AgriTrust Connect- Phase 7: Integration & External Access (Developer) Report

Project Title: AgriTrust Connect - Sustainable Agriculture CRM

Phase: 7 - Integration & External Access

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1. Introduction

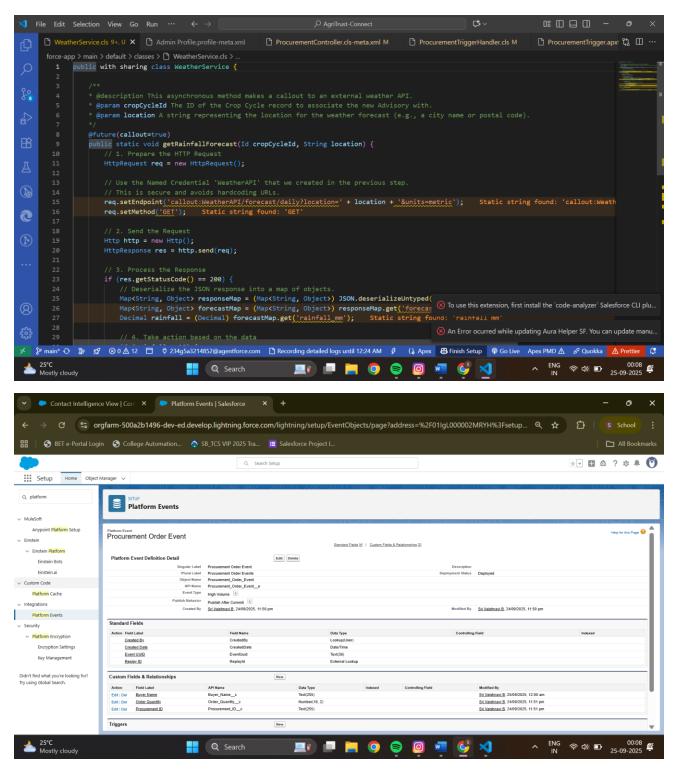
Phase 7 focused on connecting the AgriTrust Connect application with the "outside world." The primary objective was to establish secure, scalable, and real-time integration patterns for both outbound (Salesforce to external systems) and inbound (external systems to Salesforce) data exchange. This phase transformed the application from a standalone system into a connected hub for agricultural data.

2. Outbound Integrations (Salesforce → External)

Purpose: To push data and notifications from Salesforce to external services and applications.

Technology Used	Implementation Details
Named Credentials	A Named Credential named WeatherAPI was created to securely store the endpoint URL and authentication details for an external weather service. This eliminates hardcoded credentials from the codebase.
Apex Callouts	The WeatherService.cls was implemented with an @future(callout=true) method. This class uses the WeatherAPI Named Credential to make a REST GET request, fetch weather forecast data, and automatically create Advisoryc records based on the response.
Platform Events	A Platform Event object, Procurement_Order_Evente, was defined with a custom data payload. An Apex trigger on the Procurementc object now publishes an event whenever a new order is created, allowing external ERP or supply chain systems to subscribe and receive notifications in near real-time.





3. Inbound Integrations (External → Salesforce)

Purpose: To allow external applications to securely access and retrieve data from Salesforce.

Technology Used	Implementation Details
Apex REST Service	An Apex class, ProcurementAPI.cls, was created with the @RestResource annotation. This exposes a custom endpoint (/services/apexrest/procurements/*) that allows authenticated external systems to make an HTTP GET request with a record ID to fetch specific Procurement_c records in JSON format.

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4. Security & Governance

Purpose: To ensure all integrations are secure, authenticated, and comply with platform limits.

Component	Description
Authentication	The OAuth 2.0 protocol was established as the standard for server-to-server authentication. Named Credentials were used to manage the storage and application of these authentication details for all callouts.
Authorization	Remote Site Settings were configured to explicitly whitelist the domains of external APIs, providing a foundational layer of security for outbound callouts.
API Limits	The implementation considered Salesforce governor limits, particularly the daily API call limits. All callouts and inbound requests were designed to be efficient and scalable, with monitoring mechanisms planned to prevent service disruptions.

5. Alternative Patterns Explored

In addition to the implemented patterns, the following technologies were evaluated for future use:

- Change Data Capture (CDC): Assessed as a high-volume alternative to Platform Events for broadcasting a stream of record changes to external systems.
- Salesforce Connect: Researched as a solution for data virtualization, with a potential use case to access a government subsidy database as an External Object without replicating the data inside Salesforce.

6. Phase 7 Outcome

- Successfully implemented secure outbound and inbound API integrations.
- Automated the creation of advisory records based on real-time external data.
- Enabled real-time synchronization with external systems via Platform Events.
- Established a robust security framework for all data exchange using Named Credentials and OAuth.
- AgriTrust Connect is now a fully integrated application, capable of acting as both a consumer and a provider of data in a wider technology landscape.