

# NTIA SBOM: Formats and Tooling

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Technical Briefing for the Energy Community

# Formats and Tooling: Objectives (1/3)

- Focus on enabling automated SBOM generation and use
- Build and expand on what already exists
- Try to avoid re-inventing the wheel
- Document what tools exist
- Identify any gaps in the tooling ecosystem
- Promote inclusion of SBOM capabilities into existing tools and services

# Formats and Tooling: Objectives (2/3)

## Identify SBOM Formats in Commercial Use

- SPDX - <https://spdx.github.io/spdx-spec/>
- SWID - [ISO/IEC 19770-2:2015](https://www.iso.org/standard/62411.html)
- CycloneDX - <https://cyclonedx.org/docs/1.2/>

## Identify Software Identifiers in Commercial Use and Emerging Identifiers

- Common Package Enumeration - [CPE](https://cpe.apache.org/)
- Package URLs - [PURL](https://github.com/package-url/packageurl-spec)
- Software ID tags - [SWID tag](https://www.iso.org/standard/62411.html)
- Software Heritage persistent ID - [SWHID](https://www.softwareheritage.org/)

# Formats and Tooling: Objectives (3/3)

- Define and categorize criteria for the minimum required information in an SBOM
  - Field definitions
  - Data extensions for provision of additional/external/deeper information
- Enable translation between SBOM formats
  - “Decoder Ring” tool - in progress
  - “SwiftBOM” tool - in progress, used in HealthCare PoC
- Create Playbooks for Generation and Consumption of SBOM
  - Supplier Playbook - in progress
  - Consumer Playbook - draft release:  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Ae0l1MDS8m1on58e8mdVIA9NujzPD0k5j352VIDZr9l/edit>

# What should a minimum viable SBOM contain?

NTIA SBOM Minimum Fields	SPDX	SWID	CycloneDX
<b>Supplier Name</b>	(3.5) PackageSupplier:	<Entity> @role (softwareCreator/publisher), @name	publisher
<b>Component Name</b>	(3.1) PackageName:	<softwareIdentity> @name	name
<b>Unique Identifier</b>	(3.2) SPDXID:	<softwareIdentity> @tagID	bom/serialNumber and component/bom-ref
<b>Version String</b>	(3.3) PackageVersion:	<softwareIdentity> @version	version
<b>Component Hash</b>	(3.10) PackageChecksum:	<Payload>/../<File> @[hash-algorithm]:hash	hash
<b>Relationship</b>	(7.1) Relationship: CONTAINS	<Link> @rel, @href	(Nested assembly/subassembly and/or dependency graphs)
<b>Author Name</b>	(2.8) Creator:	<Entity> @role (tagCreator), @name	bom-descriptor:metadata/manuf acture/contact

Source: NTIA's [Framing Software Component Transparency: Establishing a Common Software Bill of Material \(SBOM\)](#)



# Translating between SBOM formats & file formats

SwiftBOM: (SPDX(.spdx), SWID(.xml), CycloneDX(.xml,.json))

- Demo at: <https://democert.org/sbom/>
- Source code at: <https://github.com/CERTCC/SBOM/tree/master/sbom-demo>

DecoderRing: (SPDX (.spdx), SWID(.xml))

- Source code at: <https://github.com/DanBeard/DecoderRing>

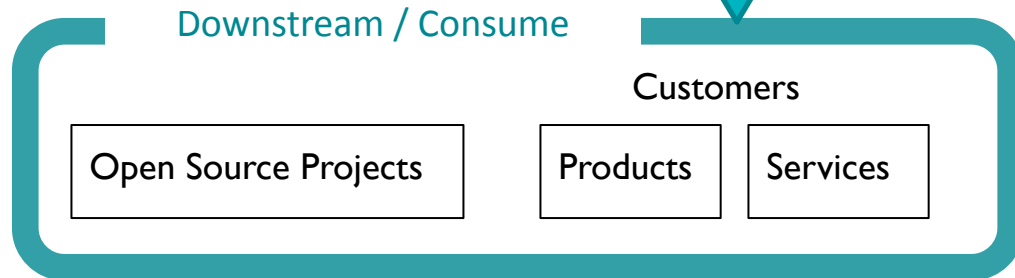
SPDX tools: ( SPDX (.spdx, json, yaml, rdf, xml, xls) )

- Demo at: <https://tools.spdx.org/app/>
- Source code at: <https://github.com/spdx/spdx-online-tools>

# Where use an SBOM? All stages



Need for **reference tooling** for efficient and effective exchange of **software bills of materials** to enable **compliance, security, export control, pedigree and provenance workflows.**





# Taxonomy used for Classifying SBOM Tools (UPDATED Feb26)

Category	Type of Tool	Description
Produce	Build	SBOM is automatically created as part of building a software artifact and contains information about the build.
	Manual	A person will manually fill in the SBOM information
	Analysis	Analysis of source or binary files will generate the SBOM by inspection of the artifacts and any associated sources.
Consume	View	Be able to understand the contents in human readable form (picture, figures, tables, text.). Use to support decision making & business processes.
	Diff	Be able to compare two documents of a given formation and clearly see the differences. For instance, comparing between two versions of a piece of software.
	Import	Be able to import an SBOM into your system for further processing
Transform	Translate	Change from one file type to another file type while preserving the same information.
	Merge	Multiple sources of documents can be merged together for analysis and audit purposes
	Tool support	Support use in other tools by APIs, object models, libraries, or other reference sources.

# Taxonomy used for Classifying SBOM Tools

Category	Type	Description
Produce	Build	Document is automatically created as part of building an artifact and contains information about the build.
	Manual	A person will manually fill in the information
	Audit Tool	A source code analysis or audit tool will generate the document by inspection of the artifact and any associated sources.
Consume	View	Be able to understand the contents in human readable form (picture, figures, tables, text.). Use to support decision making & business processes.
	Diff	Be able to compare two documents of a given formation and clearly see the differences. For instance, comparing between two versions of a piece of software.
	Analyze	Be able to import a document into your system
Transform	Translate	Change from one file type to another file type while preserving the same information.
	Merge	Multiple sources of documents can be merged together for analysis and audit puposes
	Tool integration	Support use in other tools by APIs, libraries.

# Tool Support for Different SBOM Formats

## SPDX

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<b>Open Source Tools</b>	4
Augur	4
FOSStology	4
in-toio	5
kernel-apdx-ids	5
npm-spdx	6
Open Source Software Review Toolkit (ORT)	6
OWASP Dependency-Track	6
Quartemaster (QMSTR)	7
REUSE	8
ScanCode Toolkit	8
SPDX Java Libraries and Tools	9
SPDX Python Libraries	10
SPDX Golang Libraries	10
SPDX JavaScript Libraries	11
SPDX Online Tools	11
SPDX Maven Plugin	12
SPDX Build Tool	12
SPARTS	12
SW360	13
TERN	13
Yocto Project / OpenEmbedded	14
<b>Proprietary Products</b>	15
CyberProtek	15
FOSSID	15
Hub-SPDX (Black Duck Hub Report Utility)	16
MedScan	16
Protecode	17
Protex	17
SourceAuditor	17
TrustSource	18
Vigilant-ops	18

<http://tiny.cc/SPDX>

## SWID

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<b>Open Source Tools</b>	3
Swidgen	3
StrongSwan SWID Generator	3
Labels4 SWID Generator	3
Labels4 SWID Maven Plugin	4
libswid	4
SwidTag	4
TagVault SWID Tag Creator	5
RPM 2 SWID Tag	5
NIST SWID for GNU Autotools	6
NIST SWID Tag Validator	6
NIST SWID Builder	6
NIST SWID Maven Plugin	7
NIST SWID Repo Client	7
WIX Toolset	8
swidq	8
<b>Proprietary Products</b>	9
IT Operations Management	9
Jamf Pro	9
CyberProtek	10
MedScan	10
BigFix Inventory	11
Vigilant-ops	12
Microsoft Endpoint Configuration Manager	12

<http://tiny.cc/SWID>

## CycloneDX

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<b>Open Source Tools</b>	3
CycloneDX Core for Java	3
CycloneDX for .NET	3
CycloneDX for NPM	3
CycloneDX for Maven	4
CycloneDX for Gradle	4
CycloneDX for PHP Composer	4
CycloneDX for Python	5
CycloneDX for Ruby Gems	5
CycloneDX for Rust Cargo	5
CycloneDX for SBT	6
CycloneDX for Elixir Mix	6
CycloneDX for Erlang Rebar3	6
CycloneDX for Go	7
Eclipse SW360 Antenna	7
HERE Open Source Review Toolkit	7
Retire.js	8
OWASP Dependency-Track	8
OWASP Dependency-Track Jenkins Plugin	8
atrack-audit	9
<b>Proprietary Products</b>	11
Sonatype Nexus IQ	11
Sonatype Nexus Lifecycle Jenkins Plugin	11
CyberProtek	12
MedScan	12
Reliza Hub	13

<http://tiny.cc/CycloneDX>

# SBOMs Examples (Work in Progress)

## SPDX

- <https://github.com/lfscanning> - LF projects source packages.
- <https://github.com/swinslow/spdx-examples> - source & binary examples

## CycloneDX

- <https://github.com/CycloneDX/sbom-examples> - binary examples

## SWID

- [Time 1.9 from Red Hat distro](#) - binary example

# SBOM Playbooks: Supplier Playbook

- Supplier defined to include: commercial vendor, contract developer, open source software supplier developing and maintaining OSS code.
- SBOM production workflow: development pipeline vs. legacy processes
- SBOM scope: What's in the Box
- Build Artifacts
  - Functional workflow (tool-agnostic) for commit → build with SBOM production as an output
  - Example outputs: SPDX, CycloneDX
- Provision of SBOMs to recipients
  - Reference to NTIA Framing Group report:  
[https://www.ntia.doc.gov/files/ntia/publications/ntia\\_sbom\\_framing\\_sharing\\_july9.pdf](https://www.ntia.doc.gov/files/ntia/publications/ntia_sbom_framing_sharing_july9.pdf)

# SBOM Playbook: Consumer Playbook

- Acquisition of SBOM from supplier
- SBOM Ingestion and Parsing
- Software Entity Resolution
- Data Flows into Third Party Processes and Platforms
  - Configuration Management Database
  - Security Operations Center
  - Software Asset Management System
- Ongoing Monitoring

# Areas to Learn: Generalized vs. Energy-Specific Requirements

- Generalized requirements for code: software, firmware, embedded
- Where do SBOM requirements of firmware/embedded diverge from IT?
- Where do SBOM requirements for licensed/proprietary third party components diverge from third party open source components?
- Lessons Learned and Best Practices for SBOM access control
  - Open Formats
  - Content may be delivered under NDA
  - Rely on confidentiality terms and access control, rather than IP/copyright
- Why this matters: SBOM is an intermediary phase of the data
  - Operational requirement for data to be ingested by enterprise processes and platforms
  - Ex: CMDB, SAM, SOC
  - Configuration management can't become a "derivative work" and function as intended.

