



Identity Ecosystem Steering Group Policy on Endorsing Outside Organizations

Adopted June 9, 2015

This policy describes how the Identity Ecosystem Steering Group (“IDESG”) will identify, evaluate, and publicly endorse outside organizations or the work product of outside organizations. Outside organizations includes businesses, trade associations, standards development organizations, work groups, governments, non-profit organizations, and others who develop bodies of work impacting the Identity Ecosystem. The endorsement policy is focused on evaluating and extolling those organizations or their specific policy positions or programs that promote the well-being of the Identity Ecosystem as envisioned by the IDESG. Except as otherwise defined herein, all capitalized terms have the meaning set forth for them in the Bylaws and Intellectual Property Rights Policy of the IDESG.

Limitations: This policy only applies to the IDESG and does not apply to any of the IDESG’s Members as defined in IDESG’s Bylaws. Materials posted on internal IDESG webpages are not to be considered as official IDESG endorsements for the purpose of this policy.

Rules on IDESG Endorsements

1. Only the Management Council of the IDESG may endorse an outside organization, or a particular policy position or program of an organization, if it supports the work product of the IDESG as guided by the Identity Ecosystem Framework (IDEF) and the National Strategy for Trusted Identity in Cyberspace (NSTIC), or promotes best practices to be used in the Identity Ecosystem that the IDESG finds to be beneficial but does not have the necessary resources or expertise to develop on its own.
2. The Management Council may decide to initiate an endorsement *sua sponte* or it may be recommended to the Management Council by an IDESG Committee upon either consensus or majority vote of its membership. Upon such a recommendation, the Management Council may decide either by consensus or majority vote to proceed with the endorsement.
3. The Management Council may submit the endorsement for review to appropriate Committees of the IDESG to ensure the organization, policy position, or program to be endorsed is not inconsistent to the IDEF, work of the IDESG, or the Guiding Principles set forth in the NSTIC. If such an advisory opinion is sought, the advisory opinion report, along with any minority reports, must accompany the submission to the Management Council.
4. A majority vote of the Management Council is required to authorize an endorsement.
5. The Management Council must present any endorsements to the Plenary, by presenting such endorsement to the Chair of the Plenary.
6. Any endorsements not approved by the rules set forth herein will be disavowed by the IDESG Management Council.