



EMBARGOED UNTIL JUNE 7, 10 AM EDT

Good Health Pass Collaborative Releases Draft Blueprint for Digital Health Passes in Advance of G7 Summit

June 7, 2021, San Francisco, CA: In an effort to restore global travel and restart the global economy, the **Good Health Pass Collaborative** today announced the release of the eagerly-anticipated ***Good Health Pass Interoperability Blueprint***.

The Blueprint – released today in draft form for a three-week period of stakeholder consultations and public comment – is intended to stimulate discussion at the **G7 Summit**, which will open Friday in Carbis Bay, Cornwall, UK.

This announcement follows on a May 18 letter, sent by the **Good Health Pass Collaborative** to G7 leaders, urging them to adopt a statement of principles for digital health passes. The letter also called for the formation of a working group – composed of senior ministerial staff from G7, G20, and European Union health and transport ministries – with the task of reaching international consensus on standards by July 16.

Unprecedented global collaboration – between governments, nonprofits, universities, and the private sector – propelled the rapid development and distribution of highly effective COVID vaccines. A similar level of collaboration is urgently needed to ensure that verifiable digital health passes for international travel can be issued and universally accepted worldwide by airlines, border control agencies, and others.

Most governments already require proof of travelers' COVID status – either through a recent negative test or, increasingly, proof of vaccination – as a precondition of entry. While dozens of solutions have been rushed to market to meet this growing demand, they vary greatly in the extent to which they protect user privacy and security and enable individuals to control access to their personal health information.

The absence of internationally-recognized, consensus-based open standards – to which all solutions adhere – could leave individuals uncertain about the security and privacy of their data and even unsure of whether their health pass will be accepted for travel.

“Digital health passes offer our best hope to safely, confidently, and promptly restore global travel and restart the global economy – but only if they are widely trusted and adopted by the public and universally accepted by airlines and border control agencies,” said **ID2020 executive director, Dakota Gruener**. “The standards proposed in the ***Good Health Pass Interoperability***

Blueprint will make it possible for digital health pass systems around the world to be interoperable with one another, thus creating a trusted, convenient, and seamless experience for travellers as well as for airlines, airports, and border control agencies.”

Restoring international travel is vital to restarting the global economy. **The World Travel and Tourism Council** estimates that 61.6 million tourism-related jobs worldwide have been lost as a result of the pandemic. In 2020, travel and tourism contributions to global GDP decreased by 49.1%, a loss of \$4.5 trillion (USD), nearly 18 times the impact experienced during the 2009 global financial crisis.

Under normal circumstances, it would take years to develop standards for digital health passes.

In February, **ID2020** launched the **Good Health Pass Collaborative**, a multi-sector, global initiative to establish guiding principles for digital health passes and dramatically streamline the standards development process. Within weeks, the Collaborative grew from 25 partners to more than 125 companies and organizations from across the health, travel, and technology sectors.

Nine “drafting groups”, bringing together more than 120 experts from the health, travel, and technology sectors were managed through a partnership with the **Trust Over IP Foundation** the **Covid-19 Credentials Initiative** and **Linux Foundation Public Health** – all projects of the **Linux Foundation**.

The resulting **Good Health Pass Interoperability Blueprint** addresses – in considerable depth and detail – nine technical and interoperability challenges around which global consensus must be reached:

- Design principles
- Creating a consistent user experience
- Standard data models and elements
- Credential formats, signatures, and exchange protocols
- Security, privacy, and data protection
- Trust registries
- Rules engines
- Identity binding (ensuring the authenticity of the holder)
- Governance

“This draft blueprint is historic, both in its depth and breadth of proposed standards, as well as the number of expert volunteers who contributed their time to its development,” said Gruener. “When we partnered with the **Trust Over IP Foundation**, we committed to an open and inclusive process. Releasing the draft for public comment today takes that commitment a step further. We felt this was incredibly important, given the range of public and private entities expected to play a role in the issuance and acceptance of digital health passes and the need to build public trust and support their adoption.”

The UK government – in its capacity as president of the G7 – has identified “leading the global recovery from coronavirus, while strengthening our resilience against further pandemic” as the

highest policy priority for this 47th G7 Summit. International agreement on principles and standards for digital health passes are critical to achieving this policy priority.

About ID2020

ID2020 is a global public-private partnership that harnesses the collective power of nonprofits, corporations, and governments to promote the adoption and implementation of user-managed, privacy-protecting, and portable digital ID solutions.

By developing and applying rigorous technical standards to certify identity solutions, providing advisory services and implementing pilot programs, and advocating for the ethical implementation of digital ID, ID2020 is strengthening social and economic development globally. Alliance partners are committed to a future in which all of the world's seven billion people can fully exercise their basic human rights, while ensuring data remains private and in the hands of the individual. www.id2020.org

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Additional Quotes

Tony Blair Institute for Global Change

“To allow international travel to resume safely, we must take every possible step to limit the spread of new Covid-19 variants. We urgently need an internationally-recognised system of health passes so that travellers can quickly and easily prove their health status, in a way that is secure and privacy-preserving. The **Good Health Pass Collaborative** is doing critical work to develop the standards we need to support this. Now political leaders need to lend their weight to this effort. The G7 group of nations should commit to establish a network of globally interoperable health passes, and set up the necessary working groups to deliver it.”

Tony Blair, Executive Chairman and Former UK Prime Minister

ACI World (Airports Council International)

“We support the development and introduction of digital health passes such as those being introduced by the European Union and the Blueprint developed by the **Good Health Pass Collaborative** as we believe they will be a major contributor to the reopening of aviation. The interoperability and use of these passes will support the travel and tourism industry around the world, which contributes both to the GDP of States, and also to the well-being and societal health of their citizens.”

Luis Felipe de Oliveira, Director General

International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)

"ICC was among the first organisations to work on digital health passes. A challenge we identified early on was the need to ensure interoperability among digital health pass solutions. For digital health passes to truly work for people, international open standards for interoperability are essential. To attempt to reach consensus on one global solution will simply take too long and may never happen. We need solutions, and we need them now. As a founding member, we endorse the work of the **Good Health Pass Collaborative** as aligned interoperability is its mission. Travel and tourism is a key economic driver in many developed and developing nations, and if we want to save the millions of MSMEs that depend on it, we need to ensure that existing private sector and public sector solutions work seamlessly and talk to each other by design. Implementing the **Good Health Pass Interoperability Blueprint** is the preferable way to achieve this in time for the start of the summer."

John W.H. Denton AO, Secretary General

World Travel & Tourism Council

"The **World Travel & Tourism Council** fully supports the **Good Health Pass Collaborative** and welcomes the launch of its Blueprint for digital health passes. The global Travel & Tourism sector has been devastated by the COVID-19 pandemic and to save it, it is crucial that international travel restarts urgently. Digital health passes could be key to unlocking international travel safely. However, for them to work globally and seamlessly, we need harmonised standards that are accepted and recognised widely. We believe this Blueprint could facilitate this and lead to the universal adoption of digital health passes."

Virginia Messina, Senior Vice President

Mastercard

"As the world begins to travel again, we need to ensure that we're supporting those activities with people's desire to safely reconnect within their communities. That will truly happen if we deliver both the convenience of a globally interoperable health pass and the trust in how people's information is protected and kept private. That's what the **Good Health Pass Interoperability Blueprint** sets out to achieve."

Ajay Bhalla, President - Cyber & Intelligence

IBM

"The importance of establishing global consensus-based standards for digital health passes cannot be overstated. With agreed-upon standards and a common governance framework, interoperability among different solutions will be enhanced and the overall adoption and utility of digital health passes could be strengthened. IBM is committed to collaborating with organizations and industry groups, like the Good Health Pass Collaborative, that support this critical effort."

Eric Piscini, Vice President, Emerging Business Networks, IBM Watson Health

Lumedic

“**Lumedic** is honored to serve as a Steering Committee member of the **Good Health Pass Collaborative**. In supporting **Providence Health System** across seven West Coast states in the US, we've seen firsthand the importance of restoring travel, and the need for better access to sensitive health data to do so. We are dedicated to advancing secure and interoperable health information and anxious to support widespread adoption of verifiable credentials for health and travel passes with our GHPC-compliant solution, Lumedic Connect”

Mike Nash, CEO

Evernym

“Evernym has contributed extensively to the **Good Health Pass Interoperability Blueprint** because we are fully committed to the values of privacy, security, and user control of their personal data represented by the **Good Health Pass** principles. We believe these values are the only path for citizens anywhere to safely use and embrace trusted health credentials. We urge every health initiative to adopt these recommendations and are committed to implementing them with our customers, such as the **International Air Transport Association (IATA)** and their Travel Pass program.”

Steve Havas, CEO

Trust Over IP Foundation

“**Trust Over IP Foundation** was honored to bring people together to work with the **Good Health Pass Collaborative** to solve a set of problems that uniquely aligned with the mission of ToIP. Our community rallied to accomplish this ambitious effort in record time bringing together contributors from various industries and governments. We look forward to this public review process and continued collaboration on this comprehensive Blueprint for the travel industry. This opens the door for new tools and services that can solve various challenging problems that require global-scale digital trust.”

John Jordan, Executive Director

Linux Foundation Public Health and the COVID Credentials Initiative

“We are thrilled to see the release of the Blueprint and honored to have been able to co-lead its development. Seeing so many domains of expertise come together in such a short amount of time to create a unified approach would alone be a remarkable achievement. But to do all that in the context of a very high bar for privacy, security, and equity - among all the other Principles - that's just extraordinary. We look forward to working further within the **Good Health Pass Collaborative** to implement its recommendations, and to accelerate adoption of its framework globally.”

Brian Behlendorf, GM for Blockchain, Healthcare and Identity, Linux Foundation

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