



## Microsoft, Salesforce and the Ethereum Foundation Join Open-source Hyperledger **Blockchain** Project

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In a recent press release, Hyperledger, an open-source **blockchain** and distributed ledger project, announced eight new members have joined their consortium including Microsoft, Salesforce and the Ethereum Foundation. These organizations join established members like Airbus, Cisco, IBM and Intel.

The Hyperledger project is a multi-stakeholder initiative, hosted by the Linux Foundation, which focuses on building **blockchain** frameworks and tools for enterprises. The existing frameworks include capabilities for smart contract machine development (Hyperledger Burrow), decentralized identity (Hyperledger Indy) and permissioned/permission-less support for Ethereum Virtual Machines (EVM) (Hyperledger Sawtooth). From a tooling perspective, Hyperledger supports the infrastructure for peer-to-peer interactions (Hyperledger Aries), performance benchmarking (Hyperledger Caliper) and shared cryptographic libraries (Hyperledger Ursa).

Microsoft's involvement in **blockchain** goes back several years as they have been building out capabilities in Azure for organizations requiring **blockchain**-as-a-service capabilities. These investments include Project Bletchley, R3/Corda/Quorum protocol support and Microsoft-Truffle partnership to name a few.

...TTI). With Microsoft's current involvement in collaborating on open standards, joining the Hyperledger project seemed like a logical next step. Marley Gray, principal program manager on the Azure **Blockchain** team, explains:

...both discussions and project code. We believe that developing standards and open specifications, as well as collaborating on implementations of them, is critical to removing customer blockers and accelerating **blockchain** as a mainstream technology. Through our work related to the EEA and TTI, we have identified several opportunities for Microsoft to lean in and contribute code in project areas...

Salesforce is relatively new to the **blockchain** space having recently introduced their low-code **blockchain** platform for CRM. Their offering was built on Hyperledger Sawtooth and customized for the Salesforce Lightning platform. The goal of Salesforce **Blockchain** is to:

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The motivation for Salesforce to join the Hyperledger project includes tapping into the broader **blockchain** community. Adam Caplan, svp, Emerging Technology, Salesforce explains:

**Blockchain** is quickly becoming a foundational technology for organizations to deliver a truly connected customer experience and Hyperledger has created a great **blockchain** community that we're excited to learn from and be a part of.

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