Adding a gmail IMAP account to Appsuite

Symptom

Adding a gmail IMAP account is not working despite the correct email and password. If your provider supports google oauth this is not needed, only if you see on adding a new email account no dedicated option for google.

Root Cause

Google changed the access to IMAP, it is not possible anymore to access it only with the "normal" password you use for the webmail login. Other providers are not affected as far as we know.

Solution

There are right now two ways to allow access for Appsuite.

1) Enable "less secure apps"

This is not the recommended way due to security concerns but unfortunately it is much easier. Please have a look at:

https://support.google.com/accounts/answer/6010255

This enables access from all apps with your normal google password. You also need to enable access for IMAP clients:

https://support.google.com/a/answer/105694?hl=en

or, the much safer recommended way:

2) App password

First you need to enable 2-Step Verification. This is needed for the next step. Unfortunately you can’t disable it afterwards, this will also delete the newly created passwords. You don’t need to enable the setting from "less secure apps".

- login in to https://myaccount.google.com/
- search for "2-" it should show "2-Step Verification" in the list, select it
  (https://support.google.com/accounts/answer/185839)
- enable it if not already done
- you will see some more pages and you have login again to confirm the changes
- again on https://myaccount.google.com/
- search for “App passwords” and select it from the list
  (https://support.google.com/accounts/answer/185833)
- “Select App” and choose "Other", name it, like "OX webmail"
- press the "Generate" button
- a new "window" will appear with your app specific password. It appears to be separated by spaces, but it isn't, it is one long string. So instead of "aaa vvvv 3334 sdasd" for example it is "aaavvvv3334sdasd" (without the quotes)
- copy it by mouse select should correctly work
- you can't view the password later, so write it down and/or store it somewhere secure
- use you gmail email address and this password when you are adding it as IMAP account to Appsuite

If you forgot to write it down or lost the password, you can create a new "App" if needed. For security reasons you probably want to have one dedicated password per app you are using.

STATUS: external, no fix possible

Related articles

- Adding a gmail IMAP account to Appsuite