Proposal - KERI (Key Event Receipt Infrastructure) Task Force

Rationale

KERI has been developed in the open source community since the original white paper (here) authored by Dr Samuel Smith was published. KERI has seen adoption in multiple sectors most notably the GLEIF vLEI ecosystem and subsequent launch in to production January of 2023.

It has fostered and developed seven supplemental specifications over time and has a reference implementation KERIpy and implementations of CESR in both TypeScript and Rust.

KERI has an active open source community participating in, promoting and representing KERI at events like IIW and the European Identity Conference.

As the community looks towards further standardization ToIP is an ideal venue to conduct further horizontal review and continue to inform the TSWG Trust spanning layer work.

The community feels adoption of the KERI and supplemental specifications would bolster both ToIP and the groups already invested heavily in KERI.

In return the community gets the benefit of a recognized standards organization and path forward to further standardization.

Purpose

The purpose of the Key Event Receipt Infrastructure (KERI) Task Force is to help draft and incubate a family of specifications that defines the KERI ecosystem.

KERI is the first truly decentralized identity system. It is ledger-less which means it doesn't need to use a ledger at all or ledger-portable which means that its identifiers are not locked to any given ledger and may switch as needed. In other words KERI identifiers are truly portable.

Deliverables

The table below lists all deliverables of the KERI Task Force:

Acronym	Full Name of Deliverable	Deliverable Type	Link to Draft Deliverable	Lead Authors	Status/Notes
SAID	Self-Addressing Identifiers	Specification	IETF Spec Repo	Samuel Smith	Active Draft
CESR	Composable Event Streaming Representation	Specification	IETF Spec Repo	Samuel Smith	Active Draft
CESR Proof	CESR Proof Signatures	Specification	IETF Spec Repo	Phil Feairheller	Active Draft
PTEL	Public Transaction Event Log	Specification	IETF Spec Repo	Phil Feairheller	
IPEX	Issuance and Presentation Exchange protocol	Specification	IETF Spec Repo	Samuel Smith Phil Feairheller	
OOBI	Out-Of-Band-Introduction protocol	Specification	IETF Spec Repo	Samuel Smith	Active Draft
DID KERI	KERI DID Method	Specification	IETF Spec Repo	Phil Feairheller	
KERI	Key Event Receipt Infrastructure	Specification	IETF Spec Repo	Samuel Smith	

Chairs

Please add your name to this list if you wish to be a chair:

- Samuel Smith, ProSapien Samuel Smith
- Philip Feairheller, GLEIF Phil Feairheller
- Kevin Griffin, GLEIF Kevin Griffin

Members

Please add your name to this list in any desired role:

- Primary Editors
- Secondary Editors
- Primary Reviewers
  - ○
- Secondary Reviewers
- Observers

Meeting Schedule

The KERI TF currently holds a meeting every two weeks on Tuesdays:

- **NA/EU: 10:00-11:00 EST / 14:00-15:00 UTC**

For all authoritative meeting logistics and Zoom links, please see the ToIP Calendar.

See latest documentation in the GitHub Repo here: LINK

Meeting Agendas and Notes

All meeting agendas and notes are recorded on the KERI Meeting Page.

Intellectual Property Rights (Copyright, Patent, Source Code)

As a Task Force (TF) of the Technology Stack WG (TSWG), the KERI TF inherits the IPR terms from the TSWG JDF Charter. These include:

- Copyright mode: Apache2 and IETF Copyright
- Patent mode: Apache2
- Source code: **Apache 2.0**, available at http://www.apache.org/licenses/LICENSE-2.0.html.
- The KERI TF is not expected to produce source code.

Mailing List and Communications

This task force uses the following for communications

- **Slack**: This TF has its own dedicated Slack channel: #tswg-keri-tf
- **Github**: This TF will use GitHub issues for substantive conversations on topics, not Slack. This way the conversation is source controlled.

Specification Generation

Currently specializations use the IETF draft template but we acknowledge that will need to migrate over time, likely to ISO format.

We may alternatively use the following formats:

- **Markdown**: Draft portions spec written in Markdown
- **SpecUP**: Final version of spec processed with SpecUp