

Modifying the Immutable: Attaching Artifacts to OCI Images



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Container Images

- Filesystem layers
- Created with docker build
- Sometimes referenced with sha256:...
- Inspecting images to see history and config
- Multi-platform images

Layers

```
$ ldigest=sha256:8921db27df2831fa6eaa85321205a2470c669b855f3ec95d5a3c2b46de0442c9
$ curl -s http://localhost:5000/v2/$repo/blobs/$ldigest | sha256sum
8921db27df2831fa6eaa85321205a2470c669b855f3ec95d5a3c2b46de0442c9
$ curl -s http://localhost:5000/v2/$repo/blobs/$ldigest | tar -tvzf - | head
drwxr-xr-x 0/0
                             0 2023-01-09 07:46 bin/
1rwxrwxrwx 0/0
                             0 2023-01-09 07:46 bin/arch -> /bin/busybox
lrwxrwxrwx 0/0
                             0 2023-01-09 07:46 bin/ash -> /bin/busybox
                             0 2023-01-09 07:46 bin/base64 -> /bin/busybox
lrwxrwxrwx 0/0
                             0 2023-01-09 07:46 bin/bbconfig -> /bin/busybox
lrwxrwxrwx 0/0
                        841392 2022-11-19 05:13 bin/busybox
-rwxr-xr-x 0/0
                             0 2023-01-09 07:46 bin/cat -> /bin/busybox
lrwxrwxrwx 0/0
lrwxrwxrwx 0/0
                             0 2023-01-09 07:46 bin/chattr -> /bin/busybox
lrwxrwxrwx 0/0
                             0 2023-01-09 07:46 bin/chgrp -> /bin/busybox
                             0 2023-01-09 07:46 bin/chmod -> /bin/busybox
lrwxrwxrwx 0/0
```

Other Blobs

```
$ cdigest=sha256:042a816809aac8d0f7d7cacac7965782ee2ecac3f21bcf9f24b1de1a7387b769
$ curl -s http://localhost:5000/v2/$repo/blobs/$cdigest | sha256sum
042a816809aac8d0f7d7cacac7965782ee2ecac3f21bcf9f24b1de1a7387b769
$ curl -s http://localhost:5000/v2/$repo/blobs/$cdigest | jq .
  "config": {
    "Env": [
      "PATH=/usr/local/sbin:/usr/local/bin:/usr/sbin:/usr/bin:/sbin:/bin"
    "Cmd": [ "/bin/sh" ],
    "WorkingDir": "",
    "Labels": null
  "history": [
      "created": "2023-01-09T17:05:20.497231175Z",
      "created_by": "/bin/sh -c #(nop) ADD file:e4d600fc4c9c29... in / "
```

Image Manifest

```
$ mdigest=sha256:93d5a28ff72d288d69b5997b8ba47396d2cbb62a72b5d87cd3351094b5d578a0
$ curl -s http://localhost:5000/v2/$repo/manifests/$mdigest | sha256sum
93d5a28ff72d288d69b5997b8ba47396d2cbb62a72b5d87cd3351094b5d578a0
$ curl -s http://localhost:5000/v2/$repo/manifests/$mdigest | jg .
  "schemaVersion": 2,
  "mediaType": "application/vnd.docker.distribution.manifest.v2+json",
  "confia": {
    "mediaType": "application/vnd.docker.container.image.v1+json",
    "size": 1472,
    "digest": "sha256:042a816809aac8d0f7d7cacac7965782ee2ecac3f21bcf9f24b1de1a7387b769"
  "layers": [
      "mediaType": "application/vnd.docker.image.rootfs.diff.tar.gzip",
      "size": 3370628,
      "digest": "sha256:8921db27df2831fa6eaa85321205a2470c669b855f3ec95d5a3c2b46de0442c9"
```



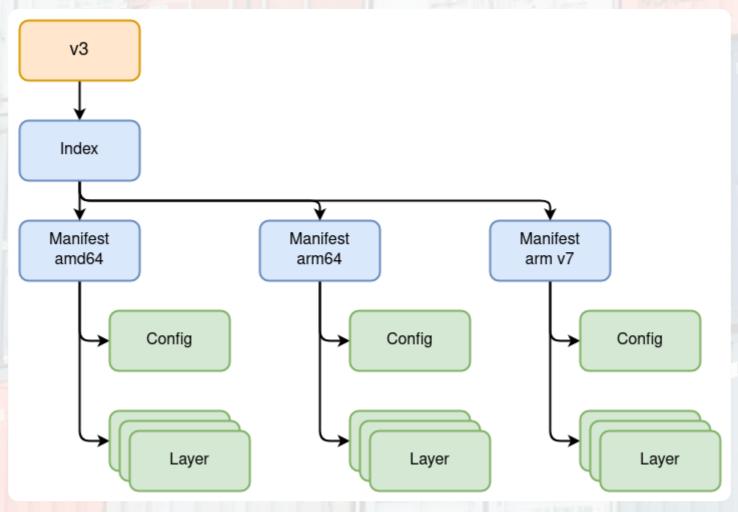
Immutability

- Merkle DAG + Content Addressable Store
- Merkle Tree: each node includes hashes of child nodes
- DAG: Directed Acyclic Graph
- Content Addressable Store: content of each node is referenced by hash of itself
- Result: Immutability

Multi-platform Images

```
$ curl -H 'Accept: application/vnd.docker.distribution.manifest.list.v2+json' -s \
  http://localhost:5000/v2/$repo/manifests/alpine | jq .
  "mediaType": "application/vnd.docker.distribution.manifest.list.v2+json",
  "manifests": [
      "digest": "sha256:93d5a28ff72d288d69b5997b8ba47396d2cbb62a72b5d87cd3351094b5d578a0",
      "mediaType": "application/vnd.docker.distribution.manifest.v2+json",
      "platform": {
        "architecture": "amd64",
        "os": "linux"
      "size": 528
      "digest": "sha256:01a4cdaebc9c6af607753cc538c507d0867897cdf9a1caa70bbab2eb1506c964",
      "mediaType": "application/vnd.docker.distribution.manifest.v2+json",
      "platform": {
        "architecture": "arm",
        "os": "linux",
        "variant": "v6"
```

Multi-platform Images



Artifacts

```
$ adigest=sha256:ea706edf61ef640bcdf3c9ac9045c28446e6b2d08541b9ad614c7267d0b87375
$ curl -s http://localhost:5000/v2/$repo/blobs/$adigest
contains electrons
$ amdigest=sha256:a3adcd22fc09a26551c67e3e706a42c0615d0e05ac546054932e831dae54363f
$ curl ... http://localhost:5000/v2/$repo/manifests/$amdigest | jq .
  "schemaVersion": 2,
  "mediaType": "application/vnd.oci.image.manifest.v1+json",
  "config": {
    "mediaType": "application/vnd.example.ebom",
    "size": 2,
    "digest": "sha256:44136fa355b3678a1146ad16f7e8649e94fb4fc21fe77e8310c060f61caaff8a"
  "layers": [
      "mediaType": "application/octet-stream",
      "size": 19,
      "digest": "sha256:ea706edf61ef640bcdf3c9ac9045c28446e6b2d08541b9ad614c7267d0b87375"
```

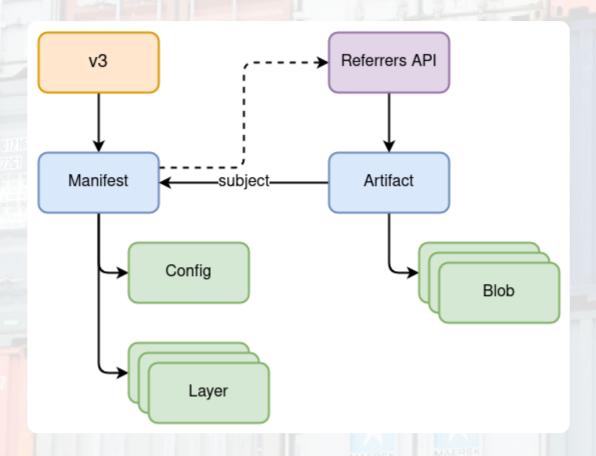
Challenge: Associating Artifacts with Images

- SBOMs: generate and consume... distribution?
 - Custom distribution per SBOM?
 - o Central database?
- Attach SBOM to an existing image
 - Not just SBOMs: signatures, attestations, anything
- How do we attach to an immutable object?

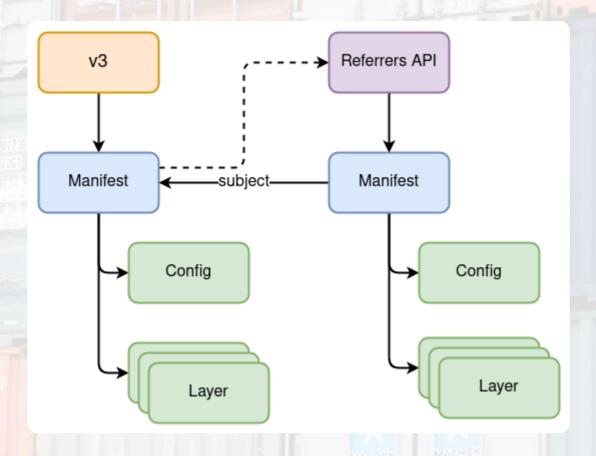
How Do We Modify the Immutable

- Adding metadata to an image would modify it
- How do we attach metadata to an existing image?
- Goals:
 - Efficient on registry processing, bandwidth, and round trips
 - Attaching to existing images
 - Option to detach when copying
 - Referencing images by digest or tag
 - Multiple artifacts of the same type are possible
 - Not limited to known artifact types
- Multiple solutions

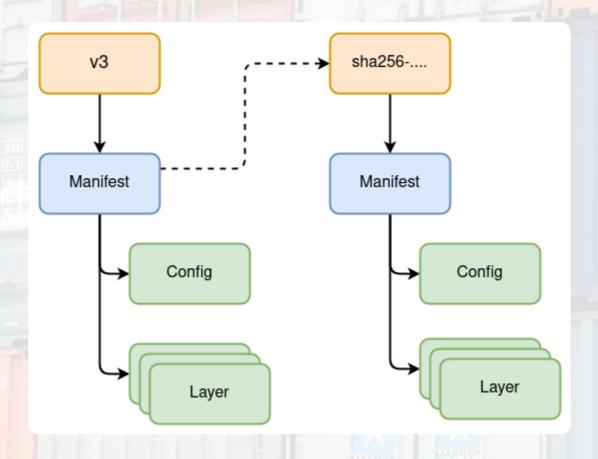
Option: New Manifest, Subject Field, and API



Option: Subject Field on Existing Manifests



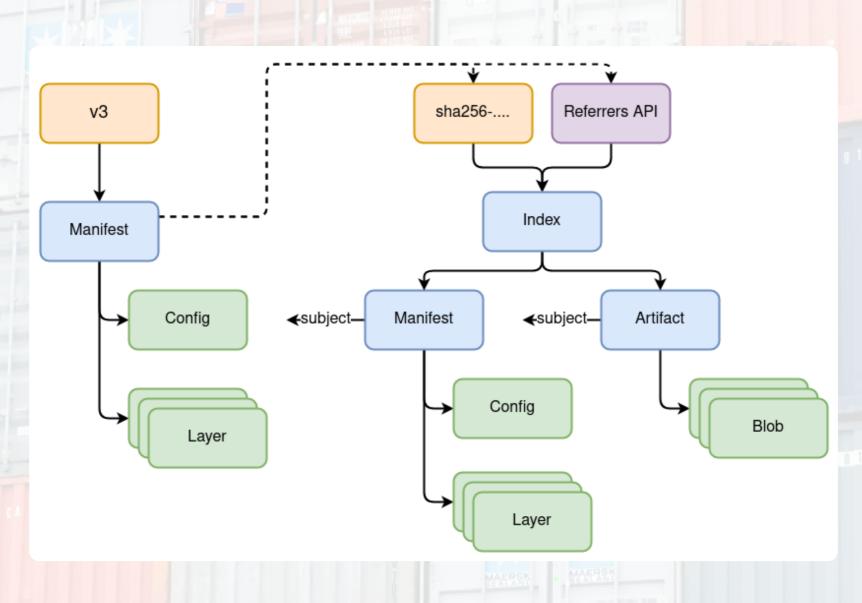
Option: Custom Tag Syntax



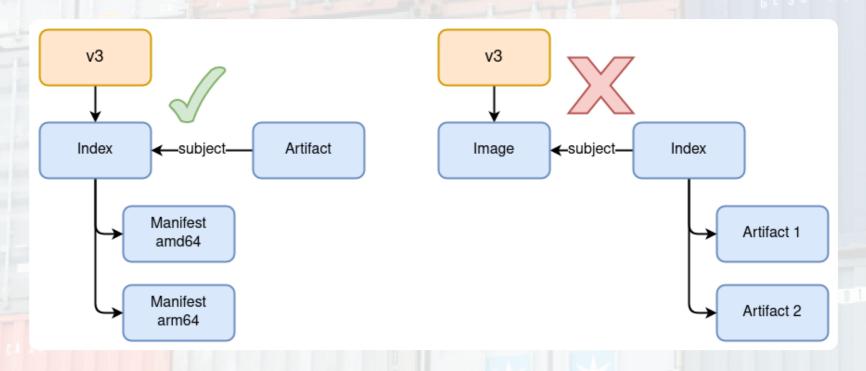
So which option did we pick?

How does this all come together?

- Add an Artifact manifest
- Add a subject field to the Image and Artifact manifests
- Add a referrers API to query the subject field
- Clients manage a tag if the referrers API isn't available

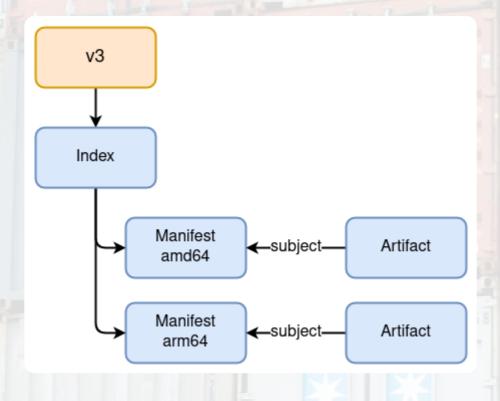


Why Not Add a Subject to the Index?



Why Not Add a Subject to the Index? ν3 Image —subject — Index @bmitch@fosstodon.org

Garbage Collection



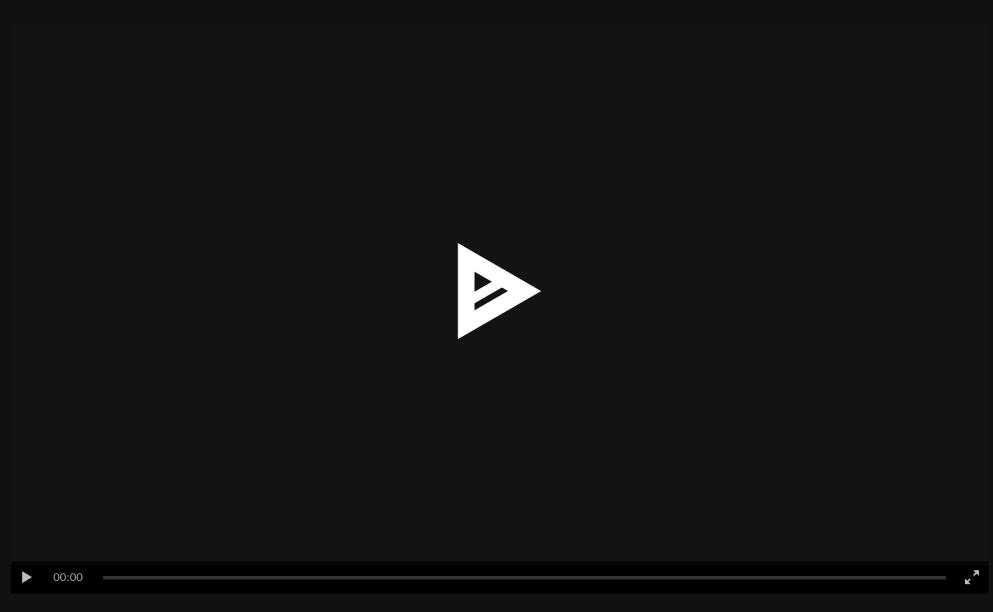
Referrers API Response

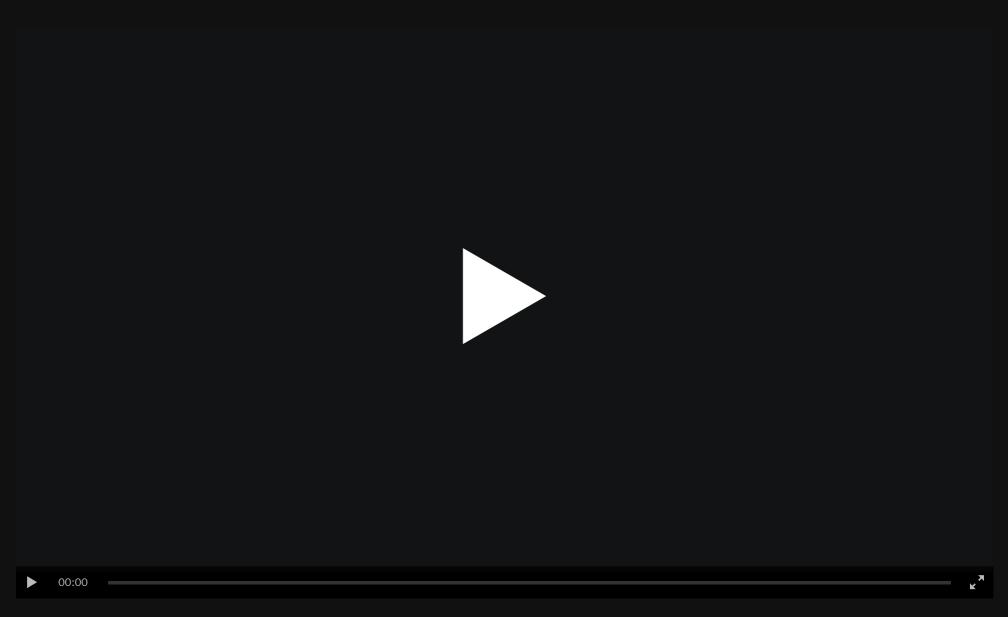
```
$ curl -I -H 'Accept: application/vnd.docker.distribution.manifest.list.v2+json' -s \
  http://localhost:5000/v2/$repo/manifests/alpine | grep Docker-Content-Digest
Docker-Content-Digest: sha256:f271e74b17ced29b915d351685fd4644785c6d1559dd1f2d4189a5e851ef753a
$ ref_tag=sha256-f271e74b17ced29b915d351685fd4644785c6d1559dd1f2d4189a5e851ef753a
$ curl -H 'Accept: application/vnd.oci.image.index.v1+json' -s \
  http://localhost:5000/v2/$repo/manifests/${ref_tag} | jq .
  "mediaType": "application/vnd.oci.image.index.v1+json",
  "manifests": [
      "mediaType": "application/vnd.oci.image.manifest.v1+json",
      "size": 623,
      "digest": "sha256:732eeff5c5278ab7e55be610919666567b20b6abb7e88b9845f85835f0b2d322",
      "annotations": {
        "org.opencontainers.artifact.created": "2023-02-01T09:10:11Z"
      "artifactType": "application/vnd.example.ebom"
```

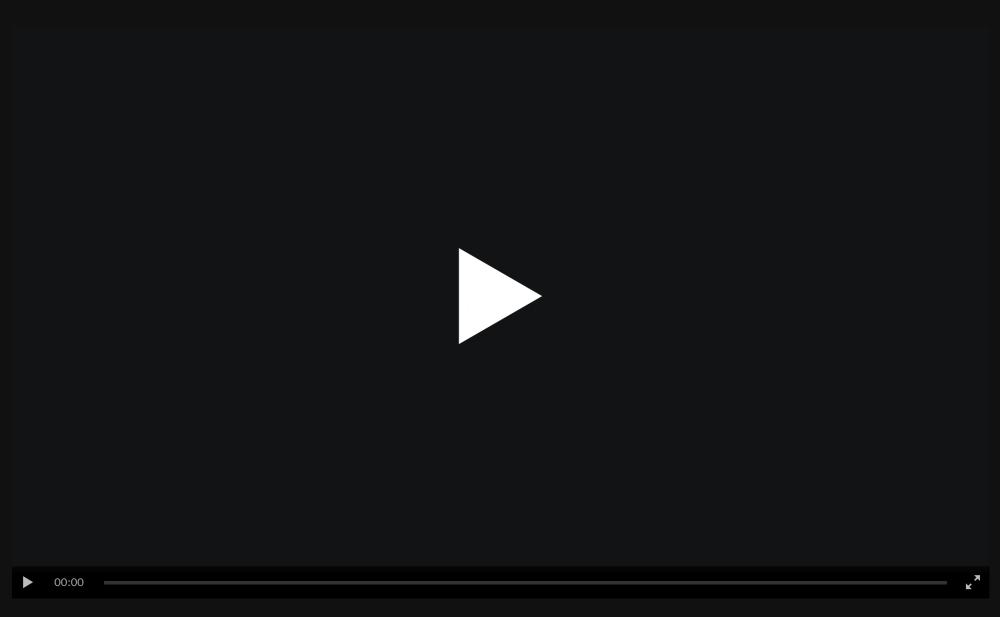
Subject Field

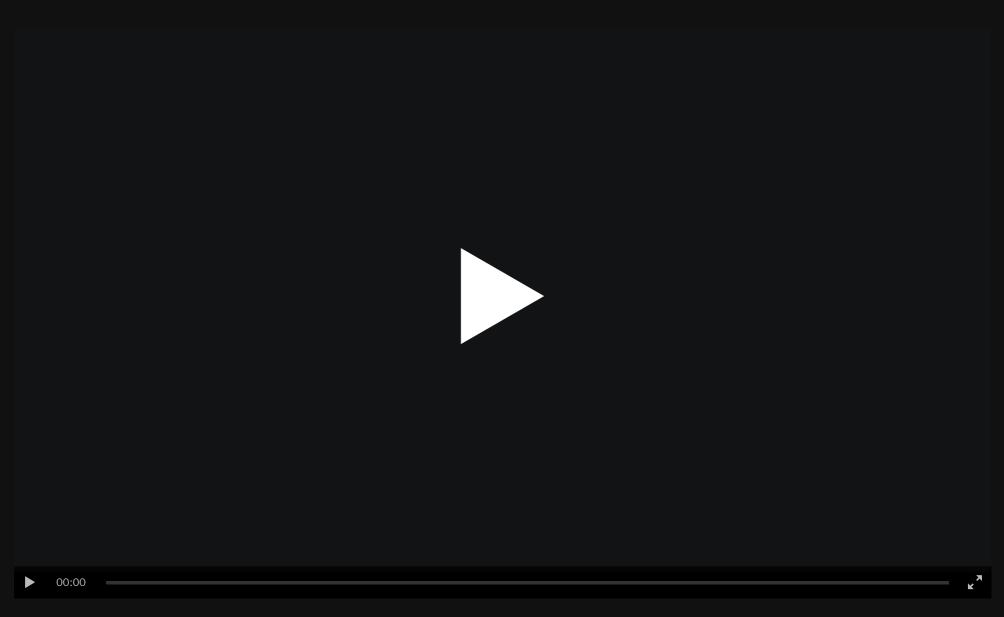
```
$ mdigest=sha256:732eeff5c5278ab7e55be610919666567b20b6abb7e88b9845f85835f0b2d322
$ curl -H 'Accept: application/vnd.oci.image.manifest.v1+json' -s \
  http://localhost:5000/v2/$repo/manifests/$mdigest | jq .
  "mediaType": "application/vnd.oci.image.manifest.v1+json",
  "config": { ...
    "mediaType": "application/vnd.example.ebom",
  "layers": [{ ...
    "digest": "sha256:ea706edf61ef640bcdf3c9ac9045c28446e6b2d08541b9ad614c7267d0b87375"
  }],
   "annotations": {
    "org.opencontainers.artifact.created": "2023-02-01T09:10:11Z"
  "subject": {
    "mediaType": "application/vnd.docker.distribution.manifest.list.v2+json",
    "size": 1638.
    "digest": "sha256:f271e74b17ced29b915d351685fd4644785c6d1559dd1f2d4189a5e851ef753a"
```

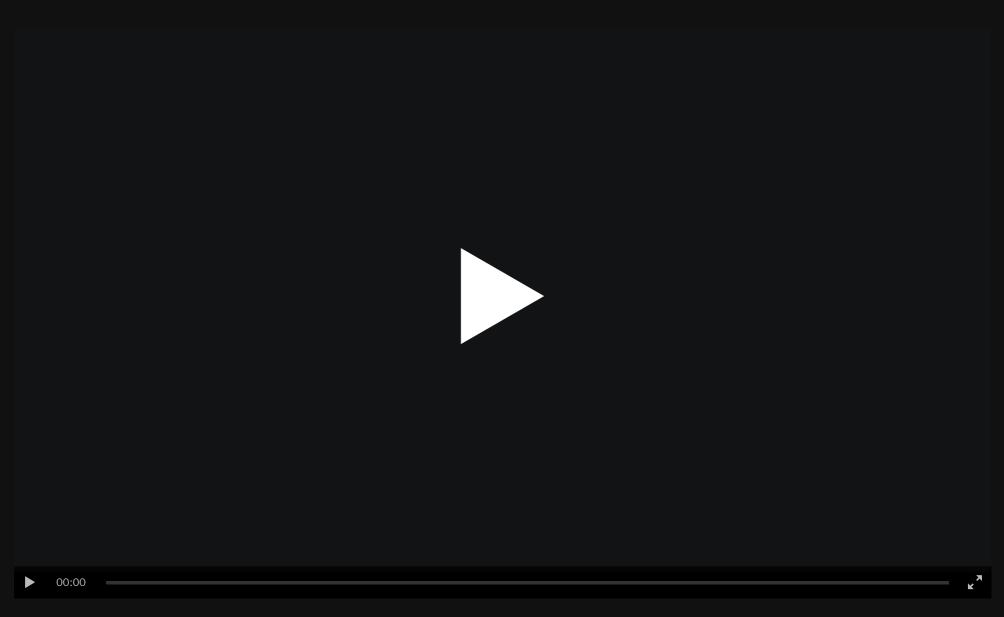
Demo

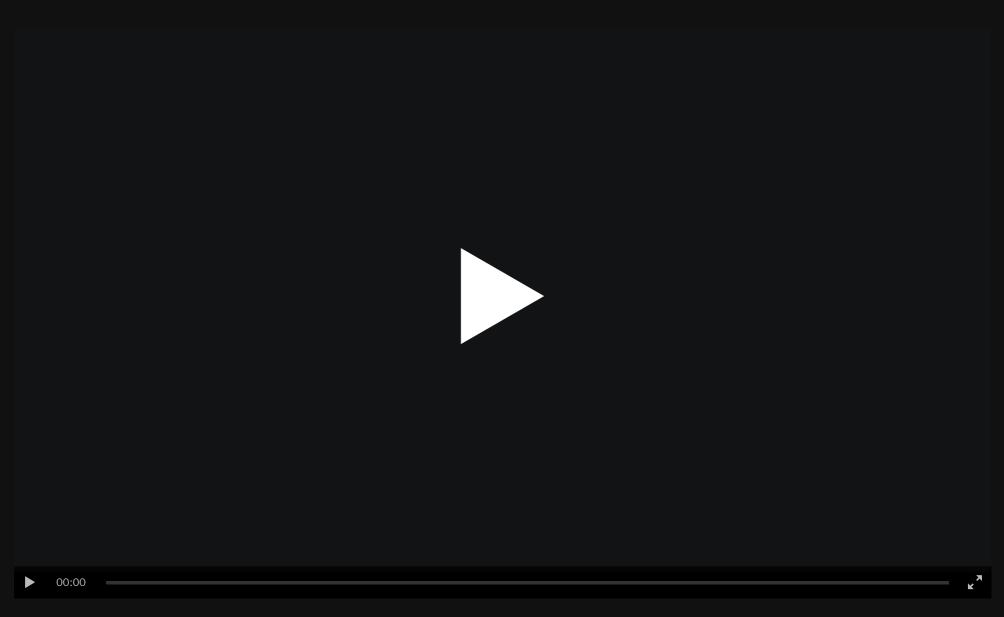


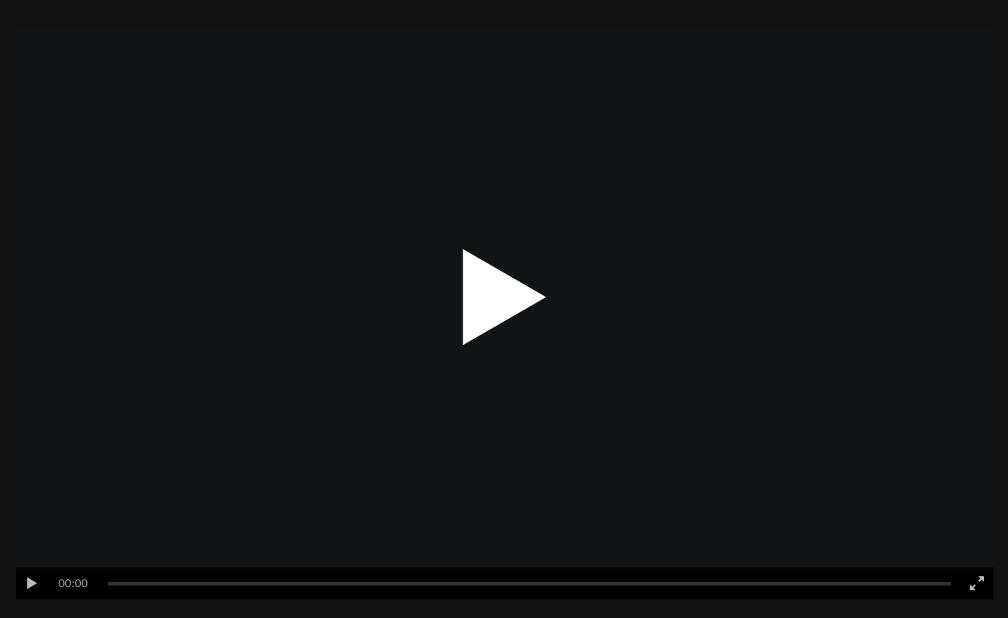












What should registries do?

- Do not filter on unknown fields (subject and config media type)
- Add support for the artifact manifest
- Enable the referrers API
 - Retroactively include manifests using the tag schema

What should clients do?

- Use Image manifest for portability
- Manage the fallback tag if the referrers API is unavailable
- Pick appropriate artifactType values
- Use annotations responsibly

The Catch Changes are in main but not released Registry support at various stages Client tooling at various stages

Thank You

github.com/sudo-bmitch/presentations



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