

New REST APIs and Authentication Methods – Upgrade Implications

Dear Valued Customer,

We are excited to share with you a couple of major enhancements we are making to our APIs and authentication methods that we will be releasing in the coming months.

Currently, our integration frameworks are based on SOAP APIs. Although these integrations have served our customers well, we have been working on our next-generation REST APIs for some time. Moving to REST APIs will allow us to significantly accelerate and expand our integration capabilities and the speed with which we can bring these to market. REST APIs have the following key benefits versus SOAP APIs:

- REST allows a greater variety of data formats, whereas SOAP only allows XML
- REST is generally considered easier to work with
- REST provides superior performance
- REST is the protocol used most often for major services and therefore likely a skillset your teams are more familiar with
- REST is generally faster and uses less bandwidth.

While our REST APIs will provide significant benefits to our customers, there are a few considerations you should be aware of. The REST APIs were introduced with version 8.8 of CxSAST, available since Q3/2018. The **current SOAP APIs will be deprecated 6 months following this release.**

In addition, version 8.8 introduced an OpenID Connect (OIDC) based authentication mechanism. **Release 9.0, scheduled for general availability during Q3 2019, will deprecate Cookie based authentication mechanism** being used today by all plugins (CI plugins and IDE plugins) and SOAP SDK.

Considerations and recommendations

These changes have two key implications you'll need to take into account when planning your CxSAST implementation and upgrades moving forward:

Upgrades planning

1. Checkmarx plugins (IDE plugins, CI plugins) will be updated to take advantage of the new API
2. Checkmarx CI plugins have been updated to use the OpenID Connect (OIDC) authentication starting with 8.8 release
3. Versions 8.8 or 8.9 are mandatory versions for customer working with CI plugins and/or SOAP SDK. Those customers will require to upgrade to 8.8 or 8.9 release prior to 9.0 release.

Our recommendation for the upgrade plans, to not break CI plugins and custom automation solutions, is as follows:

1. Upgrade server 8.x to 8.8 or 8.9 release
2. Upgrade CI plugins 8.8 or 8.9 release
3. Upgrade custom SOAP SDK code to OIDC authentication
4. Upgrade server to 9.0 release
5. Upgrade CI plugins to 9.0 release
6. Upgrade IDE plugins to 9.0 release

Migrating custom scripts / API usage

If you have developed custom integration scripts using SOAP API, you will need to migrate to the new REST API before the SOAP API is deprecated.

Please note that regardless of migrating to Rest APIs you will need to change the authentication method with the 9.0 release.

You can read more about the new REST API and authentication methods in the Checkmarx Knowledge Center (<https://checkmarx.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/KC/pages/131039271/CxREST+API>).

We will provide more information about these changes as we get closer to the release. Please don't hesitate to contact your account team or Checkmarx support if you have any questions.