



## IDSA drives Dataspace Protocol to release 1.0 in Eclipse governance framework

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**January 30, 2024 | The International Data Spaces Association (IDSA) stands as a founding member within the newly formed Eclipse Dataspace Working Group (EDWG), which operates under the Eclipse Foundation. This partnership marks a significant step in building a robust open-source ecosystem to establish global standards and software components for sovereign data sharing through data spaces.**

The International Data Spaces Association (IDSA) exists to transform the data economy, advocating for a world where every individual and organization retains control over their data. Our purpose is to drive the innovation, awareness, and global adoption of IDS, creating standards for data spaces that guarantee data sovereignty for all participants.

Thanks to the collaborative efforts and valuable contributions of our members, IDSA has emerged as a trusted authority and leading thinker in establishing data sovereignty and defining data spaces. Our successes are a testament to the collective wisdom and hard work of our working groups<sup>1</sup>, the richness of content we create together, and the invaluable assets, like the IDS Reference Architecture Model (RAM)<sup>2</sup> and the IDSA Rulebook<sup>3</sup>, we develop as a team. The popularity of our events, for example the successful Data Spaces Discovery Days Series<sup>4</sup>, plus the tremendous support we receive from the entire data sharing ecosystem reflect not just our efforts, but the power of collaboration and shared feedback that drives our mission forward.

The Dataspace Protocol (DSP) is at the very core of the technical implementation of every data space component and guarantees interoperability between components, data space participants and data space governance authorities. The protocol specification follows the functional requirements of the business processes described in the IDSA Rulebook based on consensually agreed industry requirements. To fulfill our mission to build standards for data sovereignty one of the IDSA's goals is to make the Data Space Protocol (DSP) an ISO Standard. We need to expedite this process, basically to combine the specification document IDSA has created for the DSP with a compatibility kit. A compatibility kit is essential software. Since IDSA is not creating software, we need to reach out to the developer community to write it. We actually need a lot of people to write software.

The selection of the Eclipse Foundation to achieve exactly that is twofold. For one they have a governance framework that is the tool of choice to make great specifications possible. Secondly, they are the go-to place for developers who are supporting open-source projects. With a very large network of participants. So, we will use the Eclipse governance framework and their access to developers to accelerate the development of an expanding open-source ecosystem for data spaces. The focal point of this endeavor is to deliver universally accepted standards and enterprise-ready software components, propelling the establishment of data spaces for secure data sharing. With this choice we are extending the way our ecosystem can contribute to our efforts to reach the release stage of the first version of the standard.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://internationaldataspaces.org/make/working-groups-and-task-forces/>

<sup>2</sup> [https://github.com/International-Data-Spaces-Association/IDS-RAM\\_4\\_0](https://github.com/International-Data-Spaces-Association/IDS-RAM_4_0)

<sup>3</sup> <https://internationaldataspaces.org/publications/most-important-documents/>

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLjtVEFHmKqTuhBw\\_SLm84tBHInLFn4wV](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLjtVEFHmKqTuhBw_SLm84tBHInLFn4wV)



## Way forward to DSP 1.0

We are currently preparing a new Eclipse Specification Project to drive the DSP towards release 1.0. An Eclipse Specification consists of two parts:

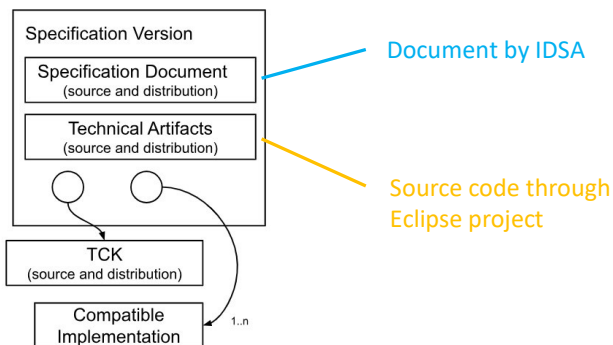
A Specification Document (the Dataspace Protocol specification document) which is created by IDSA under the CC-BY license. IDSA will continuously work on versioning and maintaining the document.

Technical Artifacts, which comprise of two parts – Technical Compatibility Kit (TCK) and Compatible Implementation. The TCK is basically source code to test the Data Space Protocol implementation. Since IDSA is not involved in software development, we will set up an Eclipse Specification project (associated to the Data Spaces Work Group (DSWG)) to create the necessary code under an Apache 2 license. This will be steered by IDSA and continuous versioning and maintenance is planned. The Compatible Implementation is at least the Eclipse Dataspace Components (EDC)<sup>5</sup>, more implementations from the IDSA Data Connector Report<sup>6</sup> will follow.

With the combined expertise of the IDSA members and the consent in our ecosystem we are in a great position to make sure that the three crucial parts of the technical specification align perfectly and supply a stable and reliable foundation for industrial deployment.

For more details on the specification process, visit:

<https://letmegooglethat.com/?q=Eclipse+specification+process>



### *Eclipse Foundation Specification Process*

The Dataspace Protocol will serve as one of the standards Data Spaces rely on. The IDSA Rulebook and the IDS RAM provide a comprehensive overview of Data Spaces, how to build them and how to use them. Data Spaces rely on standards and use existing standards wherever possible. With the work in the Eclipse Specification Project on the Dataspace Protocol and standards to be created in ISO/IEC (e.g. ISO/IEC SC38, ISO/IEC SC41) and CEN&CENELEC (e.g. BTWG 6) data spaces will have a robust and reliable foundation for industrial uptake.

### **About International Data Spaces Association (IDSA)**

The International Data Spaces Association is on a mission to create the future of the global, digital economy. Its 150+ members have created the International Data Spaces architecture (IDS): a secure system of sovereign and trusted data exchange in which all participants can realize the full value of their data. IDS enables new smart services and innovative business processes to work across companies and industries while ensuring that the control of data remains in the hands of data providers. We call this data sovereignty.

Please visit our website at <https://www.internationaldataspaces.org/> for more Information.

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