

Memorandum of Understanding between EHNAC and Kantara Initiative

Where DirectTrust focuses on trusted information exchange in a safe and interoperable environment, facilitated by the Electronic Healthcare Network Accreditation Commission's (EHNAC) Direct Trusted Agent Accreditation Program (DTAAP), and Kantara Initiative focuses on trusted credential services that issue to end-point users of systems (patient, doctor, e-prescriber etc.), verified by its accredited assessors, there can be a natural and complementary synergy within the Direct, EHNAC, and Kantara Initiative programs.

As such EHNAC and the Kantara Initiative seek to form a collaborative relationship to clearly articulate the complementary nature and value of each program as parts of a vibrant trusted identity and information exchange ecosystem. Specifically, EHNAC and the Kantara Initiative will use this relationship to identify areas where each program may mutually recognize, as appropriate, accreditation and/or approval of the other so that industry is encouraged to participate in both programs as part of a fuller ecosystem that removes barriers for adoption.

Context

Recognizing that there are numerous initiatives evolving the health care sector that require strong identity management to ensure adequate security and trust of health information transported over the Internet, DirectTrust.org and the Kantara Initiative have agreed to seek collaboration with an identified goal to minimize the development of "silos" of non-standard and unrelated identity vetting process and documentation. Both organizations seek to help provide the common and basic elements needed to support a single health Internet/cyberspace identity to be broadly used by health care professionals as they obtain online credentials.

Additionally, EHNAC, a federally recognized standards development organization and non-profit accrediting body founded in 1993, announced a new agreement with the federal government, in which DirectTrust, a non-profit association created by and for participants in the Direct community, had been awarded a cooperative agreement from the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) for continued development and implementation of its accreditation program for health information service providers (HISPs) developed in partnership with EHNAC.

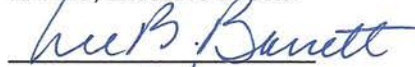
Finally, The Kantara Initiative is the premiere US Government Trust Framework Provider (TFP) program as the only Approved US Government TFP certifying Levels of Assurance (LoA) 1, 2 and 3 non-crypto (non-PKI). The Kantara Initiative TFP Approval followed the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) memo to US Chief Information Officers (CIOs) that requires LoA 1 certified credentials be implemented within 90 days of the first TFP final approval for new agency services or when existing services are enhanced or upgraded and LoA 2 and 3 non-crypto certified credentials be adopted for higher value US Government agency services within the near term.

Shared Goals

Operationally, EHNAC and the Kantara Initiative Assurance Review Board will form a "tiger team" to identify shared benefits and value from mutual recognition by each organization. In particular the areas of coverage overlap may include Registration Authority at the level end-point of the user, organizational trust (operations and best practices of the applying organizations in general) and potentially operations of Identity Federations (Federation Operator guidelines).

Signed

EHNAC, Executive Director



Dated: 8/5/13

Kantara Initiative, Executive Director

Dated: _____