



# Policy paper - Licensing guidelines

*Version 1.0 – 21 May 2018*

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## SCOPE OF THIS DOCUMENT

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This document defines the licenses for the intellectual products that are developed and released by the ID4me Association, either directly or through the contributions of its members, as agreed by the ID4me Association's Board.

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The ID4me Association uses free licenses for all its releases, both for principle reasons, in line with its values of openness and cooperation, and for practical reasons, as the availability of tools and code under free licenses makes adoption easier, creates synergies among participants and promotes the growth of a community of ID4me developers. The specific choice of licenses has been made, as the primary objective, to foster the adoption and implementation of the standard, while still ensuring that the standard remains open and freely available to everyone and that efforts are shared as far as possible.

## LICENSE FOR THE LIBRARIES AND SAMPLE CODE

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To maximize the opportunity for adoption, the ID4me Association releases its libraries under the MIT License (more precisely, the MIT-Expat license; see Appendix A for the legal text). This allows any party, including commercial ones, to use and compile freely the code inside bigger software projects however released.

While the association has chosen a non-copyleft license to promote adoption, it still encourages all adopters to contribute to the association's implementations of the ID4me protocol and functions, and to upstream any edits and additions to the association's repository, so that they can be enjoyed by all other participants.

The same license also applies to code snippets and examples that are included in the official documentation provided by the association.

The text of the license must be included in a comment at the top of each source file, but whenever this may result unpractical, it is also possible to include a LICENSE file in the root of the project, containing the text in Appendix A, and only add the following statement at the top of each source file:

```
(C) <year> <copyright owner>  
Developed by <name> <email>  
See the LICENSE file for licensing conditions  
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```

## LICENSE FOR TOOLS

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The ID4me Association may choose to release fully fledged tools that may be helpful to ID4me adopters and to final users. The licensing conditions will depend on the specific tool and will be defined case by case, but the Association would like to commit to use the GNU General Public License version 3 as far as possible, to ensure that all further developments to these tools are shared among the entire community.

## LICENSE FOR DOCUMENTATION

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The documentation for the standard and for the software is made freely available; however, to prevent modifications that have not been reviewed by the association and could make the documentation inaccurate,

the documentation will be released under the Creative Commons Attribution – No Derivatives license, version 4.0 International (the full legal text can be found at the following address: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nd/4.0/legalcode> ). See Appendix B for the text that must be written on the first page.

As an exception, any document which will have to be proposed as a standard will have to follow the licensing rules of the standards organization.

Also, the association may release documents that are intended for its members only; in that case, those documents will be marked “CONFIDENTIAL” and will be licensed to all members with the additional provision that they cannot be shared outside of the members themselves. See Appendix C for the text that must be written on the first page.

## APPENDIX A: TEXT OF THE MIT LICENSE

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