

# NIST - Working Notes 2-22-19

Friday, February 22, 2019

12:13 PM

## Release Candidate discussion

- **Characteristics of a Release Candidate**
  - If people are not involved, they should be able to understand at a sufficient level to start adopting it
  - What do they need to know without hand holding?
  - Clear syntax and documentation
  - Availability of the schema
  - Specify tooling and pre-requisites
  - Solidify the syntax
  - Solidify the what is needed
  - Solidify the documentation
  - Skeletons/templates/seeding
  - Use "model" as the noun for describing things
  - Basics of what is needed to get started
- **What does stable mean?**
  - Relatively complete and functioning as a MVP
  - Catalogue, Profile, and Implementation layers
  - Snapshot in time - will continue to evolve
  - Useable set of features that are reasonably done
  - Need to express whether this will be backwards compatible or subject to future change
  - Might rename or repurpose things
  - Focus on additive changes v/s subtractive to ensure backwards compatibility
  - Work to minimize disruptive change
  - Tag the release as "pre-alpha"
  - Need a way to version it and tag the current state of the repository
  - Make the catalogue format as stable as we can
  - Namespaces - stick with a single namespace (no namespace in JSON or YAML, want to normalize and stay uniform, simplest to adopt)

- **Timeline**
  - Milestone release in 3 months (end of May)
    - Website updates and documentation workflow (Howerton)
      - Best Practice List
      - Package Contents
      - Pre-Requisites
      - Value Chain - Walkthrough (look @Brian's presentation, abstract it)
      - Auto-Publish Documentation
    - Generalize Resource Concept as Backmatter: Replace Current Reference with New Implementation
    - Update profile examples to validate to the new profile schema
    - Sync the document metadata for catalogues, profiles, and implementation
    - Test the Declaration model for catalogues
  - 2nd Milestone release (TBD)
    - Document signing
    - Implementation model
    - Referential Integrity (external links/resources)
    - Testing Tools
    - Build Declaration model to add constraints to other models or standards
- **What models do we release?**
  - Catalogue
  - Profile
- **Parking Lot**
  - Document History
  - NIST 800-53 rev5 content (interim release when ready)
  - Re-factor metamodel around references (external) and attachments (go with it)
- **Go To Market**
  - Purpose
    - To allow third parties to get real-world experience using OSCAL models
    - Review initial content to allow feedback for continuous improvement
    - Promote early adoption of OSCAL by tool vendors and content creators

- Preparation for the release of 800-53 rev5 and enabling organizations to adopt machine readable formats
- Audience
  - Tool Developers
  - Content Authors
- Marketing
  - Press Release, NIST Bulletin
  - Webinar(s)
  - Speaking Engagement(s)
  - Partners - FedRAMP
  - Vendor Outreach - Targeted and private
  - Most Complete XML Format, only JSON format
- **MVP Discussion**
  - Basic Terminology List (on the website)
  - Downloadable - ZIP file
    - XML and JSON schemas for the released models
    - Content examples (illustrative)
    - 800-53 catalogue and profile examples
    - Tooling and Documentation on "how to use it"
      - Schematron
      - Convertor Tool
- **Exclusions from MVP**
  - Metaschema
  - Implementation/Security Plans