

NTIA Multistakeholder Process on Software Component Transparency
PROGRESS UPDATE
October 1, 2018

The four working groups supporting the NTIA Multistakeholder Process on Software Component Transparency provided the following updates on their progress:

Understanding the Problem

The group aligned around what our task group would be targeting. Our group will help propose and document the goals and deliverables for the overall initiative but any output will be subject to review and input from all. Group objectives include: Outline the effort of the larger initiative; Outline the full scope of use cases to ensure that our deliverables meet our objectives; Document requirements for the sBOM and related activities (per use cases); Draft an overarching guidance document to describe the scope, goals, expected deliverables, phase planning and outputs, and planning for how these phases will transition. (As noted above, this document will be drafted by the framing group but will be reviewed and finalized with input from the entire group, with a goal of bringing everyone together with a common vision of what success looks like).

To join: <https://lists.sei.cmu.edu/mailman/listinfo/ntia-sbom-framing>

Use Cases and State of Practice

Our group is focused of identifying a set of key use cases that will demonstrate the benefits and challenges that SBOM presents. We plan to also further develop existing case studies in order to show that SBOM works today in various ways, and has considerable potential. We will also assemble a suggested reading list for people that are new to the idea of SBOM so that they can get quickly educated and hopefully to dispel untruths. In the coming weeks, we will be identifying the use cases we want to focus on and begin fleshing those out. We could benefit from additional input, particularly from those that are using SBOM in any form in their environments, or that have plans to do so in the near future.

To join: <https://lists.sei.cmu.edu/mailman/listinfo/ntia-sbom-practices>

Standards and Formats

Formats and Standards workgroup held a meeting last week where the SWID and SPDX options were overviewed, and held a Q&A session to help improve mutual understanding of the solutions available today. Group is currently trying to settle on a time for a recurring meeting, and updated recurring invite will be going out next week.

To join, please email Kstewart@linuxfoundation

Healthcare Proof of Concept

This group is exploring the use case of transparency in the healthcare context, both descriptively and with an implemented “proof of concept.” The use case will take an “end to end” approach, starting with the generation of SBOM data, through how it is shared, integrated, and used by a healthcare delivery organization. Several organizations have volunteered to actually implement a proof of concept, with advice, input, and documentation offered from the broader community.

To join: <https://lists.sei.cmu.edu/mailman/listinfo/ntia-sbom-healthcare>