Inclusion of Third-Party Open Source Software

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# Introduction

## Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide the template for a proposal to include third-party open source either as a dependency or directly into an AllSeen Alliance project

## Scope

This document is intended to be used by members of a project that wish to propose creating a dependency on third-party open source software. The audience will be the Technical Steering Committee and the Board of Directors.

## Acronyms and terms

**Term Definition**

OSS Open Source Software.

TSC Technical Steering Committee

# Overview

Dependencies on third-party OSS may have product-related and maintenance implications. For example, if a project wanted to create a dependency on GPL licensed code it might become difficult, if not impossible, for some members to ship products that use that project’s code. Dependencies on third-party OSS need to be vetted to make sure they are acceptable to the membership.

The next section is the template that needs to be completed and submitted to the TSC for review. The text in square brackets is intended to provide context, examples or direction on how to answer the questions; it should be replaced.

# Process

Submit section 8 below to the TSC.

1) Are the members of the agreeable (via TSC vote) to the proposal?

* **NO** – software is rejected
* **YES** – forward proposal to the Board

2) Is the proposal acceptable to the Board?

* **NO** – software is rejected
* **YES** – forward proposal to the Board

3) The Board will lLikely need input from legal subcommittee of board

* **NO** – software is rejected
* **YES** – software is accepted

# Third Party OSS Dependency Proposal

## What is the project? Where is the code?

[Provide the name of the project and a link]

[Provide a link to the source]

## What license is the software under?

[Provide a copy of the license, not a link.]

## What does the software do?

[The intent of the following questions is to allow the TSC to discuss suitability of SW package to solve the problem at hand. It is possible that there is a better package available.]

**What is its primary functionality?**

[e.g. SQLite is a lightweight database.]

**What problem are you trying to solve?**

[e.g. a state store is required to maintain…]

**Why is this the right software to solve it?**

[e.g. because SQLite is small, easy to use, and has a very liberal license.]

## Is the software going to be developer dependency or a project dependency?

Will the AllSeen Alliance open source code have a direct dependency on the third-party code, or will it be included via an abstraction layer?

[Creating an abstraction allows members to replace the third-party dependency with a more desirable implementation.]

## If not an abstraction layer, which approach to inclusion is taken?

[Use the flow chart below to determine the answer: use the description of the approach here. **Note**: The inclusion methods are in order of preference, that is, approach 1 is more desirable than 2, and 2 is more desirable than 3, etc… It is possible that the evaluation will result in not being able to use the package.]

