-critical design-time components (such as a developer portal) can be deployed as a SaaS solution, yet tightly integrated with runtime, regardless of its deployment location.
- CA uses the same runtime engine whether on-premises or SaaS-based. Customers have the same ability to access runtime policies regardless of deployment option.
- CA is available in a wide range of form factors ranging across hardware appliances, software applications, virtual appliances and lightweight, deployable containers such as Docker.

Apigee has a strong offering in their design-time solution (developer portal) – but INOVIS’ customer interviews indicated that Apigee’s runtime component (the gateway) doesn’t have the capabilities that CA API Management offers. Apigee’s customers also indicated that Apigee requires such customers’ PS team to handle all but the most basic policy adjustments when running in a SaaS deployment.

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### 5. What is the breadth of the solution? How comprehensive is it?

CA’s APIM solution can enable the entire API lifecycle from API creation, management, security and consumption for mobile and IoT.

- CA builds scalable connections to cloud solutions and automatically creates data APIs with live business logic.
- CA enables developers to almost instantly create “live” or reactive data-driven APIs and micro services. Developers may connect enterprise data from multiple sources and adds business logic. This allows businesses to move further back in the API lifecycle to accelerate development.
- CA manages high transaction enterprise environments ensuring availability of mission critical APIs and applications for the modern DevOps focused organizations.
- CA APIM is very effective on the API consumption and measurement side. APIs may be monetized via multiple business models. Clients may build digital ecosystems to enhance business value. CA helps clients to create efficiencies through analytics and optimization.

Apigee doesn’t have the depth, breadth and long history of expertise as does CA. Specifically, INOVIS’ customer interviews indicated that Apigee has a smaller overall API toolset, and fewer resources than CA. Their technology product portfolio is limited by comparison to that of CA. This is evident in the comparison of the solutions performed by INOVIS and shown in the chart on the next page.

**Chart Comparison Key:**

Full Capability - ●

Limited Capability - ●

None or very weak Capability (or must purchase separately) - ●

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Feature	CA APIM	Apigee
<b>Integrate and Create</b>		
<b>API Implementation</b>		
API Connectivity	●	●
Drag & Drop API Creation	●	●
Adaptation	●	●
Orchestration	●	●
<b>API Runtime</b>		
Event Processing	●	●
Traffic Management	●	●
Aggregation	●	●
Caching/Compression	●	●
Remote management of APIs	●	●
Centrally update policies	●	●
<b>Secure the open enterprise</b>		
<b>API Protection</b>		
OWASP Vulnerabilities	●	●
Security SDKs	●	●
Mobile/IoT Security	●	●
<b>API Access Control</b>		
Authorization/SSO	●	●
Risk-based Access	●	●
OAuth/OpenID Connect	●	●
Security Firewalling	●	●
<b>Accelerate Development</b>		
API Discovery/Portal	●	●
Collaboration Tools & Codegen	●	●
Documentation	●	●
<b>API Development</b>		
Mobile/IoT Services	●	●
Mobile Security	●	●
Secure Offline Data Storage	●	●
Messaging/Pub-Sub	●	●
<b>Unlock the Value of Data</b>		
<b>API Intelligence</b>		
Performance Analytics	●	●
Business Analytics	●	●
Mobile App Analytics	●	●
<b>API Monetization</b>		
User Account Management	●	●
Organizational Account Management	●	●
API Key Mgmt. / API Provisioning	●	●
Billing Integration	●	●