**Bedrock Business Utility**

Utility Service Provider

Request for Proposal

**Version 1.1**

2020-05-14



<http://bbu.bedrockconsortium.org/>

## Background/Introduction

The **Bedrock Consortium** ("Consortium") is a private-sector, international non-profit association of companies that share a common interest in collaborating on the governance of a dedicated trusted decentralized identity utility that can reliably serve the physical and online identity needs of international commerce. The Consortium is focused on the governance of a dedicated decentralized identity utility for trusted commerce.

The Consortium operates a non-profit legal entity, the **Bedrock Business Utility** (“BBU”), that is an instance of a *Linux Foundation Directed Fund Project*. The BBU represents an identity utility network that operates in accordance with the [BBU Governance Framework](https://bedrock-consortium.github.io/bbu-gf/) *(currently under development).*

The BBU aims to be a *first-of-a-kind* identity utility network based on the concepts proposed by the [Trust over IP Foundation](http://trustoverip.org/). To achieve this goal, the Consortium requires the services of a Utility Service Provider in the form of an annual contract with the necessary service-level-agreements (SLAs) for the operation and maintenance of the BBU.

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| **Project Name** | Utility Service Provider Contract |
| **Organization** | Bedrock Consortium |
| **Address** | 3500 South Dupont Highway Suite AA101, Dover, DE 19901 USA |
| **Procurement Contact Person (PCP)** | Dan Gisolfi |
| **PCP Email** | dan.gisolfi@gmail.com |

## Project Goals and Scope of Services

Respondents will need to take into consideration a balance between open collaboration and competitive value-add. The contract will be awarded to the firm that recognizes this RFP as an opportunity to not only serve the needs of the BBU but to leverage it as an opportunity to build the skills and asset required to provide these services at scale to other identity utilities. The ideal respondent will demonstrate flexibility, creativity and an openness to community collaboration both within the Bedrock Project and with the ToIP Foundation.

The Consortium will be comprised of 25 or more private sector members of which ~9 members serve on the Board of Directors (BoD). The BoD is responsible for the hiring of a Utility Service Provider that will be responsible for the daily operation, maintenance and monitoring of the BBU. Since the domain of expertise required for this proposal is very limited in the industry, a key vendor selection criterion will be that of “flexibility”.

#### Assumptions

1. Hyperledger Indy will be used as the ToIP Layer 1 technology:
2. Participating members of the Consortium are required to provide “Indy Nodes” to the BBU.
3. Participating members of the Consortium must meet adhere to the governance framework requirements for “Indy Nodes”.
4. Respondents can assume remote support via webmtg (i.e.: Zoom) for all interactive services and USA/Central (CST) as the default time zone.

#### General Requirements

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| **Services** | **Description** | **Requirement** |
| **Relationship Management** |  |  |
| Account Manager: Primary Service Provider Focal Point to Board | Dedicated vendor focal point. | Mandatory |
| Administrative Support: Consortium Board, Workgroup, Meeting Management | Coordination of Consortium project activities. | Optional |
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| **Governance** |  |  |
| Governance Framework Development and Change Management | Coordinate and manage the custom development and maintenance of governance framework documents and associated public access. | Optional |
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| **Membership Management** |  |  |
| Onboarding | Workflow process for onboarding new/renewed members. This includes collaboration with LF Salesforce Member Management System. | Custom Development |
| Entitlement Management | Transaction entitlement process for Transaction Endorsers. This includes collaboration with LF Salesforce Member Management System as well as possible creation of custom code for Bedrock Project. | Custom Development |
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| **Collaboration Support** |  |  |
| Collaboration Tool Management (Trello, Github, Slack, Rocketchat) | Provide access to collaboration tools for Consortium Members. | Optional |
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| **Steward Management** |  |  |
| Node Monitoring and Notification Services | Individual node testing and health monitoring. Includes communication and problem resolution with Node owners. | Mandatory |
| One-on-One Technical Support w/Stewards | Technical assistance for members with the objective of improving onboarding time to value. | Mandatory |
| Automatic Software Upgrades | Process automation tool development. | Mandatory |
| Best Practices for Node Operation | Documentation of turn-key processes and best practices for operating a node. This may also include suggestions for evaluating node hosting service providers. | Mandatory |
| Guided Onboarding and Set Up | One-on-One assistance with set-up tools and onboarding process. | Mandatory |
| Governance Technical Policies Compliance Checks | Audit, review nodes for compliance with governance framework. Where possible this should be automated and monitored via dashboard. | Mandatory |
| Interlock with BoD on Business & Tech Policies; Contract Compliance | Provide technical advisor to BoD on policies. Provide representation in technical governance workgroups. | Mandatory |
|  |  |  |
| **Identity Utility Network: IT Infrastructure** |  |  |
| Upgrade planning, testing and deployment | Drive continuous improvement plans for network health. | Mandatory |
| Node monitoring, troubleshooting and repair | General Ledger Health Management. Develop where necessary dashboard monitoring tools. | Mandatory |
| New Steward onboarding | Manage ledger configuration process for new Steward nodes. | Mandatory |
| Trustee onboarding | Manage ledger configuration process for new Trustees | Mandatory |
| Transaction Endorser Support | Aid members in the development, installation, deployment and configuration, of transaction endorser code. | Mandatory |
| Environment Support (Prod, Dev, Test) | Manage configuration of each environment including allocation of member nodes. | Mandatory |
| Build and Test Services | Develop and maintain build and test tools for use on all environments. | Mandatory |
| Continuous Integration Build Support | Ensure all development activity is driven by CI practices. | Mandatory |
| Bedrock code release management | Maintain snapshots of Indy code used for network plus any other project related code. | Mandatory |
| Method Name Registration Services | Registration with known/trusted UR servers. | Mandatory |
| DID Root Namespace Development (did:bbu) | Develop and maintain Universal Resolver Driver. | Mandatory |

#### Other Capabilities

Respondents should itemize and describe any additional value-added services that should be considered in the assessment of their capabilities as a partner to the Consortium.

#### Tools

Respondents should provide a detailed list of tools they will leverage to provide the services required. When tools do not exist, the respondents should briefing describe the architecture for what they plan to develop to meet the needs of the BBU. For example, a few Sovrin tools are available here:

* https://github.com/sovrin-foundation/sovrin-sip/tree/master/tex
* https://github.com/sovrin-foundation/steward-tools
* https://github.com/sovrin-foundation/indyscan

#### Skills

Respondents should provide brief bios/resumes of the resources that will be used on this project.

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## Anticipated Selection Schedule

The Consortium is currently being established and will not be formalized until after the *BBU Governance Framework Working Group* completes the assessment of respondents and makes a formal presentation to the preliminary executive sponsors. Respondents should be aware that the process for establishing the BBU Series 1 LLC under the Linux Foundation is still fuzzy so actual process steps and deadlines may change.

The following schedule and process will be used for assessment:

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| **Phase** | **Dates** | **Notes** |
| Q&A Deadline | 8 May 2020 | Submit questions using [RFP Question Template](https://github.com/bedrock-consortium/bbu-gf/issues/new/choose) |
| Submission Deadline | ~~15 May 2020~~ 22-May-2020 | Submit via email. |
| Review Period | 25 May - 05 June 2020 | Bedrock GF Workgroup to hold on-demand review mtgs via Zoom. |
| Decision Date | 12 June 2020 (*tentative*) | Notification to all respondents will be via email |

**Note**: *The Bedrock Consortium Governance Framework Working Group has approved a one week extensions for RFP response submissions. New date is Fri 22-May-2020.*

## Time and Place of Submission of Proposals

Submission process:

1. Format: PDF
2. Mode: Email to PCP
3. Date / Time: 5:00pm EST ~~15 May 2020~~ 22-May-2020

## Timeline

The requested proposal is for an annual contract and should be sized and budgeted accordingly.

## Elements of Proposal

Respondent Checklist:

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| **Submission Item** | **Description** |
| Cover Letter | Introduction of Respondent to Consortium |
| Utility Service Provider Mission | Declaration of respondent’s mission in the new ToIP ecosystem of Foundry Service Providers. Goal here is to demonstrate commitment, scope and role in the industry. This is also where the respondent should provide some degree of familiarity with Hyperledger Indy. |
| Budget | Line item sizing of proposed services. |
| Prospective Team | Short bios of prospective team. |
| Itemized Services | List services to be provided (Required and Suggested) |
| Architecture Plans | Demonstration of how respondent plans on tackling some of the services in a creative manner. |
| Statement of Work | An executable contract. |

## Evaluation Criteria

The following indicators MAY be used in the assessment process:

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| **Criteria** | **Description** |
| Blockchain Experience | Proven experience as an operator of blockchain networks. |
| Foundry Service Provider | An understanding and participant in the ToIP Foundation community. |
| Budget | Cost is of key factor, especially since this opportunity will be a skill building opportunity for all. |
| Breath of Services | Portfolio of services that can be of assistance to the Consortium and its members. |
| Collaboration | Ability to collaborate with Linux Foundation, Consortium, ToIP Foundation Working Groups and BBU members. |
| Leadership | Thought leadership on behalf of Consortium. |

## Possible Roadblocks

Successful respondents will be able to demonstrate Hyperledger Indy experience as well as a keen desire to work with the Consortium as a partner to refine the requirements and best practices for operating an identity utility.

## Budget

This request pertains to an opportunity for a respondent to develop skills in the early stages of the establishment of a digital trust marketplace. As such, many budgetary unknowns will exist. The Consortium will use as a benchmark the fact that these services were being performed by 2-3 people within the Sovrin Foundation in support of 75+ Stewards for one identity Utility. These individual as were also performing other development work for the community outside the scope of these services in parallel.