GABE COHEN

ABOUT

Passionate and experienced technologist building the future. Focused on decentralization, identity, digital rights, privacy, security, and the environment.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

DIRECTOR OF OPEN STANDARDS
Block (TBD) | January 2024 - Present

- Led the specification of Web5 SDKs across multiple programming languages
- Led the specification of tbDEX, a decentralized liquidity protocol using DIDs and VCs
- Led the implementation of OID4VC specifications
- Specified and implemented interoperability profiles for TBD
- Authored did:dht (did-dht.com) and lead implementation and deployment of clients and servers across programming languages
- At the W3C, editor of the VC Data Model v2, VC-JOSE-COSE, and VC JSON Schema

LEAD PLATFORM ENGINEER, VERIFIABLE CREDENTIALS
Block | January 2022 - Present

- Led & architected open source Decentralized Identity & Verifiable Credentials based projects (ssi-sdk, ssi-service)
- Editor & implementer of multiple identity specifications across the W3C, Decentralized Identity Foundation, and OpenID Foundation
- Speaking engagements
  - Multiple presentations at the Internet Identity Workshop
  - DEFCON31 on 'Attacking Decentralized Identity'

TECHNICAL PROGRAM MANAGER
3Box Labs | Oct 2021 - January 2022

- Led architecture meetings, incident responses, and agile processes
- Managed 3 technical teams toward increased engineering efficiency
- Designed and implemented a suite of team processes and improvements around planning, goal setting, decision making, and remote comms
- Presented at Solana Breakpoint Lisbon on web3 mutable data primitives

SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER
Fast | Feb 2021 - Sept 2021

- Lead security engineer on the Identity & Access Management team
- Designed and implemented an OAuth 2.0 & OpenID Connect Server to facilitate web and mobile ecommerce
- Architected multiple data privacy tools and solutions

PRINCIPAL SOFTWARE ENGINEER
Workday | Jul 2016 - Jan 2021

- Developed the Workday Credentials Platform, a blockchain-based Decentralized Identity and Verifiable Credentials system
- Architected large-scale software development and deployment systems
- Led multiple standards initiatives in the W3C, Decentralized Identity Foundation, and IMS Global around cryptographic signature suites, Verifiable Credential data modeling, and Decentralized Identifiers in Open Badges
- Mentored junior developers across projects
- Presented at IMS Global and Internet Identity Workshop conferences

CONTACT

P: +1 516.724.7897
E: gabe.l.cohen@gmail.com
W: decentralgabe.xyz
T: @decentralgabe

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

- Go, Python, Kotlin, TS
- Program and Project Management
- Systems Design and Architecture
- Digital Privacy and Security
- Identity and Access Management
- Cyber Security
- AWS

PERSONAL SKILLS

- Direct communication
- Feedback oriented
- Organization, detail
- Active listening
- Building consensus
- Efficient decision making
- Technical writing
- Mentorship, onboarding, coaching

AFFILIATIONS

W3C DID Working Group, Chair
January 2024 - Present

W3C Verifiable Credentials Working Group, Editor
August 2022 - Present

Co-Chair, Claims and Credentials Working Group
Decentralized Identity Foundation
Sept 2020 - Jan 2021

EDUCATION

B.S., Computer Science
University of California, San Diego
2012 - 2016