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NexusID — Universal Identity Infrastructure for AI Agents

The Passport, Credit Score, and License System for the AI Economy

Date: February 19, 2026 / Morning Drop

The One-Liner

NexusID is the universal identity layer that enables AI agents to be identified, verified, authorized, and held accountable — creating trust infrastructure for the trillion-dollar AI agent economy.

The Problem

The AI Agent Identity Crisis

By 2026, billions of AI agents are operating across the digital economy — making purchases, signing contracts, accessing systems, and representing humans. But there's a critical missing piece: **identity**.

Current chaos: - **No verification:** How do you know an AI agent is who it claims to be? - **No credentials:** How do you verify an agent's capabilities and authorizations? - **No reputation:** How do you trust an agent you've never interacted with? - **No accountability:** When an AI agent causes harm, who's responsible? - **No portability:** Agents are siloed — no universal identity across platforms

Real-world consequences: - Enterprises can't safely integrate third-party AI agents - AI-to-AI transactions lack trust mechanisms - Regulatory compliance is impossible without identity trails - Fraud and impersonation of AI agents is exploding - Reputation can't transfer across platforms

The Trust Gap

We solved human identity for the internet (OAuth, SSO, digital certificates). We solved device identity for IoT (PKI, attestation). But **AI agent identity is the Wild West**.

Every AI agent today is either: 1. **Anonymous** — no verifiable identity 2. **Platform-locked** — identity only exists within one ecosystem 3. **Impersonatable** — anyone can claim to be any agent

This is blocking the next phase of AI adoption: **autonomous AI agents operating in the real economy**.

The Solution

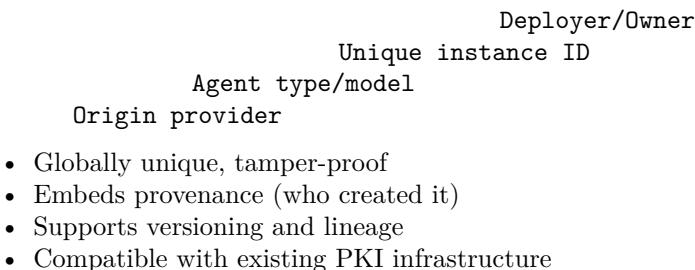
NexusID: The Identity Layer for AI Agents

NexusID provides universal, verifiable, portable identity for AI agents — enabling trust, accountability, and interoperability across the AI economy.

Core Components

1. Nexus Identifier (NID) Universal, cryptographically-secure identifier for every AI agent.

`nid:openai:gpt-5-agent:7x9k2m4p:enterprise-acme`



2. Capability Attestations

Verifiable credentials that prove what an agent CAN do.

```
{  
  "nid": "nid:anthropic:claude-agent:a8b3c1:acme-corp",  
  "capabilities": [  
    {  
      "type": "financial-transactions",  
      "limit": "$10,000/day",  
      "attestedBy": "acme-corp",  
      "validUntil": "2027-02-19"  
    },  
    {  
      "type": "code-execution",  
      "scope": "sandbox-only",  
      "attestedBy": "nexusid-authority",  
      "validUntil": "2026-08-19"  
    }  
  ],  
  "signature": "0x..."  
}
```

- Fine-grained capability definitions
- Multi-party attestations
- Expiring and revocable
- Machine-readable for automated trust decisions

3. Authorization Chains

Cryptographic proof of who an agent represents and what it's authorized to do.

```
Human (Alice)  
  authorizes → Personal Agent (shopping, scheduling)  
    delegates → Sub-agent (price comparison)  
      limited → Read-only, no transactions
```

- Delegation hierarchies with constraints
- Real-time revocation
- Audit trail of all authorizations
- Supports enterprise governance requirements

4. Reputation Ledger

Portable, verifiable reputation that follows agents across platforms.

Reputation Dimensions: - **Reliability:** Task completion rate, uptime - **Accuracy:** Quality of outputs, error rates - **Safety:** Compliance incidents, harm reports - **Efficiency:** Speed, resource usage - **Trust Score:** Composite score (300-850, like credit)

```
{  
  "nid": "nid:openai:gpt-5-agent:7x9k2m4p:enterprise-acme",  
  "trustScore": 782,  
  "totalInteractions": 1247893,  
  "dimensions": {  
    "reliability": 0.94,  
    "accuracy": 0.89,  
    "safety": 0.99,  
    "efficiency": 0.87  
  },  
  "attestations": 47,  
  "disputes": 3,  
  "lastUpdate": "2023-10-15T12:00:00Z",  
  "status": "active",  
  "verified": true  
}
```

```
"resolutions": 3  
}
```

5. Accountability Registry

Immutable record of agent actions for compliance and dispute resolution.

- Every significant action logged with NID
- Cryptographic proof of who did what when
- Supports regulatory audits
- Enables liability attribution
- Privacy-preserving (selective disclosure)

Technical Architecture

System Design

| NexusID Platform | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Identity Registry | Capability Engine | Authorization Service |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NID mgmt• PKI• Lookup | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attest• Verify• Revoke | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Delegation chains• Real-time revocation• Policy enforcement |
| <hr/> | | |
| Reputation Ledger | Accountability Registry | Gateway API |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scoring• Disputes• Portable | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Action log• Audit• Compliance | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• REST/GraphQL• SDK (Python, JS, Go)• Webhooks• Real-time events |
| <hr/> | | |
| AI Agent Frameworks | Enterprise Systems | Platform Integrations |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• LangChain• AutoGPT• CrewAI• Custom | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Salesforce• SAP• Workday• ServiceNow | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• OpenAI• Anthropic• Google• AWS Bedrock |

Data Architecture

Identity Layer (Decentralized) - Distributed ledger for NID registry - Cryptographic anchoring (not full blockchain — efficient hybrid) - Regional nodes for latency and compliance

Reputation Layer (Federated) - Reputation scores computed across federated nodes - Privacy-preserving aggregation (no raw data sharing) - Dispute resolution smart contracts

Action Log (Enterprise) - Customer-controlled storage options - Encrypted, customer-key-wrapped - Retention policies per regulation

Security Model

1. **Zero-Trust Architecture:** Every request verified, no implicit trust
 2. **Hardware Security:** HSMs for key management at scale
 3. **Cryptographic Proofs:** Ed25519 signatures, BLS aggregation
 4. **Privacy by Design:** Selective disclosure, minimal data exposure
 5. **Post-Quantum Ready:** Hybrid classical/PQ signatures
-

Market Opportunity

Total Addressable Market (TAM)

AI Agent Economy (2028 projection): - 10B+ AI agents deployed globally - \$500B in AI agent-mediated transactions - \$50B in AI agent infrastructure spending

Identity/Trust Infrastructure: - 3-5% of transaction value = **\$15-25B market** - Per-agent licensing = **\$10-50B at scale**

Serviceable Addressable Market (SAM)

Enterprise AI Agent Deployments: - Fortune 5000 companies: $5000 \times \$500K$ avg = **\$2.5B** - Mid-market (50K companies): $50K \times \$50K$ = **\$2.5B** - **Year 5 SAM: \$5B**

Serviceable Obtainable Market (SOM)

Realistic capture (15-20% market share): - **Year 3: \$200M ARR** - **Year 5: \$750M-1B ARR**

Comparable Markets

| Market | Size | NexusID Parallel |
|------------------------------------|-------|---------------------|
| Digital Identity (Okta, Auth0) | \$15B | Identity layer |
| Credit Bureaus (Experian, Equifax) | \$25B | Reputation layer |
| PKI/Certificate Authorities | \$5B | Cryptographic trust |
| API Management (Kong, Apigee) | \$4B | Gateway/integration |

Business Model

Revenue Streams

1. Platform Subscriptions (60% of revenue)

| Tier | Price | Features |
|------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Starter | \$500/mo | 100 agents, basic identity, community support |
| Growth | \$2,500/mo | 1,000 agents, reputation, priority support |
| Enterprise | \$25,000/mo | Unlimited, full suite, SLA, dedicated CSM |

| Tier | Price | Features |
|---------------|------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Custom | \$100K+/mo | On-prem, custom integrations, white-label |

2. Transaction Fees (25% of revenue)

- \$0.001 per identity verification
- \$0.01 per capability attestation
- \$0.05 per authorization chain creation
- Volume discounts at scale

3. Trust Services (15% of revenue)

- Premium reputation audits: \$5K-50K
- Compliance certifications: \$10K-100K
- Dispute resolution services: \$500-5K per case
- Custom attestation authorities: \$50K+ setup

Unit Economics

Per Enterprise Customer: - Average Contract Value (ACV): \$150K - Gross Margin: 85% - CAC: \$30K (6-month payback) - LTV: \$450K (3-year average tenure) - LTV:CAC Ratio: 15:1

At Scale (Year 5): - 5,000 enterprise customers - \$750M ARR - 85% gross margin - 25% EBITDA margin

Go-To-Market Strategy

Phase 1: Establish the Standard (Months 1-12)

Target: AI Platform Partnerships

1. **Partner with AI providers** (OpenAI, Anthropic, Google)
 - Native NID support in their agent frameworks
 - Co-development of capability standards
 - Joint go-to-market
2. **Open-source core primitives**
 - NID specification (like OAuth)
 - Reference implementations
 - Build developer community
3. **Launch with design partners**
 - 10 Fortune 500 companies
 - Diverse industries (finance, healthcare, tech)
 - Case studies and proof points

Phase 2: Enterprise Adoption (Months 12-24)

Target: Enterprise Security & Compliance

1. **Compliance certifications**
 - SOC 2 Type II
 - ISO 27001
 - Industry-specific (HIPAA, PCI, etc.)
2. **Enterprise sales motion**
 - Security-led deals
 - Compliance-driven urgency

- Land with one use case, expand
- 3. System integrator partnerships**
- Accenture, Deloitte, McKinsey
 - Implementation capacity
 - Enterprise credibility

Phase 3: Market Standard (Months 24-48)

Target: Industry-Wide Adoption

1. **Standards body participation**
 - IEEE, W3C, NIST
 - Shape regulatory requirements
 - Become the reference implementation
 2. **Network effects**
 - More agents = more valuable network
 - Reputation portability drives adoption
 - Platform lock-in through ubiquity
 3. **Geographic expansion**
 - EU (AI Act compliance)
 - Asia-Pacific (high agent adoption)
 - Industry-specific clouds
-

Competitive Landscape

Current Players

| Company | Focus | Gap |
|------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Okta/Auth0 | Human identity | No AI agent support |
| DigiCert | PKI/certificates | Not agent-aware |
| Anthropic | AI safety | Platform-specific |
| OpenAI | AI capabilities | No identity layer |

Competitive Advantages

1. **First-Mover in AI Identity:** No one owns this category yet
2. **Network Effects:** Every agent added increases value
3. **Standards Play:** Shape the market, don't just participate
4. **Trust Accumulation:** Reputation data is a compounding moat
5. **Platform Agnostic:** Works with all AI providers

Defensibility

- **Data Network Effects:** Reputation improves with more data
 - **Switching Costs:** Identity is sticky — hard to migrate
 - **Standard Lock-in:** If we set the standard, alternatives are incompatible
 - **Trust Moat:** Years of reputation data can't be replicated
-

Team Requirements

Founding Team (Pre-Seed)

1. **CEO:** Enterprise SaaS founder, security/identity background
2. **CTO:** Distributed systems, cryptography, ex-FAANG
3. **Head of Product:** Identity/IAM experience (Okta, Auth0, Ping)

Key Hires (Seed - Series A)

- **VP Engineering:** Scale infrastructure, security-first
- **VP Sales:** Enterprise security sales (CISO relationships)
- **Head of Standards:** Industry body experience, technical credibility
- **Head of Partnerships:** AI platform relationships

Advisory Board

- Former CISO of Fortune 100
- AI safety researcher
- Identity standards expert (OAuth, OIDC author)
- Enterprise software CEO

Financial Projections

5-Year Forecast

| Metric | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 |
|---------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| ARR | \$2M | \$15M | \$75M | \$300M | \$750M |
| Customers | 50 | 300 | 1,200 | 3,000 | 5,500 |
| Agents (M) | 5M | 50M | 500M | 2B | 8B |
| Gross Margin | 75% | 80% | 83% | 85% | 85% |
| Headcount | 25 | 100 | 350 | 800 | 1,500 |

Funding Roadmap

| Round | Amount | Timing | Use of Funds |
|-----------------|--------|----------|-----------------------------------------|
| Pre-Seed | \$3M | Now | Core team, MVP, design partners |
| Seed | \$15M | Month 12 | Product, enterprise sales, partnerships |
| Series A | \$50M | Month 24 | Scale GTM, international expansion |
| Series B | \$150M | Month 36 | Market dominance, M&A |

Path to \$1B+ Valuation

- Year 3: $\$75M \text{ ARR} \times 20x = \$1.5B \text{ valuation}$ (Series A/B)
- Year 5: $\$750M \text{ ARR} \times 15x = \$11B+ \text{ valuation}$ (IPO trajectory)

Risks & Mitigations

| Risk | Likelihood | Impact | Mitigation |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|--------|-------------------------------------------|
| AI providers build native Standards fragmentation | Medium | High | Partner early, make switching costly |
| Slow enterprise adoption | Medium | Medium | Lead standards efforts, open-source core |
| Privacy regulation | Low | Medium | Compliance-driven urgency, risk messaging |
| Technical complexity | Medium | Medium | Privacy-first design, regional compliance |
| | | | World-class team, phased rollout |

Why Now?

Convergence of Forces

1. **AI Agent Explosion:** 2025-2026 is the inflection point
2. **Regulatory Pressure:** EU AI Act, US executive orders demand accountability
3. **Enterprise Demand:** CISOs blocking AI adoption without identity/audit
4. **Trust Crisis:** AI fraud and impersonation creating urgency
5. **Infrastructure Gap:** No incumbent solution exists

The Window

- **Too early (2023-2024):** AI agents weren't mainstream
- **Perfect timing (2025-2026):** Agents proliferating, no standard yet
- **Too late (2027+):** Fragmented standards, harder to unify

The next 18 months determine who owns AI agent identity.

30-60-90 Day Plan

Days 1-30: Foundation

- Recruit co-founders (CTO, Head of Product)
- Draft NID specification v0.1
- Identify 5 design partner targets
- Set up legal/corporate structure
- Begin pre-seed fundraising

Days 31-60: Validation

- Sign 2-3 design partner LOIs
- Build technical prototype
- Initiate AI platform partnership discussions
- Close pre-seed round
- Hire first 5 engineers

Days 61-90: MVP

- Launch private beta with design partners
 - Publish NID spec for community feedback
 - First enterprise pilot live
 - Announce AI platform partnership
 - Begin seed fundraising process
-

The Vision

2030 and Beyond

NexusID becomes the **trust layer of the AI economy** — as fundamental as DNS is to the internet or credit bureaus are to finance.

Every AI agent has a NexusID. Every interaction is verified. Every reputation is portable. Every action is accountable.

We don't just enable AI agents — we make them trustworthy.

The AI economy can't scale without trust. NexusID is that trust.

"In the age of AI agents, identity isn't just about who you are — it's about who your agents are, what they can do, and whether they can be trusted."

— **NexusID: Identity for the AI Economy**

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