SharePoint Framework (SPFx) Policies & Procedures



App Deployment & Management Policies & Procedures

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Revision and Signoff Sheet

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1. Introduction

Before a SharePoint Framework (SPFx) solution is published in the site collection or tenant application catalog, it must go through submission, approval, and deployment process. These processes are highly recommended and is meant to ensure that your app functions properly and that its page clearly describes its purpose and features. This document will go over the deployment and operational & management (O&M) of the application.

1. App Submission/Approval Summary



Figure - App Submission/Approval Summary

The app submission process will have a test site created for the developer. As part of the approval process, a test site is created, and the app is deployed to the site. This test site will be used to complete the test procedures to approve the app for deployment.

1. App Testing/Approval Summary



Figure - App Testing/Approval Summary

The app testing and approval processes complete the steps required for the application to be approved for deployment to the application catalog.

1. SPFx Deployment

This section will go over the deployment of a SPFx application.

* 1. SPFx Deployment Scopes

When building SharePoint Framework solutions, developers can choose whether their solution supports tenant-wide deployment or if it must be deployed on each site separately. The latter is required when the solution needs to provision additional resources, such as lists, after being deployed to a site. Applications targeted for Teams, must be deployed at the tenant-wide scope.

While the developers building the solution decide if the solution supports tenant-wide deployment or not, it's the administrators who make the final decision on how the solution is deployed. Even if a solution could be deployed to all sites in the tenant, administrators can choose to deploy it only to the specific sites. If the solution doesn't support tenant-wide deployment, administrators can deploy it only to specific sites.

**Important**

Tenant-wide deployment is available only in SharePoint Online. In SharePoint hosted on-premises, SharePoint Framework solutions can be deployed only to specific sites.

The SharePoint Framework doesn't have a store, which SharePoint Add-ins have. For this reason, any deployments always must be initiated by the tenant admin by adding and approving a solution package to the app catalog.

* 1. Managing SPFx Package

Before all the SharePoint Framework solutions to be deployed into a SharePoint Online tenant, they must be approved by a tenant administrator. This is done by uploading the SharePoint Framework package, the **\*.sppkg** file into the Apps for SharePoint library.

When a new solution is added to the library, the administrator gets a dialog that asks for a consent to approve the solution for use in the tenancy. The dialog explains that this is a full trust client-side code solution without any resource restrictions and that it executes under users' context. It also shows from what domain it will primarily get content, that is the CDN location of the SharePoint Framework scripts.

Any SharePoint Framework application can load data from other locations, after the initial load from the CDN. Once approved, the SharePoint Framework solution can be enabled on any site collection.

This section will go over the deployment of a solution to the application catalog.

* + 1. Access the Application Catalog

Graphical user interface, text, application

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Figure - Site Collection App Catalog

Access the site collection app catalog site and select the “Apps for SharePoint” library.

* + 1. Upload the SPFx Package

Graphical user interface, application

Description automatically generated

Figure - Upload the SPFx Package

Click on the “Upload” button and select the SPFx file to upload to the catalog.

* + 1. Deploy the SPFx Package

Graphical user interface, application

Description automatically generated

Figure - Deploy the SPFx Package

The deployment window will be displayed next. Click “Deploy” to make the solution available for installation.

* + - 1. Deploy SPFx Package with API Permissions

Graphical user interface, text, application

Description automatically generated

Figure 6 - Deploying App with API Permissions

Apps utilizing the Graph/Custom API will have this information included in the deployment. The administrator will need to review the permissions and approve them in the tenant’s API Management page. To approve these permissions, access the SharePoint admin center and select “API Access” from the “Advanced” navigation menu, as shown in the figure below.

Graphical user interface, application

Description automatically generated

Figure 7 - Admin Center API Access

Graphical user interface, text, application, email

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Figure 8 - API Access Management

The API access management page will display all approved and pending request. For the application to run successfully, the API request must be approved. The API requests can be isolated for apps scoped at site collection(s), or organization-wide for apps scoped at the tenant.

* + - 1. Deploy SPFx Package to Teams

Graphical user interface, text, application, Word

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Figure - Deploy SPFx Package to Teams

To deploy a solution to Teams, the package MUST be deployed at the tenant app catalog. The option to “Make this solution available to all sites in the organization” MUST be selected, otherwise it will not be able to be synced to Teams.

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Figure - Sync SPFx Package to Teams

Once the solution is deployed with this checkmark selected, select the file in the library and view the ribbon options under the “File” tab.

Graphical user interface, application

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Figure - Sync to Teams Verification

A verification message will be displayed after the sync completes. It may take a couple minutes for the solution to propagate to the Teams app catalog.

Graphical user interface, application, Teams

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Figure - View Teams Apps

Access Teams, and select the ellipsis from the left navigation bar and then click on “More Apps”. Select the option for “Built for your org” and you will see the SPFx applications synced to teams.

Graphical user interface, application, Teams

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Figure - Teams App Information

Clicking on the app will allow you to view information about the app and/or install it to a channel.

1. Operations & Management (O&M)

This section will go over the operations and management of the application.

* 1. Site Collection App Catalog
     1. Helpdesk Support

Helpdesk support of the applications will be at the discretion of the site collection owner.

* + 1. Yearly Review

A review of the applications will be completed at the discretion of the site collection owner. It’s recommended that this action takes place, similar to the tenant application catalog.

* 1. Tenant Application Catalog
     1. Helpdesk Support

Applications deployed at the tenant level will require help desk support from the organization/unit responsible for the application.

* + 1. Yearly Review

A yearly review of the application must be completed. Any applications that are not being used should be disabled and/or removed from the application catalog. If support is no longer available by the submitting organization/unit, then the application should be removed from the application catalog.

* 1. Enhancements/Bugs

A developer will need to be made available for any bugs reported by the end user. Enhancement requests will also require a developer to be made available. It’s recommended for the source code to be placed in a source code repository.

* 1. Large Lists

The data source of the solution will need to be reviewed to ensure large amounts of data isn’t collected. This can cause future issues based on how the code was originally implemented.

* + 1. Migrate to Dataverse

Consider migrating the data to Dataverse in Power Platform to solve issue of the SharePoint list has large number of items or application security requirements become more granular. This will require the solution to be migrated to the Power Platform. Based on the solution, this may be a consideration for the yearly review.