IBM IoT Lab Services
Solution Brief

IoT Lab Services blockchain offerings

Fast-track your IoT and blockchain project today with IoT Lab Services



Watson IoT.

The IBM IoT Lab Services blockchain offerings are a set of customized service engagements allowing clients to experiment and innovate with the IBM® Watson™ IoT Platform and blockchain technologies.

The Watson IoT Platform has a built-in capability that lets you add selected IoT data to private blockchain networks and transactions. The protected data is only shared among the business partners involved with the transaction. Blockchain-based solutions can improve business efficiencies by enabling group agreement without the need for third-party authentication and validation, creating more efficient and profitable business networks.

The service offerings consist of an introductory **Discovery Workshop** followed by a short **First Project—Quick Win**. IBM expert consultants will work with clients to introduce blockchain technologies in the context of IoT devices, explore use cases and user-centered design through the IBM Design Thinking methodology, and then rapidly implement, test and deploy a minimum viable project to gain further support and momentum before pursuing a fully scaled solution.

Target audience

This is a cross-industry offering, but in particular, it is relevant to supply chains and trade lanes, asset management, and regulatory and compliance use cases. IoT and blockchain are not limited to these areas or use cases.

Many clients who have a business network and IoT devices may benefit from the activities in these service offerings. Client goals may include reducing costs, improving business efficiency, and removing single points of failure in business networks. Clients can be in the early phases of IoT adoption, or engaged in a mature IoT deployment that will be enhanced through IoT and blockchain.

Duration

- Discovery Workshop: 1-4 days

- First Project - Quick Win: 4-6 weeks

Benefits

- Explore the value and benefits of IoT and blockchain through a collaborative Discovery Workshop.
- Work with IBM experts to identify use cases that are relevant, cost-effective, and feasible to implement quickly.
- Implement a minimum viable project to validate the potential of an IoT and blockchain solution.
- Begin planning for large-scale deployment of an IoT and blockchain solution.

IoT Lab Services offerings

Discovery Workshop:

- Workshop pre-work: Conference call with the client to introduce the workshop structure and pre-work needed. Interviews with initial stakeholders, as identified by the client lead, to gather further insight on skill levels, business processes and typical interactions across the business network.
- Face-to-face Discovery Workshop onsite with the client, lasting between one and four days. The workshop will include relevant technology demonstrations, collection and review of customer use cases, a feasibility assessment, and recommendations for the first set of use cases to focus on in the minimum viable project.

First Project - Quick Win:

- Kickoff Definition of overall architecture, detailed project plan, sprints and milestones.
- Knowledge transfer: walkthrough of IoT and blockchain.
- Environment setup: assist with the skills transfer for the configuration of the development sandbox environment.
- Assistance with customization of chain code.
- IBM subject matter experts will work with the client team to help create the blockchain client application during the development sprints. This will be an iterative process, following agile methodologies.
- Summary: conclusions and recommended next steps.

Deliverables

Discovery Workshop:

 A solution guide documenting the agreed-upon client use cases, a feasibility assessment considering the client's current IT deployments, prerequisites, resource estimates, and a rough schedule in relation to the agreed scope of the minimum viable project

First Project - Quick Win Project:

- Finalized project plan
- Minimum viable project implementation to demonstrate the key use cases and their viability on the Watson IoT Platform
- Project results presentation, developed jointly with the client, documenting the results of the MVP and a high-level plan and next steps for implementation at scale

Client responsibilities

- The client should have an IoT strategy in place and have a good understanding of the (current and/or future) business processes and network they are intending to enhance through IoT and blockchain.
- The client should provide a detailed description of the loT physical environment, including network and connectivity, physical location of devices, and business network participants.
- The client should provide access to at least four roles: business owner, providing overall sponsorship and guidance; lead architect, providing coordination of client technical requirements and integrations; product manager, representing the IoT systems' users; and subject matter experts, who have domain knowledge on business processes and challenges in order to capture asset models and state.

About IBM IoT Lab Services

The IoT Lab Services organization provides expert services exclusively focused on the IBM IoT solution portfolio.

This organization helps clients build experience based on proven practices that help mitigate risks, raise the quality of implementations and build valuable skills. We have provided guidance, advice, reviews, assessments and assistance to thousands of clients around the world, enabling them to maximize the return on investment for IoT solutions.

For more information

Visit ibm.com/iot/blockchain to learn more.

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