Governance Framework for Verifiable Credentials

V1.0
1. Primary Document

1.1. Introduction

The Meaningful Gift Alliance is the global source for the issuance of NAUGHTY and NICE verifiable credentials for the purpose of holiday gift issuance. The Alliance has worked tirelessly with the Trust Over IP Foundation’s (ToIP) Ecosystem Foundry Working Group to issue this governance framework (and all members of the EFWG can submit evidence in consideration of NICE credentials).

We have used ToIP’s Governance Metamodel Specification created by the Governance Stack Working Group (GSWG) as the template for this framework. (All GSWG members can submit evidence in consideration of NICE credentials).

Since the beginning of his creation, our Chief Verifier, Santa had to use a variety of sources, potentially unreliable, in the determination of gifts during the holidays to the global population. However, with the advent of verifiable credential standards, systems and governance, a more trustworthy ecosystem is being built, under this governance framework, which will issue NAUGHTY and NICE verifiable credentials using trustworthy evidence, and accountability standards from all participants. Santa is incredibly pleased by the results that the governance framework, based on the ToIP Metamodel, is providing not only for his operations but also for the children.

This framework will cover all the roles involved in the issuance and verification of NAUGHTY and NICE verifiable credentials so our Chief Verifier can best determine gift delivery for the global population in one stress-inducing busy night. The estimated time savings for the Chief Verifier and his Assistant Verifiers of the migration to verifiable credentials is 3.1459 million hours per Christmas event which translates into a minimum of 742,000 additional toy deliveries for girls and boys.

1.2. Terminology and Notation

To avoid a rogue NAUGHTY credential from Drummond Reed permeating the ecosystem, the Alliance has created the MEGA terms wiki for all specialized terms used in this framework. Other terms will reference the eSSIF-Lab wiki (which has a fourteen-page definition of the terms NAUGHTY and NICE along with a complete mental model of NAUGHTY and NICE and all other human behavior) and the ToIP Core wiki which defines key governance terms.

1.3. Localization
1. The standard language for this governance framework is American English with a Bronx accent. If anyone wants to add a different accent, they can “fuggeduhboutit!”
2. Given its global applicability, it MUST be translated in every language ever created including Pig Latin and Klingon.

1.4. Governing Authority

The Meaningful Gift Alliance is the governing authority or the party legally responsible for developing, maintaining and implementing this GF. Upon threat of a rogue NAUGHTY credential being issued by Karla McKenna, the Alliance has been issued a Legal Entity Identifier (LEI).

The contact for petitioners and relying parties of this GF is:

Nicky Hickman
Secretariat, Meaningful Gift Alliance
North Pole
email: nicky@mega.org

1.5. Purpose

Since the beginning of his creation, our Chief Verifier, Santa, had to use a variety of sources, potentially unreliable, in the determination of meaningful gifts during the holidays for the global children population. However, with the advent of verifiable credential standards, systems and governance, a more trustworthy ecosystem is being built, under this governance framework, which will issue NAUGHTY and NICE credentials based upon trustworthy evidence and accountability standards for all participants. The purpose of this GF to memorialize all the rules associated with the governance, issuance, verification, and revocation of NAUGHTY and NICE credentials.

1.6. Scope

This GF covers the following components:

1.6.1 Key Roles

The following Key Roles will participate in this GF as Governed Roles:

- **Issuers** – Members of the North Pole Global Elf Union and/or their proxies will issue verifiable credentials
- **Verifier** – Santa, as Chief Verifier and his proxy organizations, the International Federation of Fairy Godmothers, and International Tooth Fairy Union.
- **Credential Registry** – this will hold all verifiable credentials issued
• **Life Event Artifact Repository** – This privacy-preserving data store will hold all life events for children in question constituting NAUGHTY and NICE artifacts for interrogation by the credentialing algorithm.

• **Auditors** - All roles will be held accountable to their commitments under this GF by licensed and certified WebTrust auditors

• **Petitioners** – Parents, Guardians and Child Advocates will be able to petition on behalf of children as part of the credentialing issuing process.

• **Chief Verifier Wallet Supplier** – There will be open bidding for the contract to supply the Chief Verifier with the wallet to verify credentials to determine gift issuance.

• **DID Utility Repository** – The Ecosystem will place the Alliance, North Pole Union #77 and Santa’s DID on the publicly addressable Milky Way blockchain utility. Only qualified stars will be permitted to be node operators.

• **Relying Party** – Gift Receiver. Children will be relying on the trustworthy processes of other roles in determination of their meaningful gift for Christmas. While they MAY request certain gifts, they MUST NOT act as a Petitioner. Petitioners MAY submit a digitally signed request letter to the contact email located at section 1.4.

1.6.2 Key Processes

The following processes will participate in this GF as Governed Roles:

• **Credential Issuance** – will be made by issuers upon interrogation of life event artifacts by the credentialing algorithm.

• **Verification** – The process whereby Santa will verify the originator of NAUGHTY and NICE credentials.

• **Credential Registration** – the process of adding a credential to the registry

• **Artifact and Petition Receipt** – This is the process whereby life events of subject children will be collected by the Repository.

1.6.3 Key Trust Decisions

The trust decisions made under this GF is the qualification and determination of NAUGHTY and NICE credentials and the determination of Christmas gifts to children.

1.6.4 Out of Scope

- Children’s petitions
- Parent’s grievances
- Elf unionization claims or lobbying efforts
- Good Elf Passes
- The National Debt
- Unwanted gifts
6.8. Objectives
The objectives of this Governance Framework are to define the rules, requirements, processes, and artifacts to enable NAUGHTY and NICE credentials for the world’s 2.2 billion children so Santa can expedite his gift giving process during the global rotating hours of Christmas Eve.

6.9. Principles
The principles underlying this GF follow the five biblical principles of gospel stewardship:

1. Unequal distribution of resources is part of God’s design
2. Gifts are given for his glory and the good of others
3. Faithfulness is the key
4. What we do with our resources here will echo for eternity

In addition, this GF observes these time-honored gift-giving principles:

1. ‘Tis better to give than to receive.
2. Never buy anything at retail.
3. Cryptocurrencies accepted here.

6.10. General Requirements
This General Requirements section is reserved for policies that apply generally to the GF as a whole, and not just in the context of a particular controlled document.

- All artifacts concerning child behavior MUST remain private and not sold to third parties. All governed parties shall implement responsible use policies that apply to gift-giving infrastructure.
- Parents and guardians MUST identify themselves using high-assurance verifiable credentials when submitting petitions on a child’s behalf.
- All NAUGHTY and NICE credentials MUST be expunged each year from the credential repository by January 1.
- All governed parties SHALL abide by a Code of Conduct that consists of your selection of at least 7 of the 10 biblical commandments.

6.11. Revisions
A key design principle of the ToIP stack model is to “design for change”. In most cases GFs are “living documents” that need to evolve as their trust community evolves. Therefore, the ToIP Governance Architecture Specification has strict requirements for document versioning.
● Revisions to this GF must be approved by Santa.
● Mrs. Claus holds all veto power to Santa’s approval.
● At least one public review period is held for all versions of this GF.
  ○ The comment period MUST begin on Thanksgiving and MUST end at midnight UTC on St. Nick’s Day.
  ○ Late comments SHALL NOT be accepted, but MAY be considered for the following year’s version.

6.12. Extensions

1. NAUGHTY and NICE credentials MUST NOT be extended to any other GF. Not even the Disney Ecosystem.

   1. This policy MAY be revised if Steven Spielberg pays more than USD $14M for movie rights.

6.13. Schedule of Controlled Documents

The following Controlled Documents are included as Appendices:

1. Glossary
2. Risk Assessment
3. Trust Assurance and Certification
4. Governance Requirements
5. Business Requirements
6. Technical Requirements
7. Information Trust Requirements
8. Inclusion, Equitability, and Accessibility Requirements
9. Legal Agreements
7. Controlled Documents

7.1. Glossary

In the fields of digital identity, trust, and governance, a well-defined glossary is essential. It is the only way to ensure that all stakeholders—business, legal, technical, operational—share a collective understanding of the terms used within a GF.

This GF includes a glossary that includes terms in the following three general categories:

- **ToIP core terms** that describe the common components of the ToIP model and MUST be used consistently across all ToIP deliverables and ToIP-compliant GFs. These terms are defined in the ToIP Core Glossary.
- **ToIP governance terms** are specialized terms used to describe ToIP governance concepts. They are defined in the ToIP Governance Glossary.
- **GF-specific terms** are terms needed in the context of this GF is included in the Meaningful Gift Alliance terms wiki. Santa himself nominates Rieks Joosten and Daniel Hardman as “elves-in-charge” of this terms wiki and the associated mental model of all human NAUGHTY and NICE behavior.

ToIP’s CTWG terms wiki tooling enables the combination of terms from all three of these categories into a single document that can serve as this GF’s glossary and avoid turning the elves into a world-wide Tower of Babel.

7.2. Risk Assessment

The purpose of this GF is to define the policies and rules the members of the Meaningful Gift Alliance agree to follow to minimize the risks to achieving their objectives (see section 6.8). There are risks associated with every facet of establishing and maintaining a healthy trust community: technical risks, business risks, governance risks, regulatory risks, etc.

While a detailed risk assessment is warranted for this GF, for the first draft of the GF, we have identified the following key risks to the GF:

- Santa not having access to the NAUGHTY and NICE verifiable credential registry—or not being able to verify said credentials—when needed to make a trust decision on gift allocation.
- Inadequate interrogation of child life events when issuing NAUGHTY and NICE credentials leading to an incorrect result and a distraught child (not to mention his/her parents or guardian).
7.3. Trust Assurance and Certification

The risk assessment section (section 7.2) guides the policies and rules in this GF that governed parties need to follow to mitigate against those risks.

While a detailed risk assessment is warranted for this GF, for the first draft of the GF, we have identified the following audit criteria be assessed independently by a WebTrust auditor:

- Availability controls on the Credential Registry, particularly in the case of extreme blizzards or faulty reindeer noses.
- Availability controls for subzero temperatures on the utility containing DIDs needed for the verification of NAUGHTY and NICE credentials.
- Detailed evaluation of algorithm interrogating life events to determine creation of NAUGHTY and NICE credentials to ensure lack of bias and unintended consequences.
- Policies and controls prohibiting children to petition for their own NICE credentials. If perpetrated, this may automatically result in a NAUGHTY credential issuance.
- Review of background checks, sponsoring procedures and education of elf issuers of credentials.
- Sufficient supply of elf hats and gold stars (actual functioning gold stars) to certify participants.

7.4. Governance Requirements

Trust in a GF begins with trust in its governing authority, whatever form it may take (see section 4.4 for more details). That trust is rooted in the foundational governance documents for the governing authority itself. The Meaningful Gift Alliance GF includes the following governance documents:

1. The Torah
2. The Bible
3. The Quran
4. The Dharma
5. The Vedas
6. Meaningful Gift Alliance Official Charter (Santa clause)
7. The Elves Bill of Rights
8. Rudolf’s Itinerary
9. Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade Operating Guidelines (Section 7.3 Santa’s arrival)

If these documents already exist and are publicly available—especially via the Web— it is not necessary to include actual copies. A list of links with capsule summaries of the contents of each document will suffice.

7.5. Business Requirements

Many business requirements will flow directly from objectives as discussed in section 6.8. The policies in this section will often be the kind of business rules common to any business or industry organization. The difference is that these business rules apply in the specific context of the GF in order to govern specific actions taken by specific actors performing specific roles and processes within your trust community.

The business rules for the Meaningful Gift Alliance GF are:

1. Everything is God’s.
2. Half off after midnight.
3. Never buy anything at retail.
4. Bitcoin accepted here.
5. (Most) everything is returnable.
6. For everything else there’s Mastercard.

7.6. Technical Requirements

The structure of the ToIP stack, (figure 1), graphically illustrates that governance is only half of what is required for interoperability within and between trust communities. The other half is technical interoperability. This is the responsibility of the ToIP Technology Stack Working Group (TSWG). Its job is to assemble the necessary tools (standards, specifications, specification profiles, recommendations, guides, and test suites) that are needed for wide-scale technical interoperability.

The technical policies for the Meaningful Gift Alliance GF are:

1. The DID for this GF MUST be did:meaningful:0
2. The DID for Mrs. Claus MUST be did:meaningful:1
3. The DID for Santa MUST be did:meaningful:2
4. The DID for each individual elf MUST be determined by the following algorithm: did:meaningful: [SHA256 hash of elf name in Old Elvish]
5. The DID for Rudolf MUST be did:meaningful:nose
6. The DID for all other reindeers MUST be determined by the following algorithm: did:meaningful: [SHA256 hash of reindeer name in Old Dutch]
7. The **verifiable credential** format for all NAUGHTY and NICE credentials MUST be AnonCreds 7.1 using Camenisch-Lysyanskaya ZKP signatures over ACDC credentials chained together in the same order as Santa’s reindeer.

8. All **verifiable presentations** of NAUGHTY and NICE credentials MUST use privacy preserving AnonCreds ZKP proofs for full GDPR (Global Deserved Presents Regulation) compliance.

9. The user interface for obtaining, processing, and presenting NAUGHTY and NICE credentials:
   a. MUST be translated into all human languages plus Klingon.
   b. MUST go through child-proof testing with at least 1000 children aged four and under all nationalities.
   c. SHOULD include the ability to import, export, and transfer NICE tokens from the credential wallet.
   d. MUST include the “Made in the North Pole” trust mark as a holographic digital watermark approved by the CISOs of the Five Eyes security agencies.

### 7.7. Information Trust Requirements

The members of any digital **trust community** need to mitigate against **risks** from a common set of **threats** affecting the information the members generate, exchange, store, backup, and expunge. The Meaningful Gift Alliance GF adopts the following information trust policies across the five **trust services criteria** defined by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) Assurance Services Executive Committee (ASEC):

1. Information **security** SHALL be provided by Santa’s sleigh safe.
2. Information **availability** SHALL be provided by leaving Santa milk and cookies.
3. Information **processing integrity** SHALL be provided by making a list and checking it twice.
4. Information **confidentiality** SHALL be provided by the threat of a lump of coal.
5. Information **privacy** SHALL be provided by whispering in Santa’s ear.

### 7.8. Inclusion, Equitability, and Accessibility Requirements

This final category of requirements is especially important for digital **trust communities**—important enough that this category of **controlled document** is REQUIRED in a ToIP-compliant GF.

Meaningful Gift Alliance GF policies in this category are:

1. No child SHALL be left behind.
2. All creatures great and small.
3. Snowpeople are people too.
4. Accessibility provisions MUST be made for Santa's sleigh.
5. Equal access to all, and to all a good night!

7.9. Legal Agreements

Whether or not the GF requires any legal agreements or contracts depends on the nature of the trust community, the ToIP infrastructure, and the jurisdiction(s) in which it operates. Some GFs require contractual commitments between the governing authority and governed parties playing various roles such as node operators (ToIP Layer 1), wallet providers (ToIP Layer 2), credential issuers or verifiers (ToIP Layer 3), or trust registry operators (ToIP Layer 4).

The Meaningful Gift Alliance GF policies REQUIRES the following legal agreements:

2. The Reindeer Animal Rights Agreement (Stipulation IV 1.j - Rudolf Nose Waiver).
4. The Parents Bill of Rights.
5. The Santa Claus Final Decision Protection Act of 1803 - North Pole Jurisdiction.
6. The Elvish Warranty.