Study Introduction (2-3 minutes)

Thank you for participating in today's interview. We appreciate you volunteering your time to help us investigate Software Bills of Materials and their impacts on the software supply chain.

(Interviewers introduce themselves)

Before we begin, do you have any questions about the process?

(Present the consent form, if it has not already been signed)

(Ask for permission to record the meeting)

Survey-related questions (~30 minutes)

We've prepared several follow-up questions based on your responses to our survey. These questions are intended to clarify points and to gain a fuller understanding of your views pertaining to the software supply chain. Additional follow up questions may be asked if further clarification is required or if an interesting point is brought to light. The questions are ultimately intended to supplement and expand upon the initial survey results.

General Questions (~5-10 minutes)

All participants will be asked variations of these five key questions. If in their answers, interesting insights are provided or points of confusion arise, we will ask targeted follow up questions. These questions will be asked on an as-needed basis and will naturally be formulated in the moment, but may be inspired by a question bank drafted prior to interviews.

1. In your opinion, does the community benefit from there being multiple standards? Is there any way we can prevent standards from diverging significantly?

2. Several survey respondents highlighted an apparent inconsistency between standards, tools, and the quality/contents of SBOMs. Have you or your organization ever been impacted by any inconsistencies like these? How big of an issue do you think this is?

3. How can we make SBOMs easier to use?

4. Is there a disconnect between producers and consumers in terms of how SBOMs are/should be used? What can we do to close that gap?

5. Has the US Executive Order #14028 (Improving the Nation's Cybersecurity) affected you/your organization's approach towards SBOMs?

Area Specific Questions (~10-15 minutes)

We will ask questions geared towards the specific domain (machine learning, security, etc) or expertise of the interviewee (consumer, standard maker, tool developer, etc). These questions will be tailored specifically for each participant, but there will be overlap in themes across interviews, particularly when considering natural followup questions.

Closing Thoughts (2-3 minutes)

Thank you again for your time today. Your responses will greatly aid our investigation.

Do you have any further questions about the study?

(Ask if they know anyone else that may be knowledgeable in one of the domains we are exploring)

Is (email) okay for sending you your $50 Amazon gift card? If not, what would you prefer?