RFC: Plexus-FDC3 Alignment Proposal

Status: Proposed

Comment by: May 1, 2019

Stakeholders: Plexus PMC, FDC3 PMC, FINOS

# Issue

Currently, both the Plexus Interop and FDC3 programs host working groups devoted to financial desktop interoperability standards. FINOS and the PMCs of both programs wish to come to an agreement on how to align this related work to avoid conflicts and promote the programs’ mutual goals.

# Proposal

Consolidate all interop standards under the FDC3 Program by moving the existing "Plexus Interop Working Group" into the FDC3 Program as the "FDC3 RPC Working Group" and writing up the Plexus standards as the initial proposed FDC3 RPC specification. Once moved, the working group would then go through the usual FDC3 process to build consensus and ultimately ratify the standard.

# Rationale

Moving all interop standards work to FDC3 establishes a consistent separation of interests across three related FINOS programs: Plexus, FDC3, and Hadouken. The Plexus program would be dedicated solely to software project development, with its projects consuming the FDC3 RPC standards, in the same way that Hadouken hosts projects that implement the FDC3 standards.

This proposal is also well-aligned with FINOS’s move toward standards-style IPR agreements for standards-specification work, putting all of the work in FDC3 under one type of agreement (the standards IPR terms) and the work in Plexus and Hadouken under the other type (the code contribution policies).