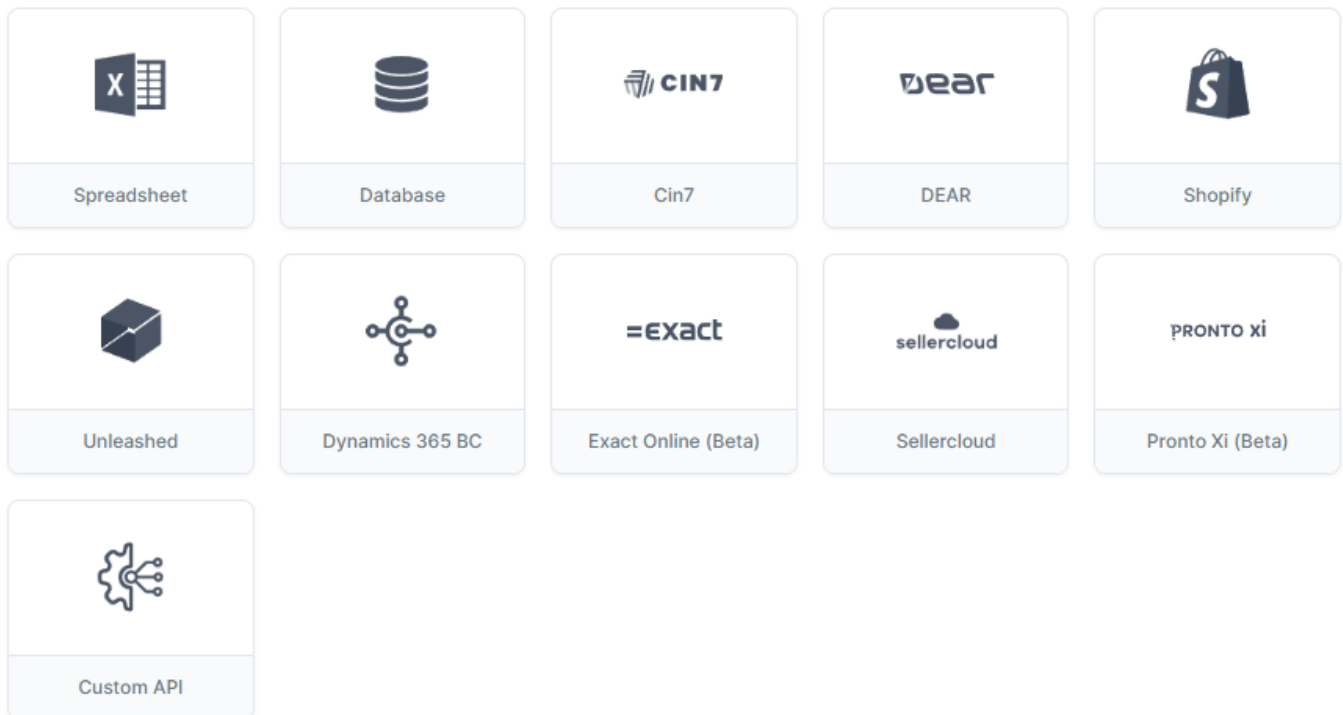


# 4.1. Streamline Connectors

Data import is the first step in creating a new project in Streamline. Streamline can import data from numerous data sources starting from Excel files in different formats and ending with various databases and built-in connectors for popular ERP systems (see figure below).

## Data source

Please select your data source



All Streamline's connections can be divided into the following categories:

- *Excel connection.* This is designed to import data from Excel files and CSV files in certain formats.
- *Database connection.* This connection is the most generic and powerful. It allows you to pull data from any database that has an ODBC driver.
- *3rd party system connections.* These connections were specifically designed to work with a certain accounting or inventory management system. They have a simple user interface and require minimum effort to import the data into Streamline.
- *Custom API connection.* This one should be used if your ERP system doesn't have a built-in API that provides [required data](#). In this case, you should implement custom-made API endpoints on the ERP's side according to the [technical requirements](#).

Each of these connections imports a different set of data that is limited by certain data source abilities. For example, the [ODBC/OLEDB connection](#) allows importing/exporting the full range of data, unlike the **Excel connection** based on [Aggregated data](#) has the minimum abilities.

[Next: Imported data](#)

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