



I E T F[®]

Making the Internet work better

Author tools web services re-implementation Questions & Answers

2021-06-21

IETF Executive Director
exec-director@ietf.org

www.ietf.org

Questions and Answers

1. *Where will the web services be deployed? e.g. a cloud provider?*

ANSWER: We plan to deploy on our own services (running under docker on our hosts) and require the flexibility to be able to deploy into a cloud provider.

2. *User of Docker is specified does the vendor need to make any special allowance for the cloud provider/container orchestration? e.g. fine grained health checks? Graceful handling of shutdowns/restarts etc.*

ANSWER: No special requirements beyond reasonable use of docker.

3. *It is an assumption that the 4 core tools (xml2rfc, id2xml, kramdown-rfc2629, svgcheck) expected to installed/built (through the CI pipeline) and included in the Dockerfile for the respective web API(s). Is that correct?*

ANSWER: Yes.

4. *Can it be safely assumed that there are no database storage requirements for either the API's or the interactive web pages - beyond build time data required for the operation framework itself (for example Django). i.e. nothing needs to be backed up.*

ANSWER: Yes, this can be safely assumed.

5. *It is understood that using public github is required as the primary/final repository - does this include initial development work, or can the Vendor use their preferred source control, automated testing and peer review system(s)?*

- note that while adapting to IETF preferences is of course possible; using established vendor dev team quality and productivity tooling would result in improved efficiencies in any development job

ANSWER: We will work with the selected contractor to allow them to use their established workflows, but final delivery and acceptance will happen through being able to inspect and exercise the system via public github. We require being able to review development as it proceeds. After delivery and once the services are in production, we expect to receive community authored changes via GitHub.

6. *Requirement 8 specifies CI/CD pipeline must be implemented in Github. Is there any flexibility in this requirement if the CI/CD pipeline integrates directly with Github? e.g. Gitlab.*

ANSWER: It is our strong preference that this is in GitHub so that we have the necessary skills and expertise to maintain and develop it in future, but we will consider other pipelines that are sufficiently similar, for some as yet to be agreed definition of 'similar'.

7. *Who within the IETF would the Vendor be working with to finalise the specification of the API(s)?*

-- Does IETF have an established process for refining and signing these specifications off that they would like to follow, or would you like the Vendor to propose a process as part of the submission?

ANSWER: The primary contact at the IETF will be the IETF Tools Team PM who will be responsible for coordinating all input from the IETF. We do not have any established process and would be happy for bidders to propose a simple interactive process.

8. *Is the web interface UX/Design work for the interactive to be provided by the Vendor or will this be supplied by IETF?*

-- Assuming the Vendor, who will the Vendor be working with to refine and sign off these designs?

ANSWER: We expect this to be the vendor. The IETF Tools Team PM will be the primary contact and will be responsible for coordinating all input from the IETF.

9. *Is it intended that Datatracker be used as the sole identity provider for granting access keys?*

ANSWER: Yes.

10. *Does Datatracker have existing capabilities for issuing keys to users? e.g. issuing a key for use of a specific web service endpoint to a specific user?*

ANSWER: Yes. Logged in users manage their personal api keys at <https://datatracker.ietf.org/accounts/apikey>

11. *Requirement 18 refers to allowing for the possibility of new tools - is IETF able to provide any examples yet of what types of tools these might be?*

ANSWER: We do not have any specific tools in mind. We would expect to incorporate any new tools fitting within the concepts of validators or converters

by extending the APIs described in this RFP, while other tools would require new APIs to be developed to support them.

ENDS