iab. TECH LAB INNOVATION DAY TRANSPARENCY AND SECURING THE SUPPLY CHAIN



TRANSPARENCY AND SECURING THE SUPPLY CHAIN

WiFi: TechLabInnovationDay

Password: SecureSupplyChain

#TechLabInnovationDay

@IABTechLab







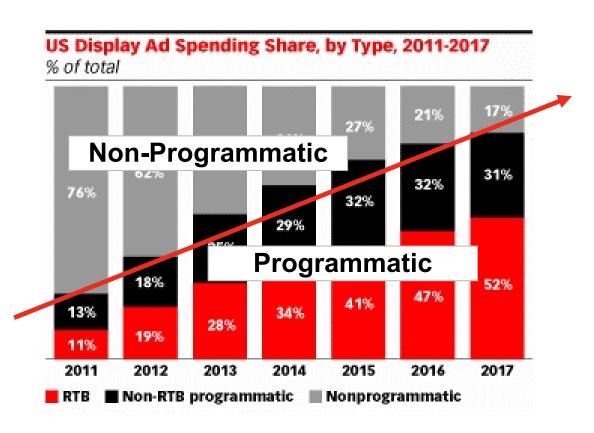
IAB Tech Lab

Global Standards Together

Why We're Here: A "Perfect Storm" of...Opportunities



Growth & evolution of automation...



...has come with challenges.

- Power shift to the consumer
- Privacy regulation
- Infrastructure costs
- Brand safety
- Measurement
- Fraud
- Transparency
- And more

How IAB Tech Lab Helps – Our Mission





How Tech Lab Helps – Themes & Portfolio



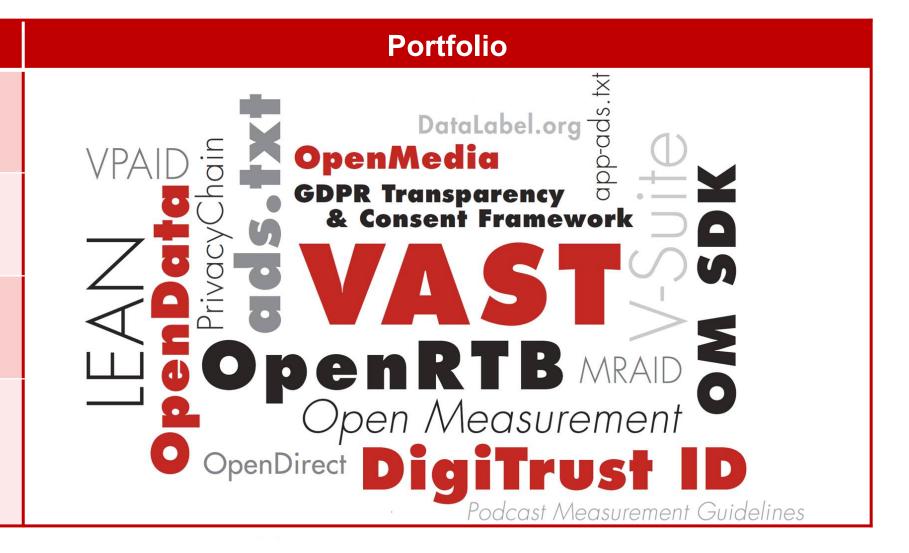
Themes

Brand Safety & Ad Fraud

Identity, Data, & Consumer Privacy

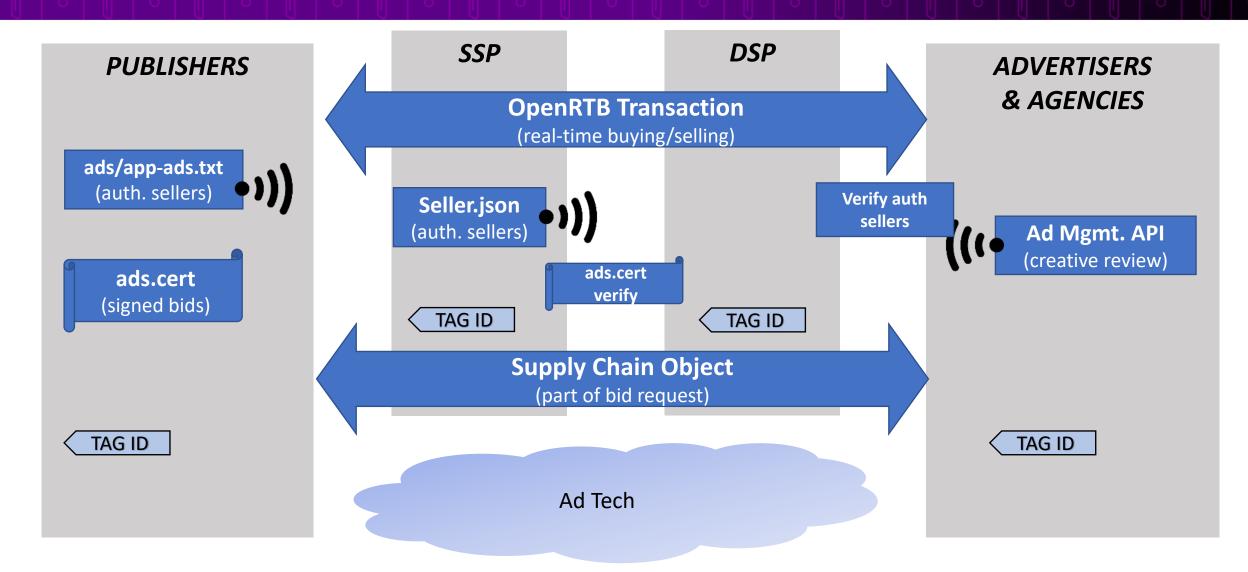
Ad Experiences & Measurement

Programmatic Efficiency & Transparency



Helping Advertisers & Publishers Work Together





Global Community, Creating Global Standards





Quantcast

Directors













IAB Tech Lab Working Groups – Get Engaged!



- Our working groups are comprised of the industry's best engineering and product minds. They engage hands-on to develop standards and software to realize Tech Lab's mission and agreed strategies.
 - Ad Product Portfolio
 - Blockchain
 - Data Transparency Standards
 - Digital Video Technical Standards
 - DigiTrust ID
 - GDPR Technical Working Group
 - Header Tag Task Force
 - IAB Dynamic Content Ad Standards
 - Identity Standards
 - LEAN, DEAL & Experiences
 - Mobile Rich Media Ad Interface Definitions
 - Modernizing Measurement Task Force
 - MRAID Ads SDK Tester
 - Open Measurement

- OpenData Task Force
- OpenDirect
- OpenRTB Native
- OpenRTB
- OpenVV
- OTT Technical Working Group
- Podcast Technical Working Group
- SafeFrame Implementation
- Taxonomy and Mapping
- TV Convergence Technical Task Force
- Video Tools & Best Practices
 (sub-group of Digital Video Tech Standards)
- + Tech Lab Council (interest group open to all TL members)



Or... How Do We Get Some Supply Chain Satisfaction?



TRANSPARENCY AND SECURING THE SUPPLY CHAI

What Would Paradise Look Like?

ADVERTISERS & AGENCIES



Define campaign objectives, inputs, constraints, creative – and execute ...

AD TECH



... via efficent, data-driven, brand-safe, real-time decisions ... **PUBLISHERS**

... that fund content & services by serving relevant, high-quality ads ...

CONSUMERS





ADVERTISERS & AGENCIES



Define campaign objectives, inputs, constraints, creative – and execute ...

AD TECH



... via efficent, data-driven, brand-safe, real-time decisions ... **PUBLISHERS**

... that fund content & services by serving relevant, high-quality ads ...

CONSUMERS









- Brand safety
- Measurement challenges
- Ineffective spend

AD TECH



... via efficient, data-driven, brand-safe, real-time decisions ... **PUBLISHERS**



CONSUMERS









- Brand safety
- Measurement challenges
- Ineffective spend

AD TECH





- Data risk
- Competition
- Margins

PUBLISHERS



CONSUMERS









- Brand safety
- Measurement challenges
- Ineffective spend

AD TECH B

- Data risk
- Competition
- Margins

PUBLISHERS



- "Extra hops"
- Yield & margins
- Consumer experience

CONSUMERS



... to real, interested consumers.







- Brand safety
- Measurement challenges
- Ineffective spend



Margins

PUBLISHERS



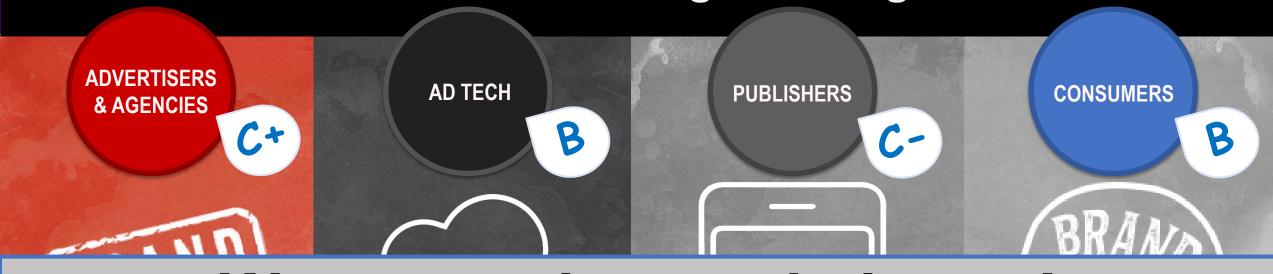
- "Extra hops"
- Yield & margins
- Consumer experience

CONSUMERS



- Privacy & "creepiness"
- Irrelevance
 - Loss of choice





We can and must do better!

- Brand safety
- Measurement challenges
- Ineffective spend



- Data risk
- Competition
- Margins

margins

Consumer experience

· Irrelevance Loss of

choice



"Tools" for Programmatic Supply Chain

How do we solve for **brand safety**?

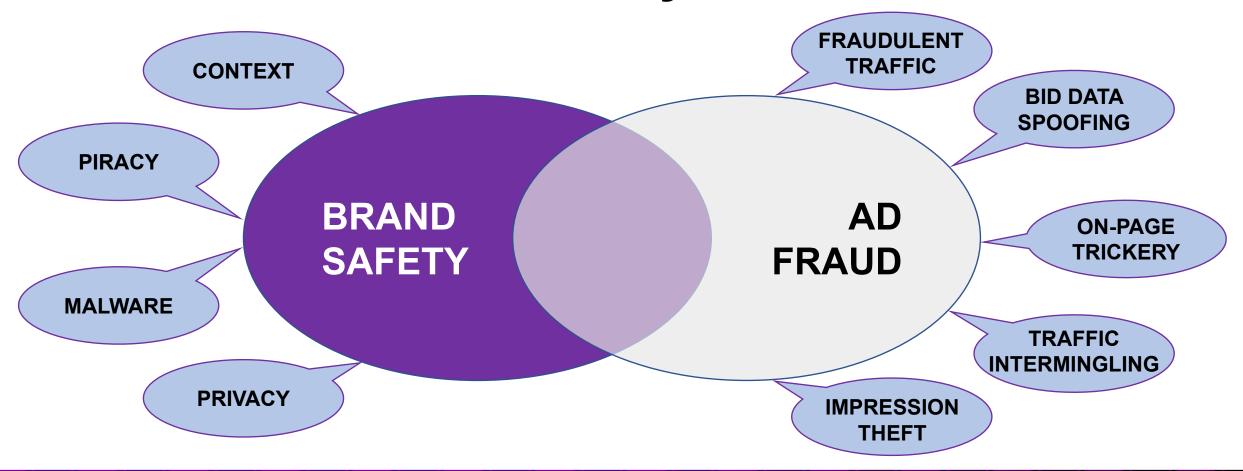
How do we reduce ad fraud?

How do we enable more control?

How can it all be more efficient?



Side Note: Brand Safety vs. Ad Fraud





"Tools" for Programmatic Supply Chain

How do we solve for **brand safety**?

How do we reduce ad fraud?

How do we enable more control?

How can it all be more efficient?

Transparency is the tool to improve our supply chain.



So, how do I use transparency as a tool?

Who	What to look for	What to do
Advertisers	Technology offering actionable data & insights for brand safety, fraud, performance	Utilize SupplyChain object & ads.cert
Publishers	Technology providing greater control, especially related to consumer experience	Implement ads.cert & OpenMedia specs (including OpenRTB 3.0)
Technology Providers	Meaningful transparency mechanisms to provide to your clients	Implement sellers.json & OpenRTB 3.0 and develop useful tools!



Securing the Programmatic Supply Chain

"A system is secure if it behaves precisely in the manner intended – and does nothing more."



Securing the Programmatic Supply Chain

"A system is secure if it behaves precisely in the manner intended – and does nothing more."

Ad tech has seen proliferation of arbitrary JavaScript and ineffective supply paths.

Tech Lab working groups have been hard at work to identify and address these vulnerabilities...

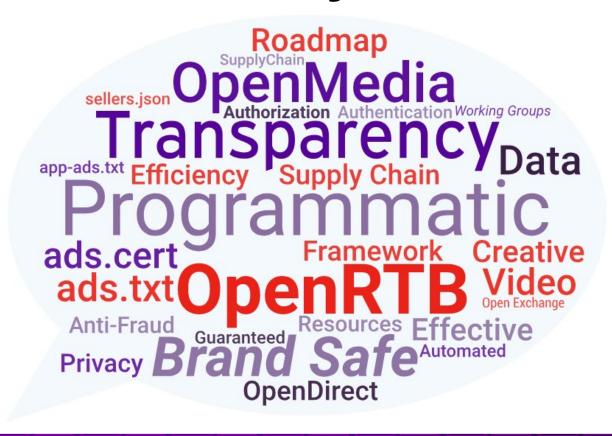


Summary: Reducing "Brand Danger"

Brand Danger Cause	Solution	Standards
Misrepresented website inventory	Authorized digital sellers for sites	ads.txt
Inefficient software integration for verification & IVT	SDK/API for 3 rd -party viewability & verification	Open Measurement
Misrepresented mobile app & OTT inventory	Authorized digital sellers for apps	app-ads.txt
Multiple hops from Publisher to Advertiser	Increased supply path transparency	SupplyChain object OpenRTB 3.0
Lack of trust between Publishers & Advertisers	Mechanisms to determine authenticity (signed bid requests)	ads.cert
Inefficient transactions & ineffective programmatic ads	More holistic tech standards stack	OpenDirect 2.0 Ad Management API



What to listen for today...







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Pathway to a Safer and Transparent Marketplace

Adopting Ads.cert & OpenRTB 3.0

8

Amy OgawaDirector, Strategic Partnerships

Amit BhawnaniVP, Software Engineering



Ad Tech Fraud

8

Methbot

2016

300

Million Requests/day 6k

Spoofed Domains

\$3

Million Spend/day **Hyphbot**

2017

400+

Million Requests/day 34k

Spoofed Domains

Thousand Spend/day

\$200

3ve

2017-18

3

Million Requests/day 10k+

Spoofed Domains

\$500

Thousand Estimated Spend/day



8

Industry Evolution

What have other industries done to solve for fraud?



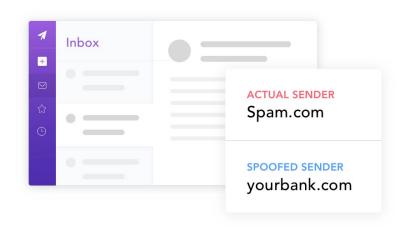


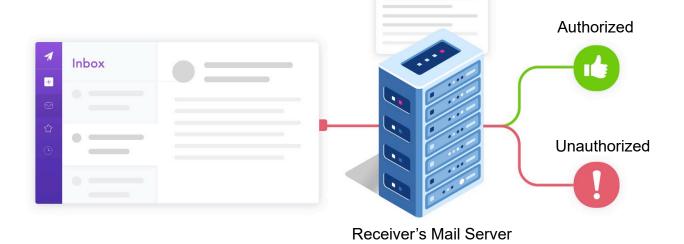




Domain Spoofing in Email







yourbank.com SPF Entry

Problem: Spam email

Solution: SPF

(Sender Policy Framework)



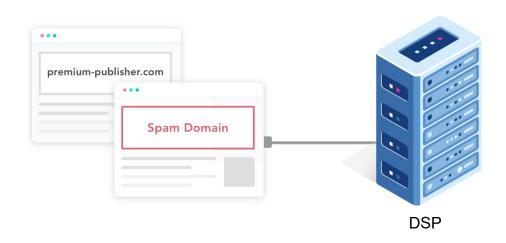


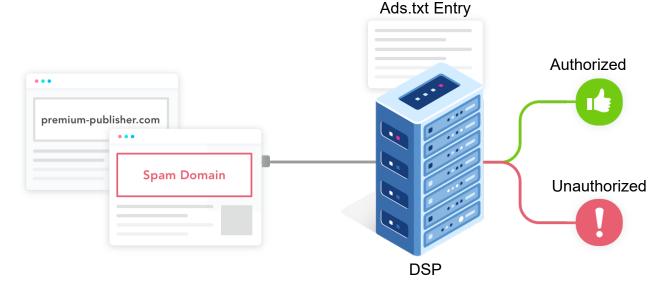




Domain Spoofing in Ad Tech







Problem: Spoofed impression

Solution: Ads.txt





Before Ads.txt was introduced

8







Fraudulent entity signs up with an Exchange and gets an account ID

Fraudulent entity spoofs itself as premium-publisher.com. It will pass its account ID in the bid request via an SSP

DSP pays the Fraudulent entity

Issues & Solutions



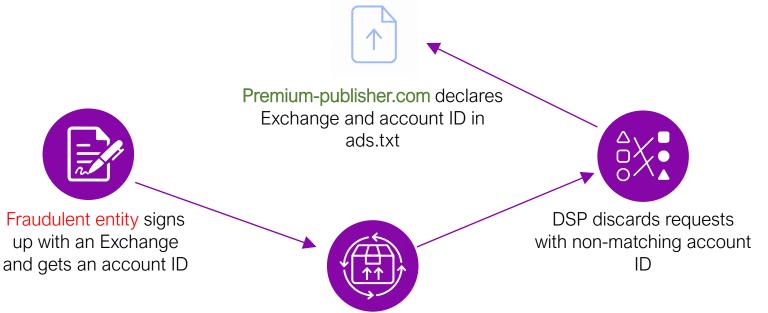




Authorization with Ads.txt



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Fraudulent entity spoofs itself as premiumpublisher.com. It will pass its account ID in the bid request via an SSP

Benefits

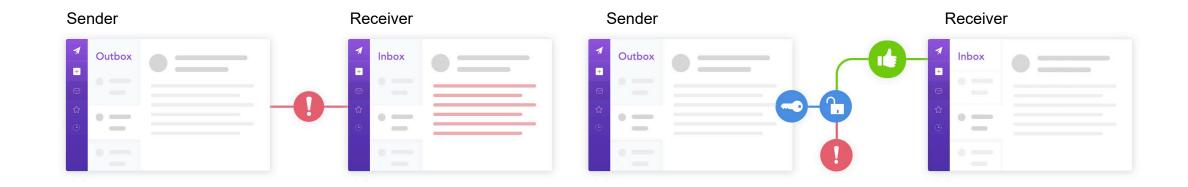
- Money only paid to entities with verified account ID
- Publisher visibility into sellers
- Buyers can optimize on sellers vs resellers
- Infrastructure cost decision on number of Sellers



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Message Spoofing in Email

8



Problem: Message Spoofing

Solution: DKIM

(DomainKeys Identified Mail)



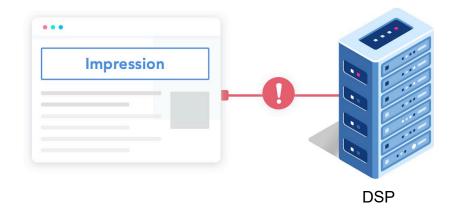




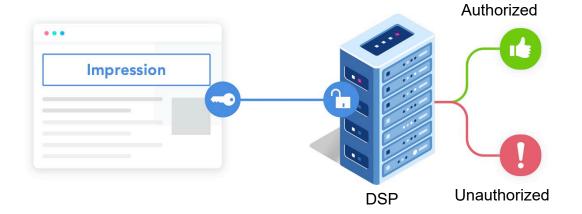
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Inventory Spoofing in Ad Tech

8



Problem: Inventory Spoofing



Solution: Ads.cert

Issues & Solutions





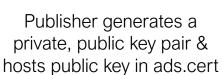




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Authentication with Ads.cert











Signature is sent in the the supply chain



Benefits

- Spam analysis
- Auction integrity
- Reduce inventory price inflation



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SPF + DKIM + Feedback Loop

DMARC

(Domain Message Authentication, Reporting & Conformance)

Issues & Solutions









Feedback Loop

Allows the receiving mail server to directly **notify** the domain owner of any invalid SPF or DKIM entry

Problems tackled for the domain owner

- Determine if any genuine email from its domain is getting rejected because of configuration issues
- Determine if its domain is getting mis-represented by spoofing



2



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Remaining problems in Ad Tech?

Learning from DMARC



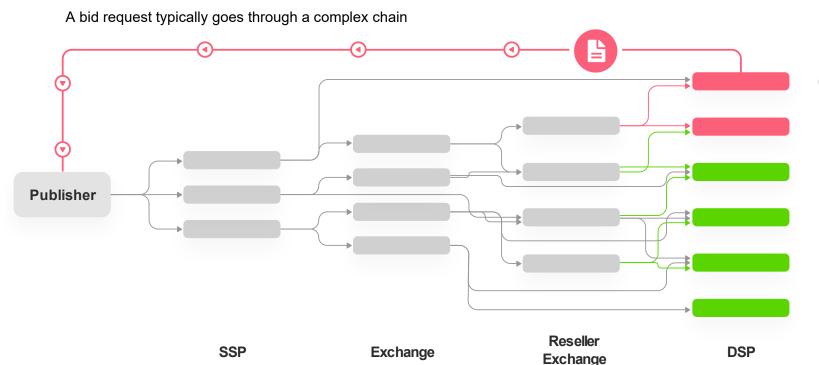






Proposal: DMARC in Ad Tech

8



Opportunity loss

- Genuine bid requests rejected by DSPs
 - Incorrect ads.txt entries
- Domain Spoofing

No direct mechanism for the publishers to detect if someone is trying to spoof their domain

We believe that a direct feedback loop between the DSPs and the publisher can solve these problems

Proposal









Supply Chain Error Report

DSPs will build a 'Supply Chain Error Report' and send it directly to the publisher

Simple report that contains the lists of errors like the ads.txt and ads.cert violations broken down by sellers in the supply chain

Error	Error Details	Sellers	
Ads.cert Unavailable		Exchange1-acct_d2, ResellerExchange2- acc_id2	
Ads.txt Violation	sid2	Exchange2-acct_d2, ResellerExchange8-sid1	

Note* assumes that we have some sort of mechanism in place where exchanges and SSPs can declare consent for this direct communication between DSPs and the Publisher.







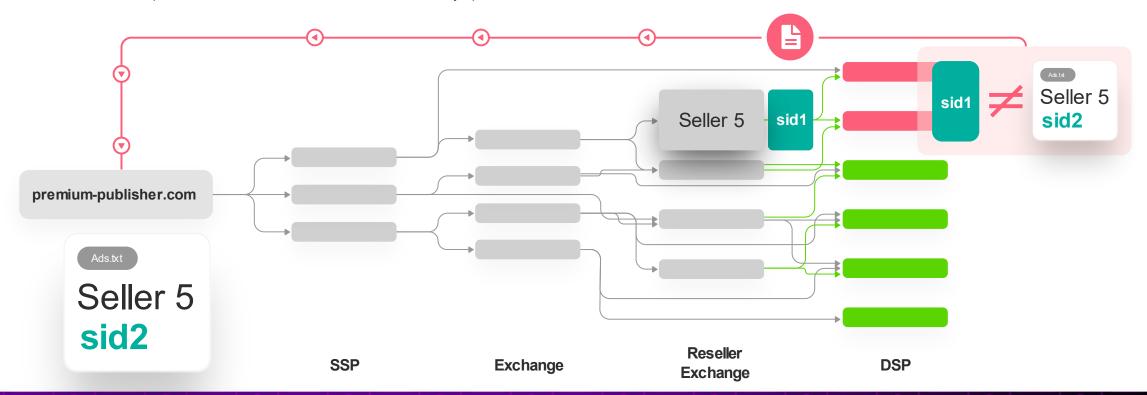




Supply Chain Error Report: e.g. 1

8

Premium-publisher.com in their ads.txt file has incorrectly specified sid2 as the account ID for Seller5 instead of sid1







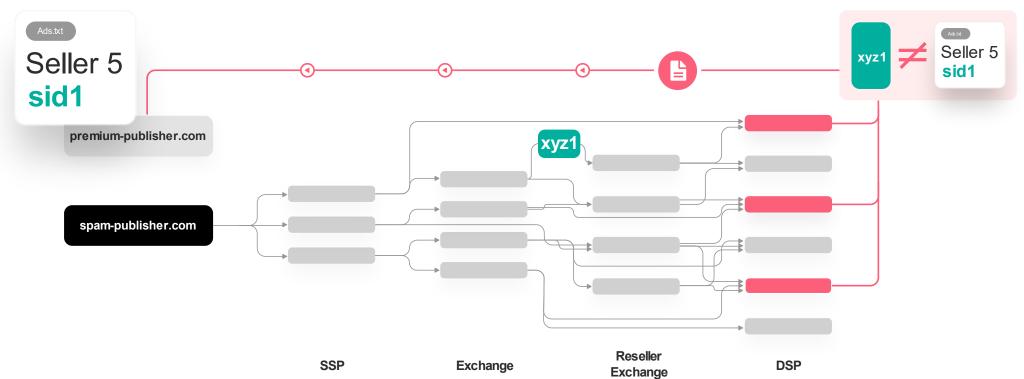




Supply Chain Error Report: e.g. 2

a

We now have a spam publisher added to the mix who is portraying to be premium-publisher.com





a

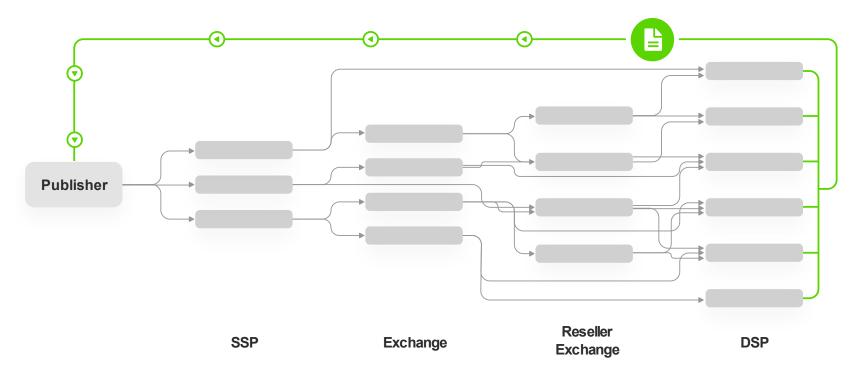
Anything else?

Transparency



Proposal: Supply Chain Audit Report





Summary of

- · Impressions delivered
- Money spent
- · Sellers in the supply chain

Problems tackled

- · Gives the publisher full transparency
- Margins kept by the entities in the supply chain
- · Ability to audit impressions and revenue numbers



a

Fast-tracking Adoption

Ads.cert Verifier and OpenRTB 3.0 Converter



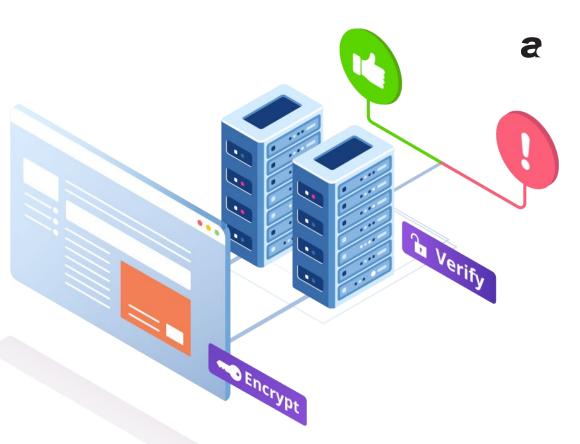
Ads.cert

Publisher side

Publisher or a trusted *signing authority* will be responsible for generating the signature and send it for every bid request

Demand side

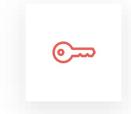
Responsible for verification of these signatures and for filtering out unmatched requests





Ads.cert Verifier: Highlights





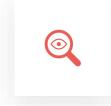
Crawl public key and store in cache



Function to verify signatures



Hooks and callbacks for logging and reporting



In-built data sampling



Real-time or offline verification



OpenMedia and OpenRTB 3.0

2

Why?

To deal with the increased complexity of supply chain

To meet the demands for stronger transparency, security and ad quality

Outcome

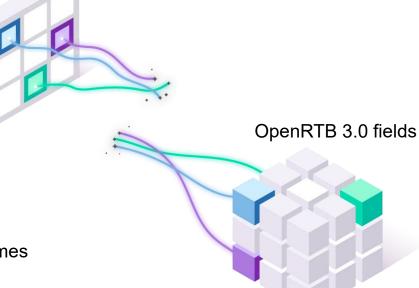
Major overhaul

OpenRTB 3.0 not backward compatible

Problem

Different Exchanges and DSPs are going to implement this new protocol at different times In the transitionary period there will be participants using 2 major versions Communication among them will be a challenge







2

OpenRTB Converter

Standard mapping solution

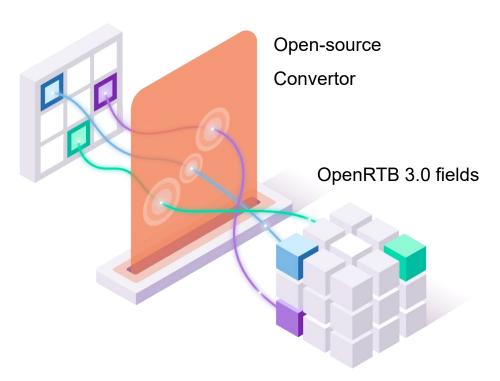
OpenRTB 2.x & Native 1.1 to OpenRTB 3.0 & AdCOM 1.0 one-on-one mapping

More than 400 different fields and objects

OpenRTB Converter

Help facilitate smooth communication for all Exchanges and DSPs irrespective of their OpenRTB version

OpenRTB 2.x fields





8

OpenRTB Converter

Key highlights









Compatible

Supports conversion from 2.3, 2.4 and 2.5 to 3.0 and vice versa

Complete

Does all the necessary transformations

Customization

Customization as per business needs

Consistent

Participants still on 2.x can use some of the newer features of 3.0



a

Links

Github Media.net Code bank

https://github.com/media-net/

Project Repos

<u>ads-cert-openrtb3-verifier</u> <u>openrtb3-converter</u>







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Stacking the Specs: OpenMedia Framework



At all.

In the beginning...

Specs were without form and void... OpenRTB 1.0

MADRSS

And the IAB said, "Let there be

specs..."

VAST 1.0

VPAID 1.0

IES 1.0 / 2.0

AXP 1.0

MRAID 1.0

And there were

specs.
And they were...

Not Butlerized...

OpenRTB 2.0!

VAST 2.x

VAST 3.x

VMAP 1.0

MRAID 2.0

2007

2008

2009 - 2011

2012

2013 (?)

Or Consistent...

So Many Independent Groups w/ Steering Committees!

DVT Steering Committee, ORTB Commit Group, and many more!

Advent: IAB Tech Lab

And the IAB divided the light from the darkness...



Ad

Management

Related

Resources: Ads.txt

Validators

OpenMedia

Open Media Specification Landscape

Advertising Common Object Model (Ad-COM)

OpenDirect

JSON, binary

HTTP



VAST 4.0

OpenDirect 1.0

OpenVV 1.x

ads.txt 1.0

OpenRTB 2.x

VAST 4.1

Layer 4

Domain

Layer 3

Transaction

Layer 2

Format

Layer 1

Transport

OpenRTB

2014

DAAST 1.x

2015 - 2016

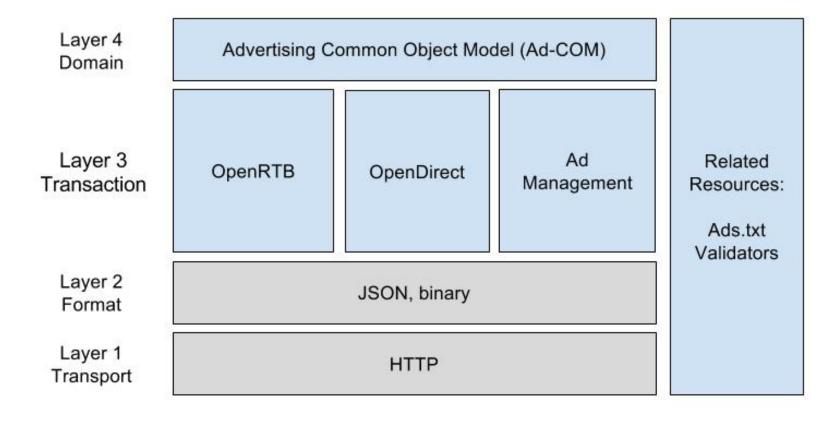
2017

2018

2019+

Unification of technical efforts and the ad ecosystem!



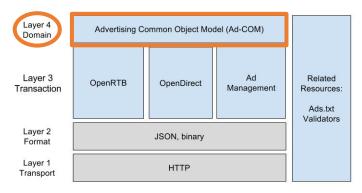


- FINALLY!
- Lives "above" the specs
- Unified modularity
- Stacks validation et. al.
- Still allows for specificity
- Accounts for validation
- Designed for interoperability
- Thank you OSI...
 - Hmmmm... ASI?

AdCOM

- Stems from an AORTA and a COMA!
- Common advertising dialect influenced heavily from ORTB
- Media channels, <u>native</u>, display oh my!
- Can be versioned independently of transactional specs
- Core to consistency, unification and interoperability
- Sensible naming conventions save my bits!
- Just waiting to be influence even more from VAST...

Open Media Specification Landscape



Hear ye, hear ye!

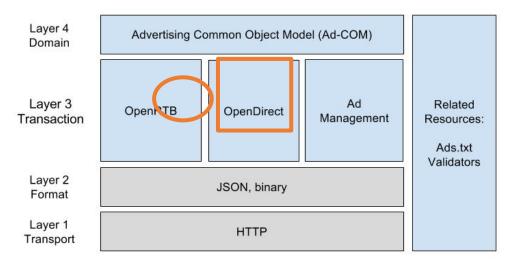
Open Ad Request is coming...



Open Media Specification Landscape

OpenRTB

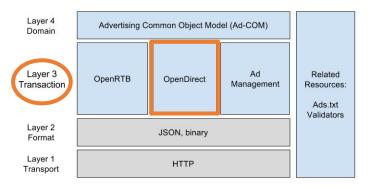
- 3.0 was a purposely non-BC overhaul!
- 3.0 relies on AdCOM!
 - No longer the lone voice in the wilderness
 - Domain conventions available to all, refreshed for transparency
 - Transactional aspects isolated in ORTB only
- Can be versioned independently of AdCOM but still allow for growth
- Inventory assurance front and center





OpenDirect

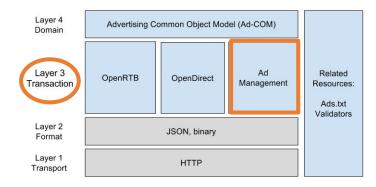
- Enables automated buying and selling of premium guarantees
- Browse, manage, target and buy
- 2.0 relies on AdCOM!
 - Expanded media channels (i.e. video, OOH)
 - Transactional aspects isolated in OpenDirect
- It's not ORTB
 - ORTB == real time inventory transactions
 - OpenDirect == guaranteed inventory scheduling





Ad Management

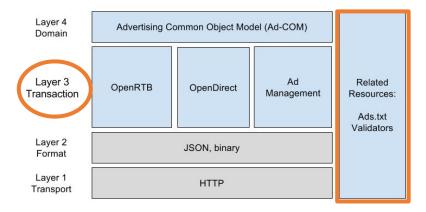
- Think "creative approval"
- But... why???
 - Reduce needs for proprietary APIs
 - No more "burn one" (or 60..)
 - Approval needs for quality or content
 - Needs for Live and OTT / premium video w/o question
- 3.0 relies on AdCOM!
 - Ad and Audit objects are AdCOM





Related Resources?

- These transcend space and time... OK, well layers anyway
- ads.*
 - Authorization ads.txt & app-ads.txt
 - Authentication ads.cert
- Simple extensibility

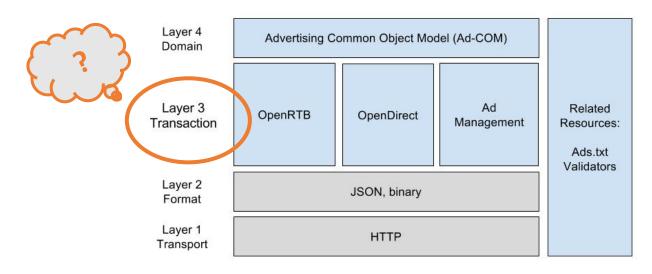




What's Next???

- Open Ad Request
- ♦ VAST 5.0...
- Reconciliation?

Open Media Specification Landscape



<u>Disclaimer</u>: The view represented here do not necessarily reflect...

Well, I'm talking so.....



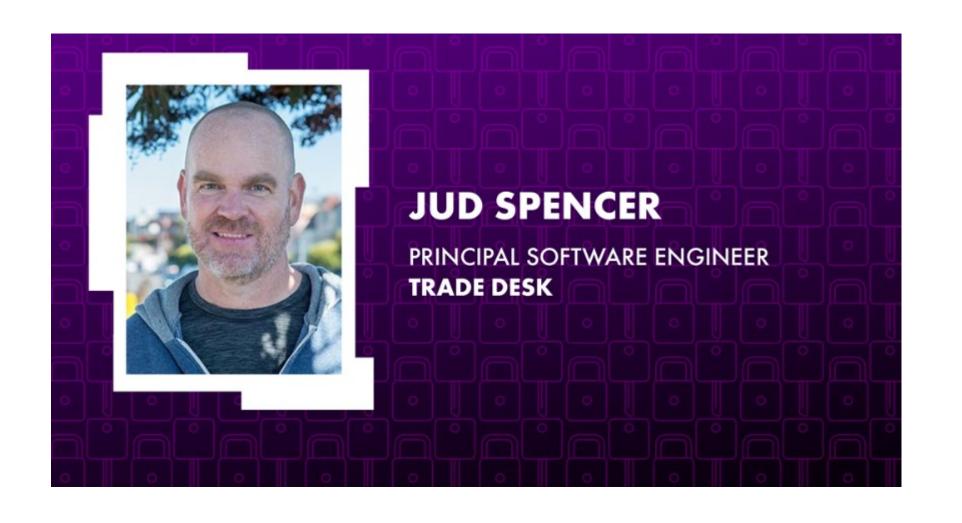
GET INVOLVED!!



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OpenRTB SupplyChain and Sellers.json

idb. TECH LAB
INNOVATION DATE

SECURING THE SUPPLY CHA

OpenRTB SupplyChain

Lists all of the sellers by business domain and seller id that are paid for the selling of an OpenRTB impression



Sellers.json

Reveals the identities of sellers based on publisher or seller ids in:

- OpenRTB Publisher object
- Ads.txt files
- OpenRTB SupplyChain object



What do they enable?

Three main goals:

- Transparency into the identities of intermediaries involved in resell "chains" for OpenRTB requests.
- Ability to discover and verify potentially fraudulent chains.
- Another input into SPO (Supply Path Optimization) models.



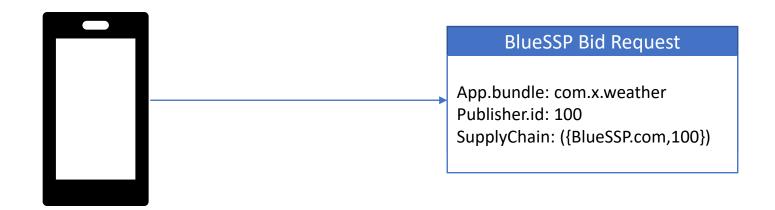
How do these complement ads.txt?

- Ads.txt only gives you the account ID of an authorized seller, not their identity.
- Ads.txt doesn't reveal the path that inventory takes before it gets to a buyer.
- SupplyChain and Sellers.json reveal every entity that is getting paid for a given bid request.



http://x-weather.com/app-ads.txt

bluessp.com, 100, DIRECT

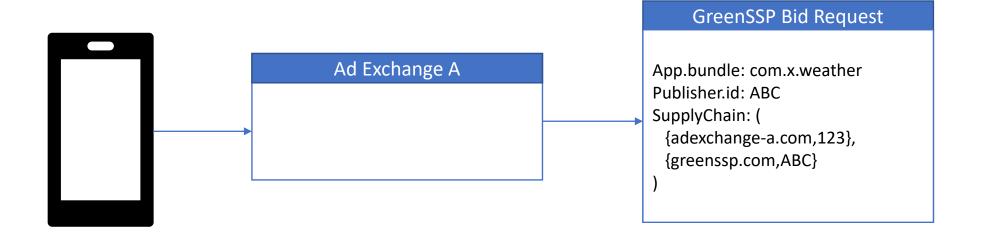


http://bluessp.com/sellers.json

100 = "X Weather", http://x-weather.com, DIRECT



greenssp.com, ABC, RESELLER



http://adexchange-a.com/sellers.json

123 = "X Weather", http://x-weather.com, DIRECT

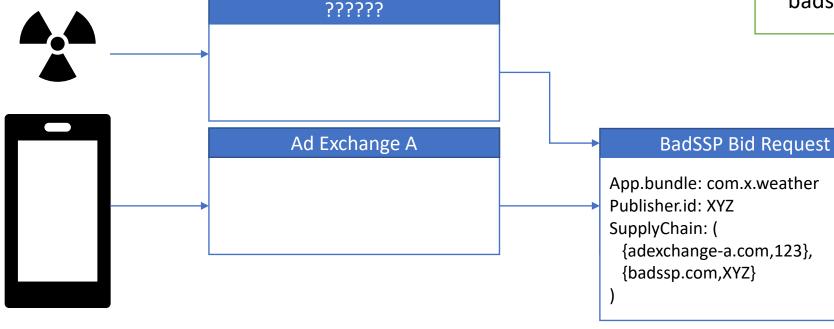
http://greenssp.com/sellers.json

ABC = "Ad Exchange A", http://adexchange-a.com, RESELLER



http://x-weather.com/app-ads.txt

badssp.com, XYZ, RESELLER



http://adexchange-a.com/sellers.json

123 = "X Weather", http://x-weather.com, DIRECT

http://badssp.com/sellers.json

XYZ = "Ad Exchange A", http://adexchange-a.com, RESELLER 890 = <Confidential>, RESELLER



Benefits to buyers

- An understanding of where inventory is being sourced from
- The ability to create blacklists/whitelists of intermediaries
- The ability to optimize for having fewer intermediaries involved in the purchase of inventory
- Transparency



Benefits to Publishers

- Can more easily work with buyers to ensure that optimal paths are being followed
- The ability to conduct more accurate audits with buyers to more easily detect leakage.



How difficult to implement?

- Should be quite easy to implement both
- Sellers.json has the ability to make a seller confidential to accommodate contractual obligations



















Efficiency in the Creative Approval Process

Why do bad ads happen to good people?

Ian Trider
Director, RTB Platform Operations, Centro
Tech Lab Commit Group

Curt Larson
CPO, Sharethrough
Tech Lab Commit Group



SECK THE MONKEY AND WIN \$20!





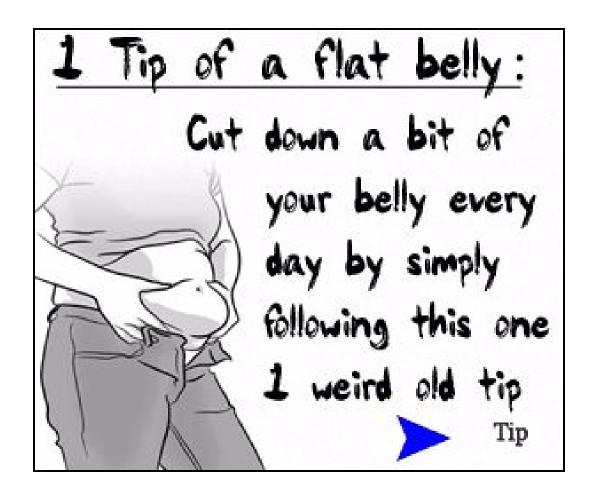
Current state

- Ad approval today:
 - Proprietary APIs
 - Via bidding
 - Or none at all!
- Silent rejection
- Custom scanning integrations



Why is this broken?

- Self-categorization is risky
- Proprietary protocols = problem
- "Every minute pending is a minute not spending"
- Filtered bids







The OpenMedia solution

- Ad Management API
- Supports pre-caching
- Designed to allow third parties
- Works for all creative types
- Reusable objects in AdCOM



The spec

```
POST https://api.sharethrough.com/admgmt
/v1/bidder/34/ads

{
    "id": "557391",
    "adomain": "centro.net",
    "display": {
        "native": {
            "link": "https://www.centro.net/
        solutions/basis/dsp/",
    ...
```









The spec









The spec

```
POST https://api.basis.net/admgmt
/v1/ssp/23/webhook

{
    "count": 1,
    "ads": [
        {
            "id": "557391",
            "lastmod": 1528221112000,
            "audit": {
                "status": 3 (Approved)
...
```









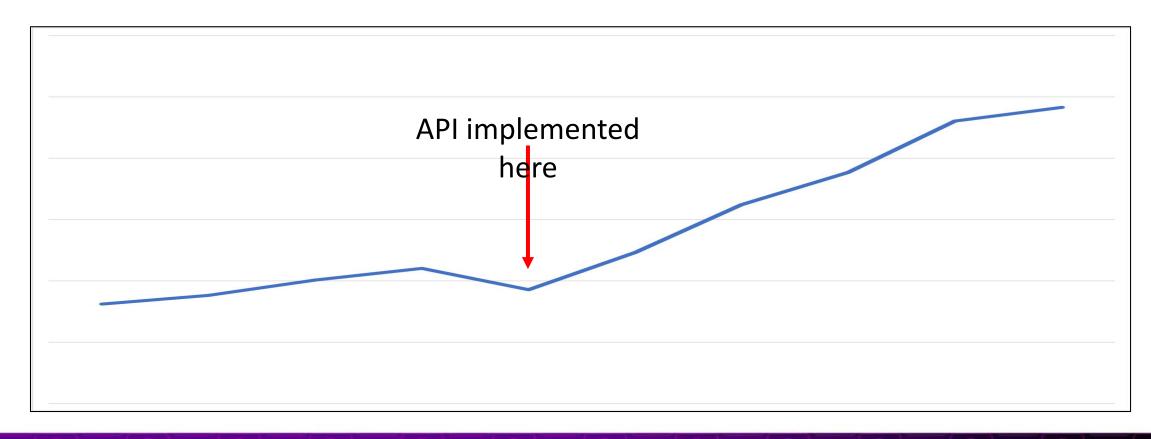




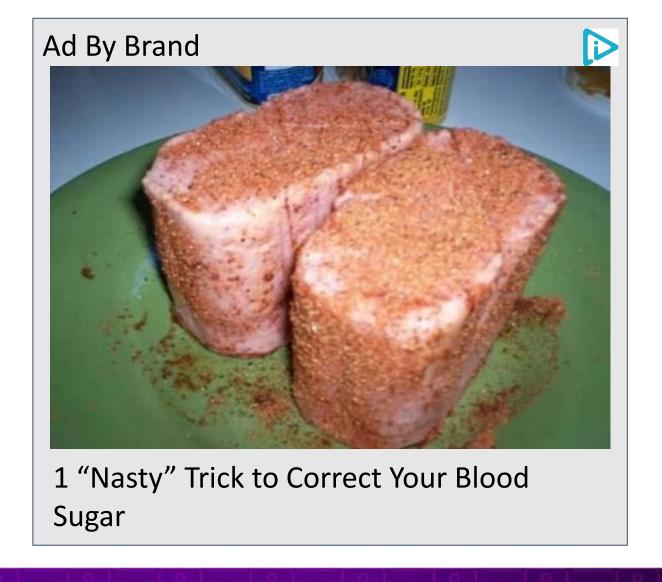
For DSPs

- Write once
- Show approval results in your UI/API
- Inform clients of rejection reasons
- Minimize time not spending
- Reduce filtered bids

Centro's Monthly Spend on Exchange











For SSPs

- Publishers need a sustainable business
- Easier for DSPs
- Fewer filtered bids
- Less back and forth implementing things with DSPs or emailing them to shut down bad creatives



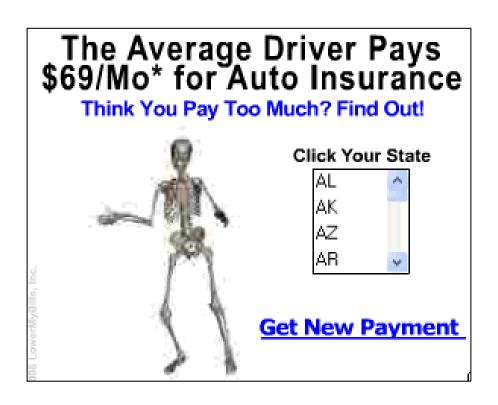
Opportunities for 3rd Parties

- Approval-as-a-service
- Approve once / use many

Don't let bad ads happen to you

- Standard is ready
 - Support it
 - o CAN work independently of OpenRTB 3.0
- Ask your partners
- Enforce policy



















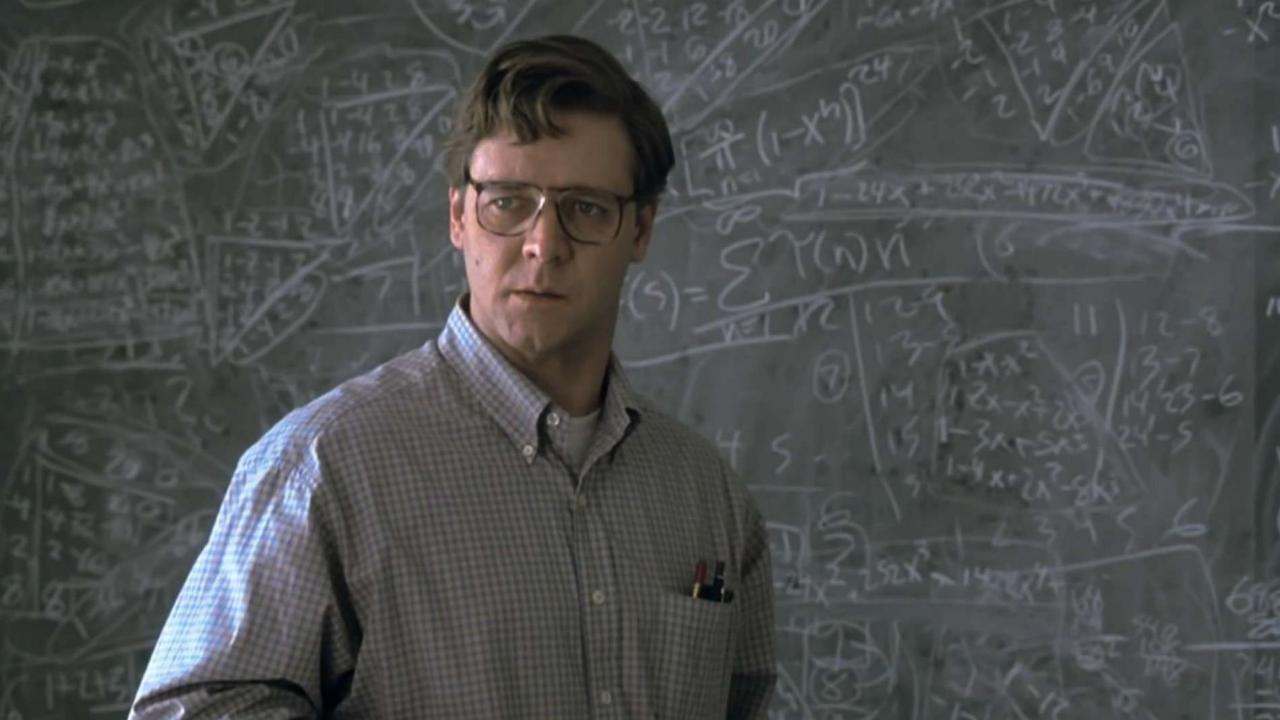


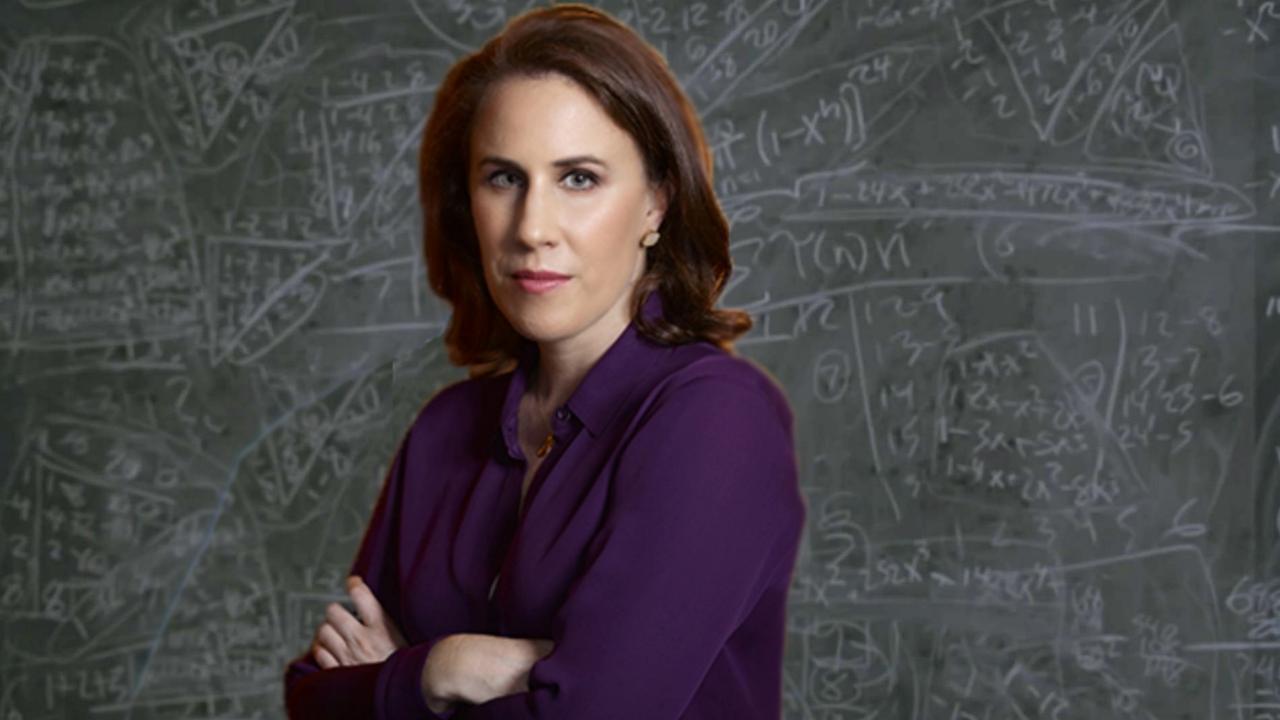


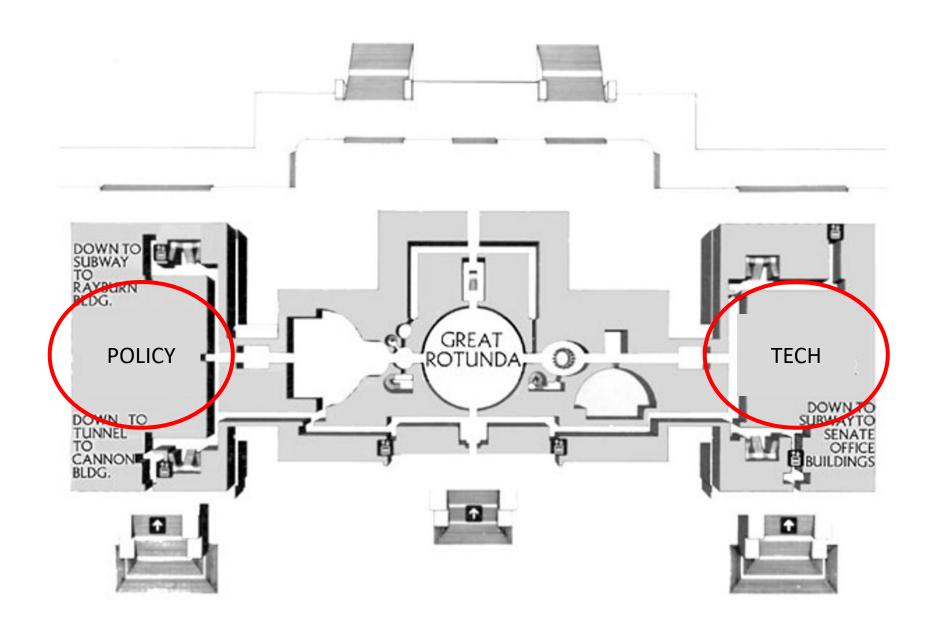










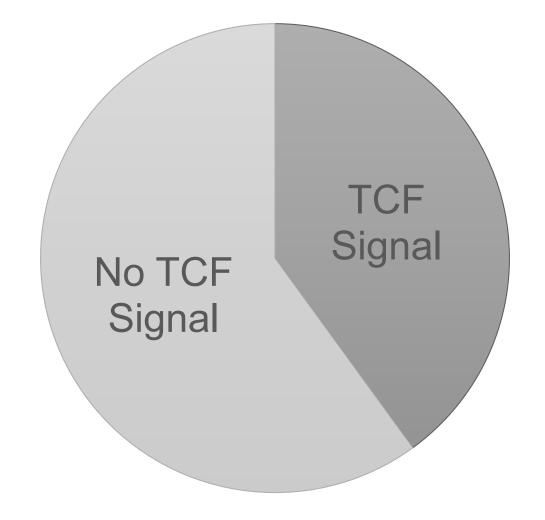












To close the gap...

- Major platforms
- Publisher voices
 - Purpose granularity
 - Legal basis
 - Flexibility
- Cleaner signaling





May 2018								
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June 2018									
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August 2018							
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October 2018								
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January 2019									
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February 2019								
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April 2019									
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3 problems

- 1 solved
- 1 idea
- 1 thought



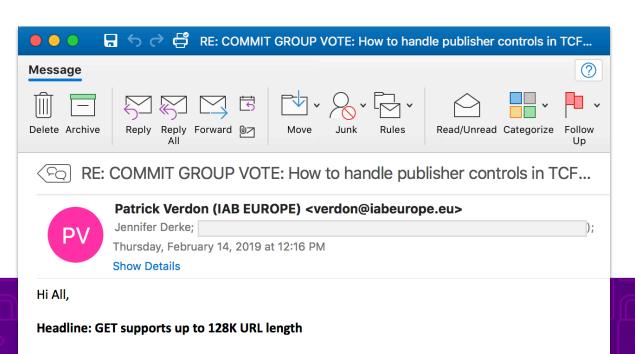
Size

Security

Structure

Size

Problem: publisher restrictions for vendors/purposes could make the string too big for browsers to send as GET



Solution: yes

Following up on requests in yesterday's meeting to find out what the breakpoint is for GET, I've spent some more time testing GET limits and have discovered that virtually all current browsers can process a <script> tag with a 'src' URL of up to 128K in length. The limitation is not in fact the browser - to support such long URLs, I had to change the configuration of the Web server to allow headers of up to 128K instead of the default 8K.



Security

Problem: accuracy of data in "tcstring" passed around the ecosystem

- Checksum for now
- /ads.cert

Solution: partial



Structure

Problem: banner creatives (self-executing JS/HTML) can fire off requests to unknown vendors

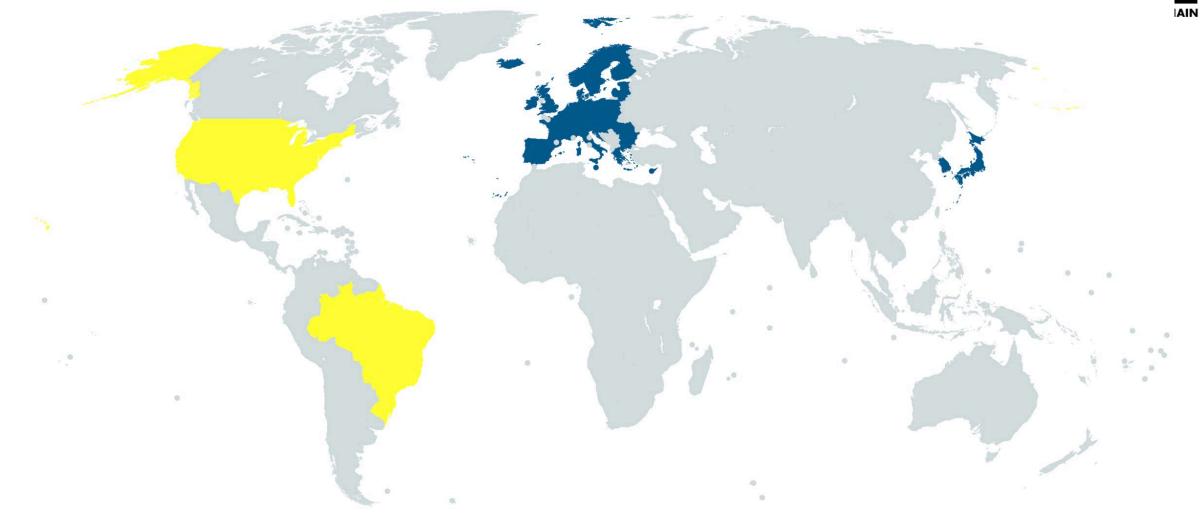


or some equivalent

Solution: it's Innovation Day

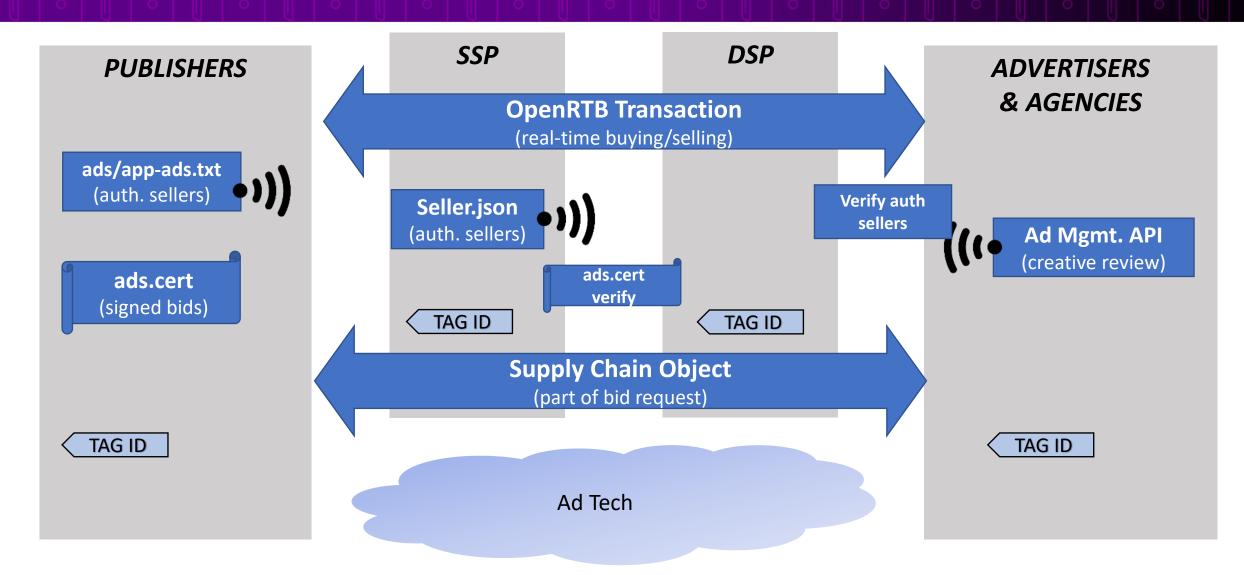


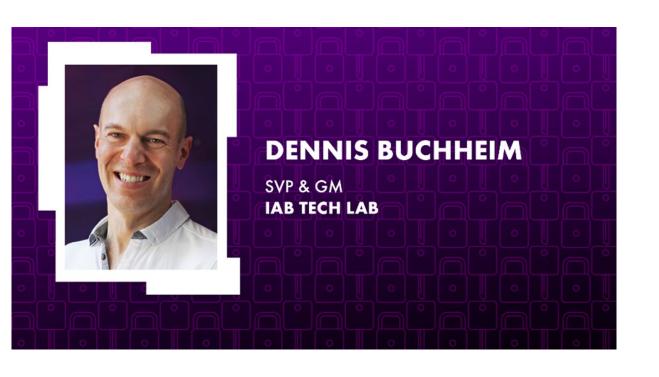




Helping Advertisers & Publishers Work Together









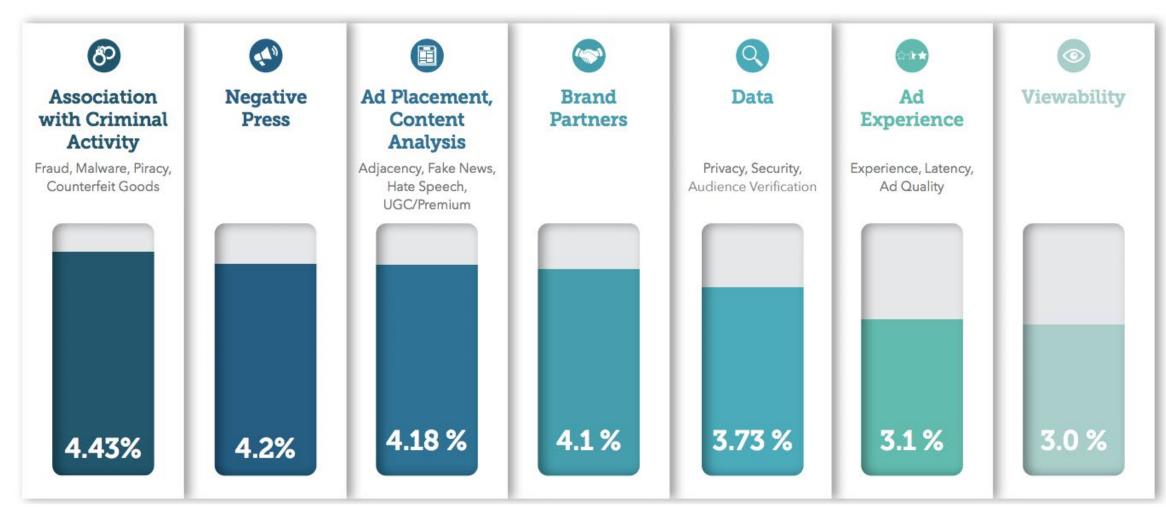




HOLISTIC APPROACHES TO SOLVING AD FRAUD: Defining Real Results

IAB Tech Lab Innovation Day | May 6, 2019

What is Brand Safety?





Cost of Criminal Activity in the Digital Ad Supply Chain



- Estimated total cost: \$8.2 billion
 - Invalid Traffic / Fraud: \$4.6 billion /
 56%
 - Internet Piracy: \$2.5 billion / 31%
 - Malware: \$1.1 billion /13%
- The report encourages industrywide collaboration under the auspices of TAG in order to forestall these criminal activities.



TAG's Mission

A joint marketing-media industry program created by the ANA, 4As, and IAB to fight criminal activity in the digital supply chain; TAG is organized around four core areas:

- Eliminating fraudulent digital advertising traffic
- Combating malware
- Fighting ad-supported **piracy** to promote brand integrity
- Promoting brand safety through greater transparency



A Simple Indicator of Trust















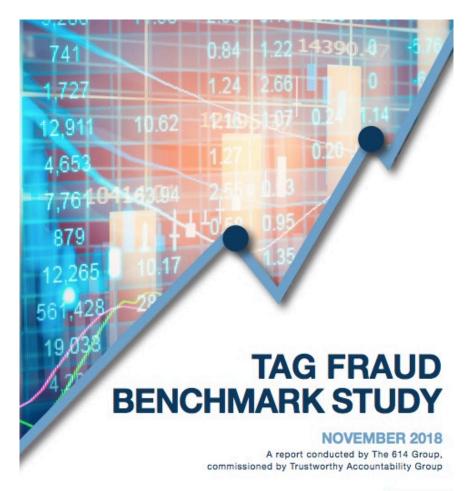
TAG Fraud Benchmark Study

DECEMBER 2017

A report conducted by The 614 Group, commissioned by Trustworthy Accountability Group











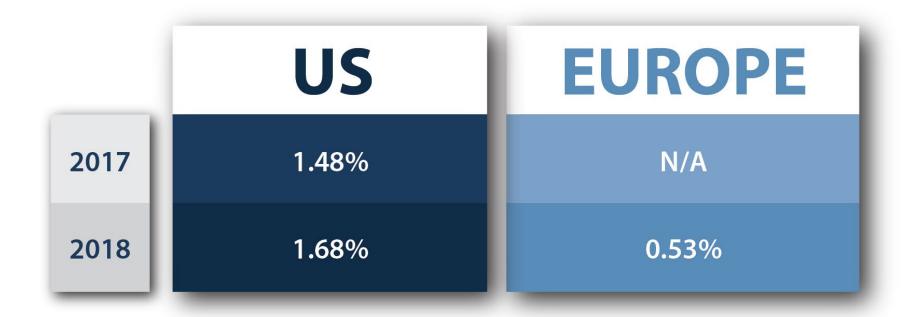


What is a TAG Certified Channel?





Fraud Rates In TAG Certified Channels







Why Ads.txt Alone Isn't a Silver Bullet to Cure Ad Fraud

DoubleVerify unveils bot network that bypasses IAB protocol to protect against domain spoofing

By Ronan Shields | 2 days ago





Requirements for TAG Certification

Requirement	Scope	Direct Buyer	Direct Seller	Intermediary	Anti-Fraud & Measurement Services
Complete TAG Registration & be a TAG Member in Good Standing	Administrative		•	•	•
Have a designated TAG Compliance Officer	Administrative	•	•	•	•
Attend a Certified Agaist Fraud Traning annually	Administrative	•	•	•	•
Comply with GIVT Detection & Filtration Requirements of MRC IVT Guidelines	Anti-Fraud	•	•	•	•
Employ Domain Threat Filtering	Anti-Fraud	•	•	•	•
Employ Data Center IP Threat Filtering	Anti-Fraud	Ø	•	Ø	•
Implement Publisher Sourcing Disclosures	Transparency		•		
Implement Payment ID System	Transparency			•	
Implement Ads.txt	Transparency		•		



It Takes a Village

Digital News Daily

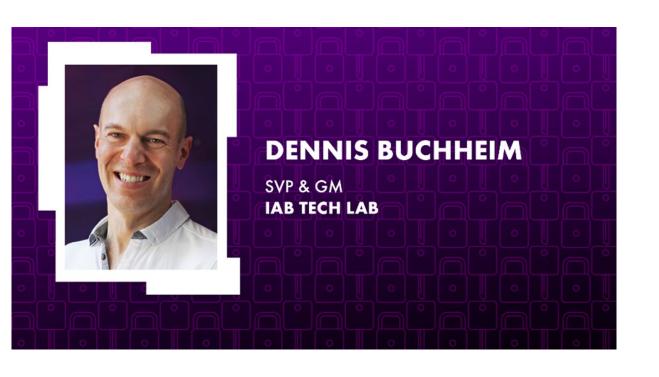
Trustworthy Accountability Group Reaches Milestone With 500th Member

by Wendy Davis @wendyndavis, Yesterday

The industry's Trustworthy Accountability Group, which aims to combat online fraud, piracy and malware, will register its 500th member this week -- nearly doubling its size from one year ago, when 269 companies had been verified.

The organization, which formed in 2015, got a boost in membership from the Interactive Advertising Bureau's **recent decision** to require its general members to join. When the IAB announced the requirement, only around 100 IAB members also belonged to TAG.

















New Data from OTT/CTV Fraud and the Rise of App Spoofing

pixalate

iab. TECH LAB

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PIXALATE: CROSS-CHANNEL QUALITY SOLUTIONS

Superior, cross-channel media quality growth solutions

We build full-scale risk protection solutions for fraud, viewability, and brand safety across display, in-app, and OTT/CTV media.

ANALYTICS

BLOCKING

Post-bid monitoring

Pre-bid lists and APIs

MEDIA RATINGS TERMINAL

Complete app and site vetting









OTT/CTV.







We are the only company accredited for SIVT detection and filtration across desktop, mobile web, mobile in-app and



OTT/CTV

New Data Trends and Fraud Recommendations

pixalate

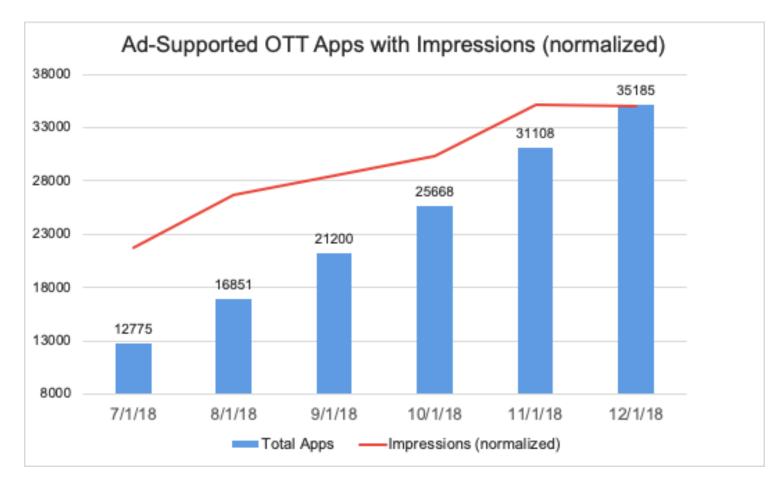
INNOVATION DAY

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MORE MONEY MORE FRAUD PROBLEMS



Rapid rise of OTT/CTV has created IVT challenges. We measure fraud rates at 20% or higher for OTT/CTV content.



CHALLENGES TO QUALITY IN OTT/CTV











LIMITED SOLUTIONS

More efficient IVT detection needed

Better coordination across stores

Lack of stores with quality metrics

FRAGMENTATION

15 stores, 150 devices, 26K apps

Not enough data seen in ad chain

Challenges in User-Agent parsing

LACK OF STANDARDS

No standard naming for devices

Inconsistent Bundle IDs across stores

Little vetting of apps by the stores

SSAI ISSUES

Abuse of seemingly safe proxies

No way to verify if the users exist

SSAI growth without shared proxy verification database

HIGH FRAUD RATES

LACK OF COORDINATION

EASY TO MASK INVENTORY

SSAI PROXY SPOOFING

PIXALATE: IDENTIFYING OTT/CTV AND FRAUD



There is no single
path to OTT
classification. To
overcome the lack
of shared
identifiers, we
analyze 30 signals
per impression.

Use VAST 4.1 to ensure maximum amount of data is received

Build blocklists for invalid OTT devices, IPv6(4) users, proxies Implement IPv4 and IPv6 dual stack recognition



Create libraries of: stores, bundle IDs, app IDs, devices Collect signals to identify and catalogue OTT traffic

Such as: user agent, bundle id, device id, cookies on/off, inventory type, SSAI

Analyze signals, model behavior, and detect correlations

For example: mine user agents for device or store identifiers; or flag app IDs with odd SSAI %s.

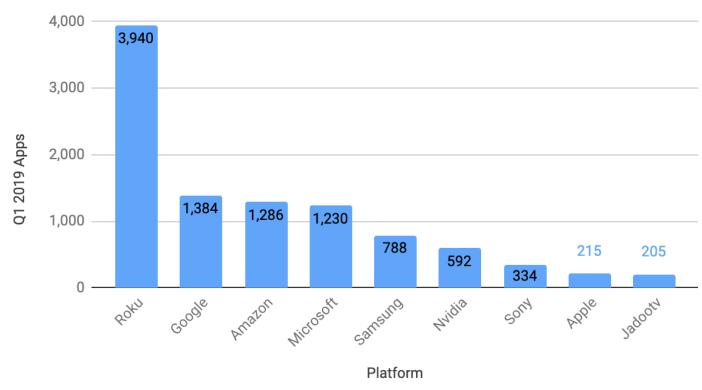
OTT/CTV FRAGMENTED LANDSCAPE



- Roku added **2500 apps** in 2018
- We saw 25,647 ad supported OTT apps in Q1 19
- There are often multiple bundle IDs used for a given app called "NAME":

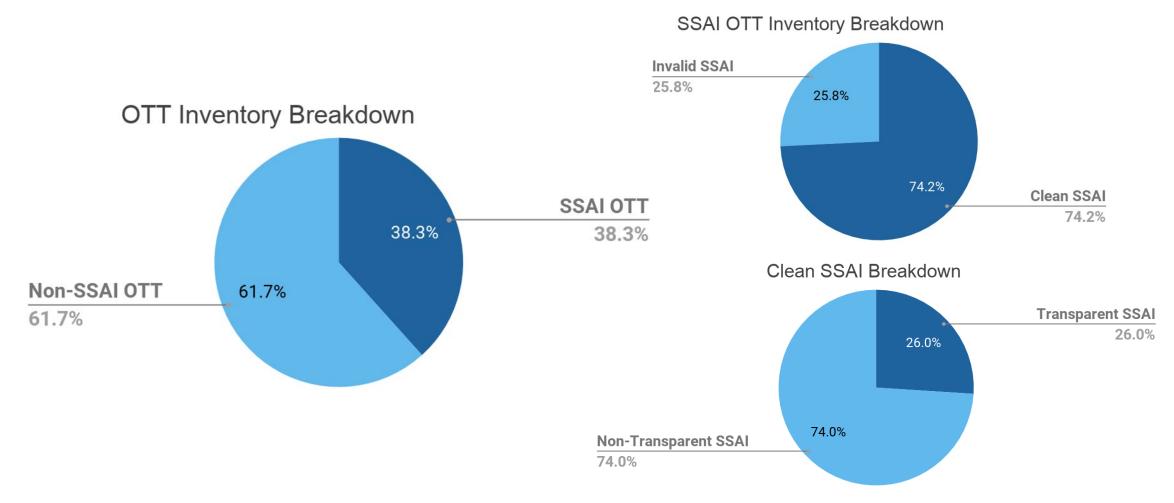
bundleld variations
tv.[NAME].web
tv.[NAME].sonytv
tv.[NAME].sony
tv.[NAME].ios
tv.[NAME].roku
tv.[NAME]
tv.[NAME].samsung
tv.[NAME].android
com.[NAME].tv

Q1 2019 OTT Ad-Supported Apps by Platform



SSAI AND AN INVALID PROXY TRAFFIC





SSAI CHALLENGES AND PROXY VERIFICATION

- There is **no deterministic** way to identify valid SSAI inventory other than "trusting" what the X-Forwarded-For header contains (i.e. user IP)
- Additional HTTP headers have been proposed for more transparency (e.g. VAST 4.0) to identify user's
 - UA (i.e. X-Device-UA)
 - IP (i.e. FORWARDED HTTP extension)
- But they can be spoofed easily as well

An industry-wide proxy reputation system needs to be established

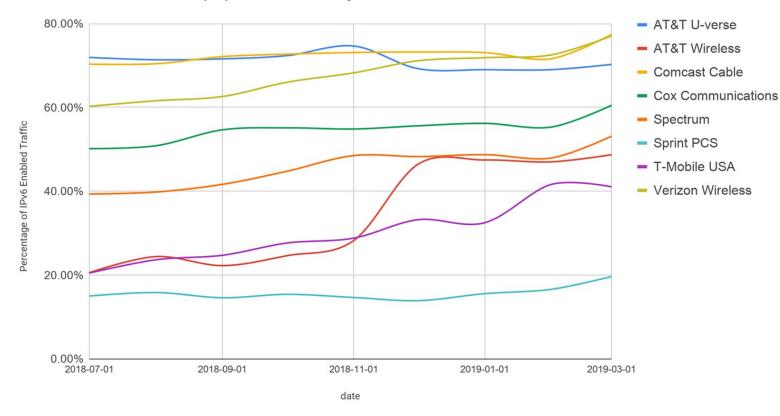


IPV6-ENABLED TRAFFIC INCREASING



- An 128-bit addressing effectively acts as a unique device ID (global unicast)
- Device ID, along with broad use of IPs, means IPv6 helps with spoofing, and other user-based fraud types
- IPV6 adoption particularly high for most residential & cellular ISPs
- For now, **dual-stack** is important

IPv6-Enabled Traffic (%) For Each Major ISP



IN-APP

Market trends and the rise of spoofing

idb. TECH LAB

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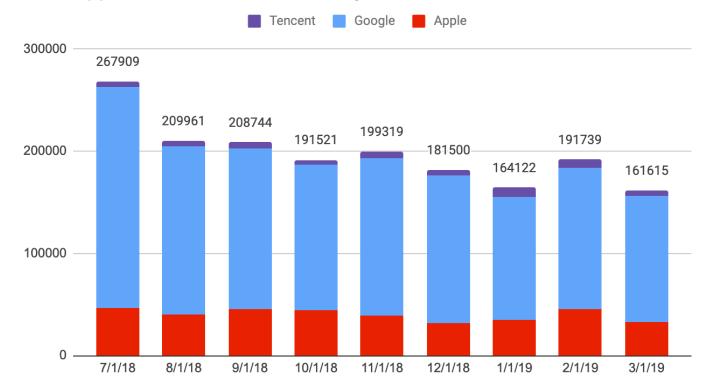
IN-APP LANDSCAPE: MORE VETTING NEEDED



High turnover ecosystem with little quality control remains an issue:

- Tencent app store grew by 10% in
 9 months (July 18-March 19)
- In Q1 2019 we saw **381,785** new apps in the Google store
- In 2018, due to GDPR clean up, we saw an overall decline in apps, but still recorded over 3.91m ad-supported apps in the Google store

New Apps Seen Month to Month By Store

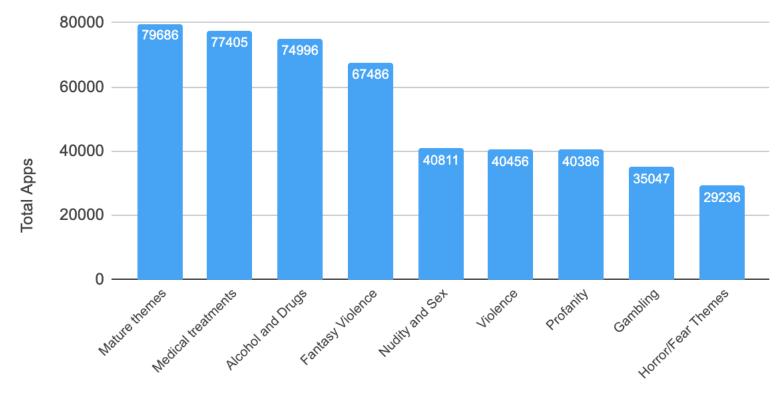


IN-APP BRAND SAFETY LANDSCAPE



In Q1 2019, the Google store had 48K apps with a 17+ Mature rating 175K apps with Teen rating

Global App Totals by Content Warning (iOS)



Content Advisory Rating

APP PERMISSIONS: PRIVACY AND FRAUD RISK



Unnecessary and invasive permissions, besides being a privacy risk, can also be a fraud gateway. These charts illustrate how widespread the practice has become. The app numbers here represent popular ad-supported apps.

Google privacy "dangerous" permission status

permissions	category	major apps
READ_PHONE_STATE	Games	1689
ACCESS_COARSE_LOCATION	Games	457
ACTIVITY_RECOGNITION	Games	413
ACCESS_FINE_LOCATION	Games	313
READ_PHONE_STATE	Entertainment	289
ACCESS_COARSE_LOCATION	Entertainment	174
ACCESS_FINE_LOCATION	Entertainment	165
READ_PHONE_STATE	Tools	159
READ_PHONE_STATE	Books & Reference	132

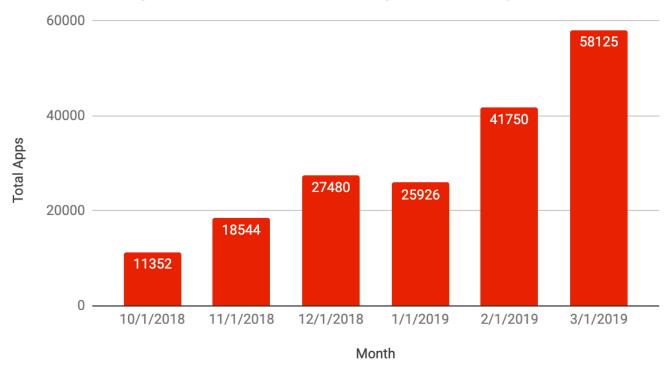
WAKE_LOCK permission apps

category	major apps
Games	3269
Music & Audio	1470
Entertainment	1385
Tools	1139
Education	1134
Books & Reference	913
Personalization	805
Lifestyle	656

IN-APP CHALLENGE: RISE OF APP SPOOFING

- Across categories, in-app IVT rates average around 20% and have not decreased over 2018-2019
- Increased number of apps involved in spoofing indicates distribution of volume of across apps, makes harder to detect
- We see over 34K apps in the Android store registered to a private domain

App Spoofing: Number of Apps Being Spoofed by Month





RECOMMENDATIONS



- 1. Profile proxy activity in order to start modeling legitimate behavior
- Catalogue more ad signals to better identify app spoofing across OTT and In-App
- Collect IPv6 addresses from dual-stack supported interfaces to identify fraud more accurately
- Swift adoption of app-ads.txt and wider implementation of VAST 4.1 to reduce spoofing
- 5. Work to develop a User Agent & Bundle ID naming standard in OTT that is as consistent as possible

Work towards
shared
standards
collectively
while vetting
partners
carefully

THANK YOU

Angelos Lazaris
Chief Data Scientist
angelos@pixalate.com

Amy King
VP, Product Marketing
amy@pixalate.com

Follow Us blog.pixalate.com

www.pixalate.com



TRANSPARENCY AND SECURING THE SUPPLY CHAIR

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OMWG Video Recording

Checkout recorded meetings of Open Measurement Working Group.

Go to Recordings

Open Measurement SDK

Open Measurement SDK files. Click to get JS, iOS, or Android omsdk files.

Access SDK Files

ads.txt aggregator

Aggregation of ads.txt file from different domains. Click to get files

Access File

General Tools

VAST Tag Validator

VAST Validator to validate tag against IAB VAST version 2,3 and 4. Provide tag url or xml.

Link to Tool

DigiTrust For Publishers

Access the DigiTrust ID javascript to implement on your website.

More Information

DigiTrust for Platforms

Creates anonymous user token, designed to be propagated by and between its members.

More Information

PrivacyChain

Blockchain-based single ledger distributed solution for companies to track user's privacy consents across complex data supply chains.

Go to PrivacyChain

ads.txt Crawler

An example crawler for ads.txt files. Written in python; Given the list of domains, saves records to a database.

More Information

GDPR T&C Framework

Technical specifications for the GDPR
Transparency and Consent Framework
released by IAB Europe and IAB Tech Lab.

More Information

AdBlock Detection Script

A script developed to detect if the brower has active ad blocker. Click to learn more.

More Information

Open RTB

Find here detailed specification, supporting materials and tools for ORTB.

More Information

ORTB Validator

Validates bid request and response against different versions of Open RTB Standards.

Link to Tool

MRAID SDK Tester

This is an iOS and Adroid app to test your ads. Check out below link to learn more.

More Information

Tech Lab Code Bank

List of Open source tools and materials on IAB Specifications.

More Information

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What is ads.txt?

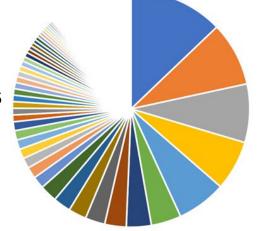
A txt file of comma separated values that sits on publisher's website on /ads.txt path.

Publishers drop a text file on their web servers that lists all of the companies that are authorized to sell the publishers' inventory. Similarly, programmatic platforms also integrate ads.txt files to confirm which publishers' inventory they are authorized to sell. This allows buyers to check the validity of the inventory they purchase.



Stats

Top Advertising Systems



- freewheel.tv
- appnexus.com
- openx.com
- contextweb.com
- spotxchange.com
- smartadserver.com
- adtech.com
- adform.com
- Ikqd.net
- taboola.com
- districtm.io
- Ijjit.com
- Ikqd.com
- fyber.com
- gumgum.com

- google.com
- pubmatic.com
- rubiconproject.com
- Indexexchange.com
- advertising.com
- spotx.tv
- sovrn.com
- improvedigital.com
- tremorhub.com
- rhythmone.com
- aolcloud.net
- nsightvideo.com
- triplelift.com
- coxmt.com
- beachfront.com

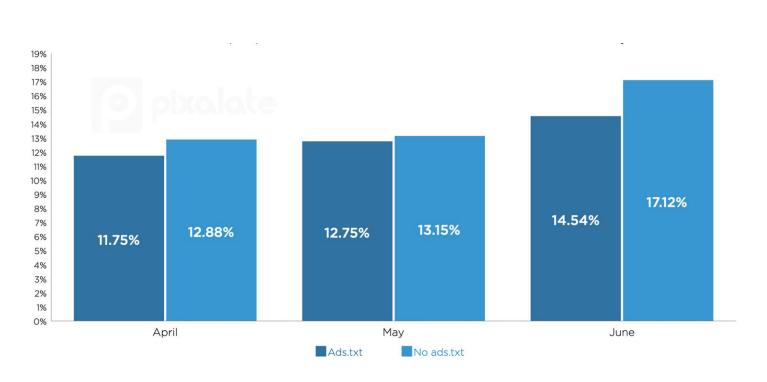
- Total Domains with valid ads.txt -~1.8 million
- ~19% of relationships Direct and ~81% - Reseller
- Max number of rows in a single adstxt file. 24959 express10.hubpages.com, 24,896 - hubpages.com



Impact

Ad Fraud (ITV): Sites with ads.txt vs. sites without ads.txt

Measures invalid traffic on sites with ads.txt vs without ads.txt Q2 2018. As measured by Pixalate.



- April: 12.9% ad fraud on sites without ads.txt vs. 11.8% on sites with ads.txt (8.8% decrease)
- May: 13.2% vs. 12.8% (3% decrease)
- June: 17.1% vs. 14.5% (15% decrease)
- Q2 2018 total: 14.53% vs.13.08% (10% decrease)



App-ads.txt

 It's the version of ads.txt for mobile in-app and OTT advertising

Currently 167 iOS App Store apps &
 299 Google Play Store apps

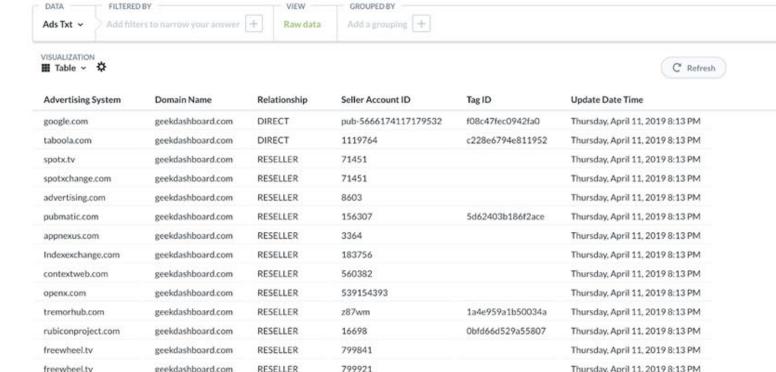


ads.txt aggregator



AdsTxt

Explorer Aggregate Files My Aggregates Submit Domains API FAQ

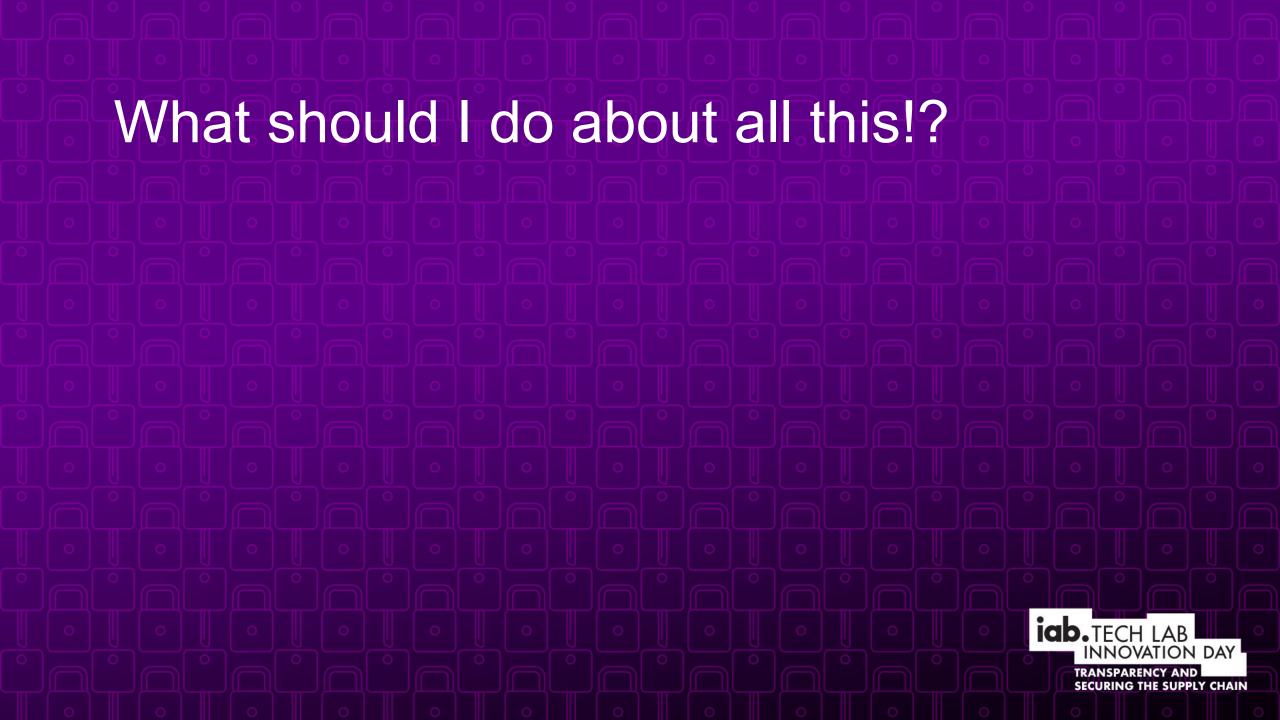




ads.txt aggregator Features

- We aggregate ~1.8 mil domains ads.txt files.
- We crawl some 500k domains (which are important to customers) on daily basis.
- 3. The aggregate file can be downloaded from the portal. You can download last 30 days aggregate file.
- We also have an Explorer, where you can visualize today's aggregate file. For example you can check if a particular domain's ads.txt file is there or not. Get all direct relationships for this domain. It's really intuitive.
- 5. We recently introduced app-ads.txt aggregation file along with ads.txt aggregation file. You can select either ads.txt or app-ads.txt option in the explorer to analyze data that interests you.
- 6. Customers can submit their own domains to us. We add them to our daily crawl list if they are not already there.
- We also generate a customer specific aggregate file of the domains submitted by the customer. We call it "myaggregates".
- 8. All of the above can be done via portal or public APIs. The API documentation as well as FAQs can be read from the ads.txt dashboard on the portal.

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What should I do about all this!?

- ads.txt, app-ads.txt
- sellers.json
- SupplyChain object
- OpenRTB 3.0
- Ads.cert
- AdCOM 1.0
- AdManagement API 1.0
- Content Taxonomy
- Ad Product Taxonomy
- OpenMeasurement
- OTT User Agent & Bundle ID
- الملطرة





Initiative	Problem Addressed	Status
ads.txt for display	Misrepresented website ad inventory	First Released May 2017
Open Measurement SDK	Inefficient software integration for verification and IVT detection	Released April 2018
app-ads.txt for mobile & OTT	Misrepresented mobile app and OTT ad inventory	Released March 2019
sellers.json, SupplyChain Object	Non-secure supply path transparency & business validation, identifying unknown resellers	Public Comment Release April 2019
ads.cert: signed bid requests	Secure/Authenticated supply path transparency; lack of publisher trust of of SSPs on inventory representation	Released for Beta Adoption May 2018
OTT Bundle ID & User Agent Technical Guidelines	Inefficient and inconsistent tracking in OTT	Expected Q3 2019
Working Group Proposals	Continuing the fight! Get engaged!	2019

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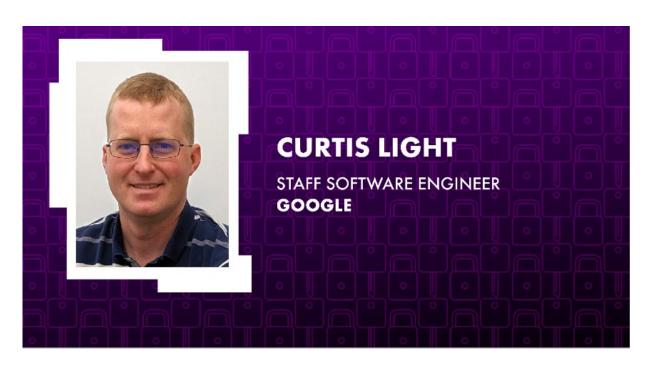








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Long Term Security Projects in the OpenRTB Working Group

Curtis Light, Staff Software Engineer, Google

Dr. Neal Richter, Chief Architect, Rakuten Ad Platform

ADS.TXT Refresher

http://mysite.com/ads.txt

blueadexchange.com, 4536, DIRECT greenadexchange.com, 12345, DIRECT, AEC242

Advertising System Domain Seller Account ID
OpenRTB
Publisher.ID

Relationship Type
DIRECT vs
RESELLER

Certification
Authority ID

"TAG ID"



ADS.TXT Best Practices

- Only place entries in the file that you as a publisher can trace revenue from.
- Adding an entry to ads.txt that is giving permission to that entry to use your trade-name in inventory sales.
- Ask your partners to disallow your trade-name to be used by other account holders.
- Resist the social engineering of vendors you don't know asking for entries in your file.



Authorization Vs Authentication

- Authentication
- Proof that who you say you are



- Authorization
- You are what you are allowed to do





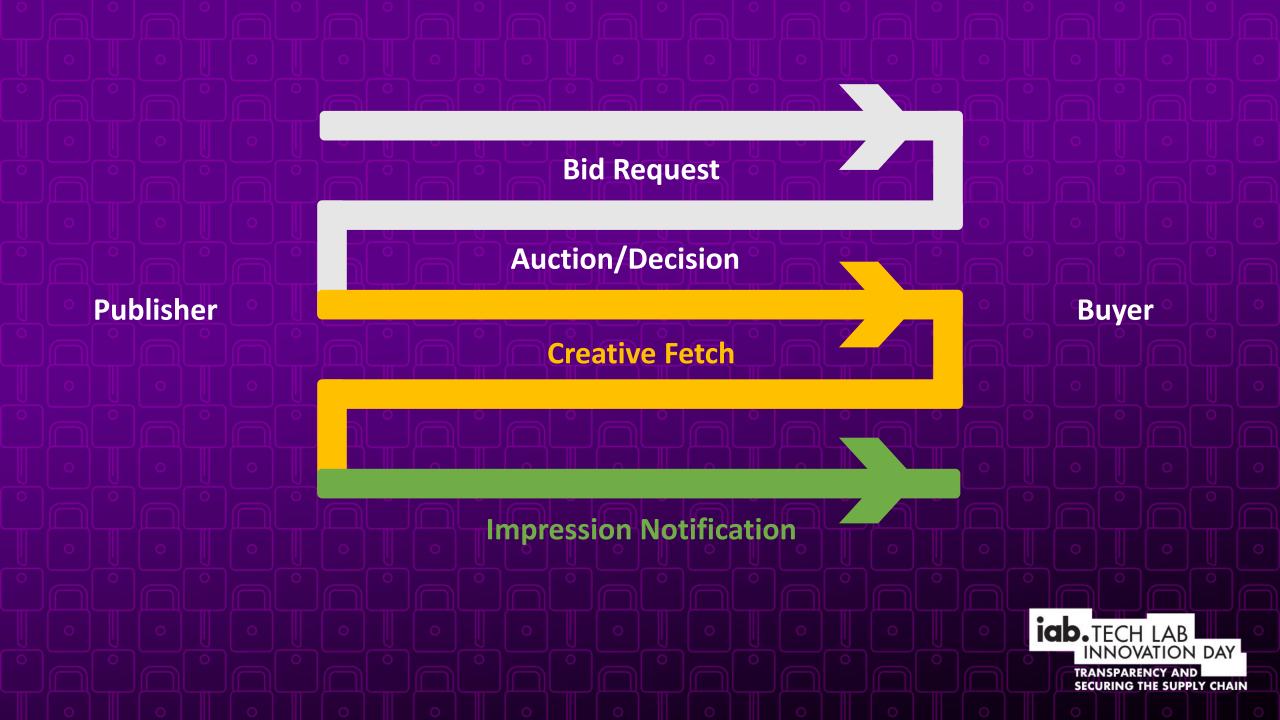
Other Security Systems











Message Generation

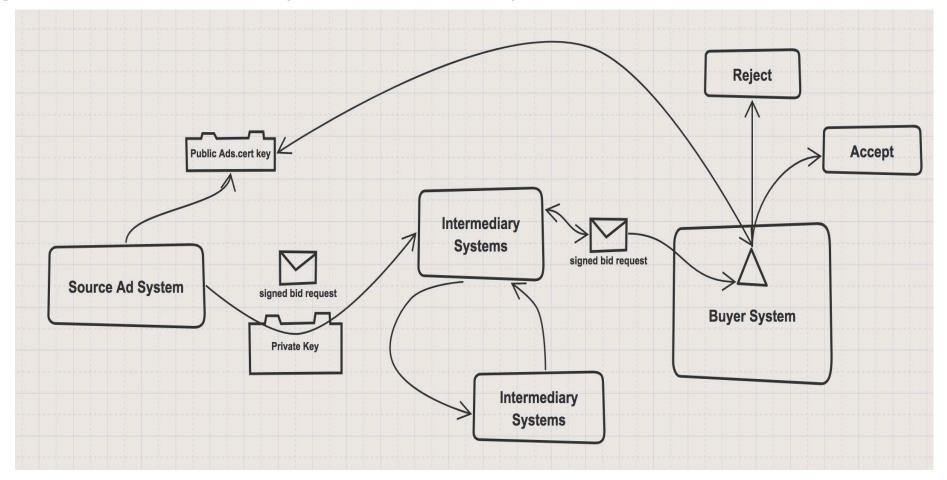
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Hash

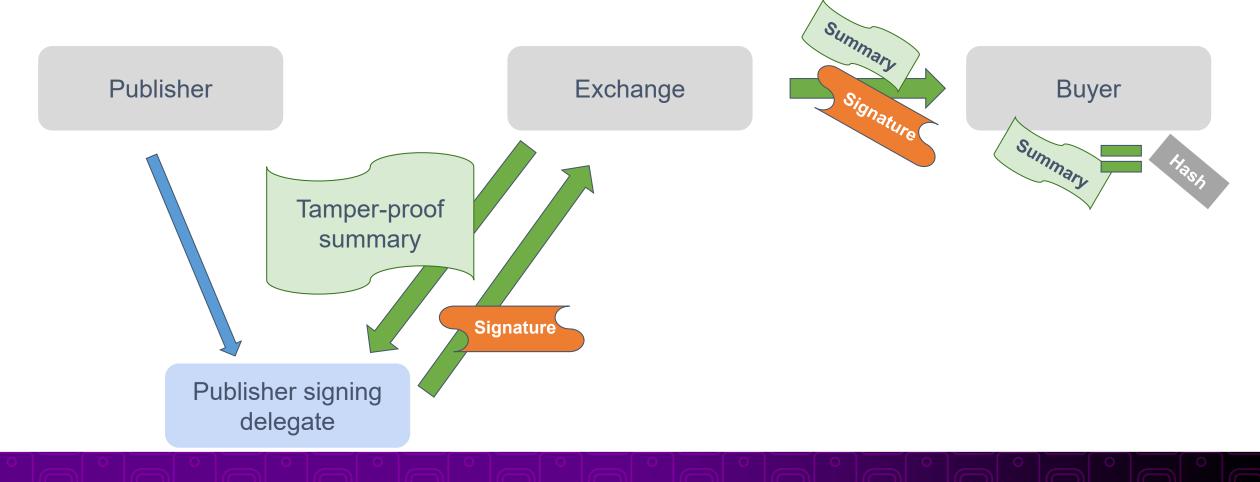


Signed Bid Requests Proposal





Signed Impressions Proposal





Pros & Cons

- What is secured?
- For who?
- What is the benefit?
- How complex?



Get involved!























Upcoming Innovation Days

SAVE THE DATE!

IAB Tech Lab Innovation Day: Data & Ad Tech September 19 @ 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, San Francisco

IAB Tech Lab Innovation Day: Experience & Measurement November 12 @ 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, New York City

Sponsorship opportunities available

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