

1st Meeting of the seL4 Board

Wednesday, 18 March 2020, 6:00–7:10 UTC

By Webex

MINUTES

Directors present:

- June Andronick (JA)
- Gernot Heiser (GH)
- Sascha Kegreiß (SK)
- Gerwin Klein (GK)
- John Launchbury (JL)
- Daniel Potts (DP)

1. Welcome

JA as acting Chair opened the meeting and welcomed all directors.
Directors introduced each themselves to each other.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

Nothing to approve as there was no prior meeting.

3. Election of Chair

Gernot Heiser was unanimously elected Chair.

JA vacated the Chair for GH.

4. Election of Treasurer

Daniel Potts was unanimously elected Treasurer.

5. Awarding of Premier Member status to HENSOLDT Cyber

- GH declared an interest in HENSOLDT Cyber.
- SK declared an interest in HENSOLDT Cyber.

Background: HENSOLDT Cyber had provided several million dollars over the past two years to Trustworthy Systems (TS) for development and verification of the RISC-V port of seL4.

RESOLVED: *HENSOLDT Cyber, in recognition of its past funding of open-source seL4 development, is deemed a financial Premium Member of the seL4 Foundation for three years from today, subject to:*

- HENSOLDT Cyber satisfies all requirements for Regular Membership for the duration of that period.*
- The Premier Membership status will lapse in case of a Change of Ownership of HENSOLDT Cyber. In this case, the seL4 Board, at its discretion, may reinstate HENSOLDT Cyber's Premium Member status, if the Board is satisfied that HENSOLDT Cyber's commitment to seL4 will continue.*

6. Public launch preparations

GH and JA updated the Board on the activities for the public launch:

- (a) The draft logo, a light-touch augmentation of the existing seL4 logo, was tabled and approved
- (b) A draft CSIRO media release was tabled. The Linux Foundation (LF) will do their own media release (a few hours before the CSIRO one) which will contain member quotes. LF has the members' media contacts through the sign-up process. Selected (tech) media outlets with a track record on reporting on seL4 will receive embargoed versions. TS will coordinate with LF.
- (c) The media releases will be supported by social media activities. GH has drafted a blog explaining the Foundation, its motivation and planned activities to the community. An early draft had been circulated to the Board. The final draft will be circulated as well.

Action GH: Circulate final version of blog post.

- (d) The draft LF pitch deck was tabled. Directors suggested creating:
 - i. A shorter deck for an seL4-aware audience.

Action GH: Prepare shorter pitch deck.

- ii. A 1–2 page executive summary of the Foundation and its benefits.

Action GH: Prepare executive summary of Foundation.

- (e) The transfer of the seL4 trademark registration from CSIRO to LF is in progress.
- (f) Timing and process of handover of source repositories to LF
This should happen by the time of the launch, but best not much before, as the contribution process will change (certificate of origin instead of the more heavy-weight contributors license agreement).

Action JA: Ask LF about the process for repository handover.

- (g) The originally planned launch date (31 March US time) may slip 1–2 weeks due to Covid-19 distractions. Agreement that the launch should happen as soon as feasible.

7. Membership status and recruitment

- (a) On-line membership signup process though LF seems to work now after some birthing pains, seL4 is the first LF Project to use this process.
- (b) GH aims to have at least 6 members signed up by the public launch and to this end had invited about ten core community members to join. Of these 4 have completed the on-line process (CSIRO, UNSW, Ghost and Cog). Three more have promised to do it soon, some responses are still outstanding.
- (c) Further recruitment activities will happen after the launch.

8. Finance

- (a) Preparing a budget makes no sense at the present time: there is no money available yet, which will result from members joining. We will need to see how the membership develops before budgeting.
- (b) Irrespective of the above, the Board considers it important to extend trademark protection to China.
RESOLVED: The Chair is authorised to extend the trademark registration to China, as soon as funds become available, up to a limit of \$10,000.

9. Initial Board Committees

- (a) **RESOLVED:** The Outreach Committee consists of GH, JL and DP; it will utilise the networks of the members and work with LF; coordinated by GH.
- (b) Branding and communications
Branding will leverage off the existing seL4 branding, with Foundation-specific

material showing the seL4 Foundation logo. There is no need for a committee at this time.

(c) Compliance

- i. Brand compliance is a high priority, given the potential for reputational damage that could be caused by incorrect verification claims about a modified kernel.
- ii. JA reported on TS-internal activities on drafting guidelines for use of the seL4 Brand, and specifically the use of Verification claims.
- iii. **RESOLVED:** The Compliance Committee consists of GK and DP, it will work closely with TS staff and will eventually invited community feedback.

10. Future meeting mode

Future meetings of the Board will be scheduled as needed and will normally be conducted off-line. There will be a in-person meeting (with video link) at the next seL4 Summit (presently scheduled for the week of 19 October).

11. Any other business

No other business, meeting closed 7:10 UTC

Action Summary

From	Item	Owner	Action
20-03-18	8(c)	GH	Circulate final version of blog post
20-03-18	8(d)i	GH	Prepare shorter pitch deck
20-03-18	8(d)ii	GH	Prepare executive summary of Foundation
20-03-18	8(f)	JA	Ask LF about the process for repository handover

Meeting Attendance

Current financial year, starting 2020-03-18:

Name	Attended
June Andronick	1
Gernot Heiser	1
Sascha Kegreiß	1
Gerwin Klein	1
John Launchbury	1
Daniel Potts	1

Acronyms

TS The *Trustworthy Systems* research group at CSIRO's Data61

LF The *Linux Foundation*



Signed as a true record
2020-03-26