

Decoding the Best Approach to API Management

Save Time, Money & Resources While Delivering Exceptional APIs

DECISION GUIDE FOR AKAMAI CONNECTED CLOUD

	 Buy	Build
Complexity	Focus on core product Allocate more time to improve your API and build other essential company products while your APIs remain securely shipped and consumable by users.	High Complexity and Risk API gateways are complex and a critical part of your infrastructure that can adversely impact your APIs if not built correctly.
Resource Allocation	Predictable Cost Structure Your cost structure will be more transparent and predictable, so you'll no longer deal with inaccurate budgeting estimates.	Resource Diversion Drains resources, slows down projects, and bogs your team down with infrastructure instead of focusing on rapidly delivering high-quality APIs.
Security	Security Compliance Provides built-in, industry-standard security features like authentication, encryption, and rate-limiting. AAM is SOC 2 Type 2 certified.	Security Management Burden Custom gateways are resource-intensive, requiring continuous monitoring, patching, and testing, which diverts focus from core business.
Maintenance	Leave It to Us Delegate maintenance to a platform whose primary focus is creating a reliable and fast developer experience for you and your users.	Ongoing Maintenance Challenges Continuous maintenance (e.g., scaling, upgrades, regulation compliance). Outages could cost your company revenue and erode customer trust.
Timeliness	Faster Time-to-Market Immediate access to a fully functional API management tool. Engage with developers and stakeholders sooner, gaining a competitive edge.	Delays and Budget Overruns Inaccurate estimates for building may lead to a budget overrun or delays, hindering your API rollout.
Cost Efficiency	Continuous Feature Enhancements Features you need will already be built in, and because the vendor competes with others, they will continue to add new features over time.	Hidden Operational Costs You need to consider the infrastructure and operation costs, such as hosting, training, salaries, tools, and even hiring new employees.
Extensibility	Flexible and programmable Control every aspect of how traffic flows in a fully customizable manner. Choose pre-built plugins or quickly build your own reusable ones.	Effort-Intensive Customization High level of developer effort to build in new functionality, plugins must be built specifically for each new use case or feature.
Developer Experience	Out of the box Your API documentation is always up to date including a full developer portal, with API key management as standard.	Documentation Inefficiencies Additional resources required to manage changes. Documentation risks falling out-of-sync.



AI and API Manager

Built into Akamai Connected Cloud

SOC 2 Type 2

Fully managed

Predictable cost

Faster time-to-market