

Why Your Digital Consent Matters – Including Sex



Copyright: 123RF

Author: Guy Huntington, President, Huntington Ventures Ltd.

Date: Updated November 2018

TABLE OF CONTENTS

NOTE TO READERS:	3
Why Your Digital Consent Matters – Including Sex	4
How Will We Keep Track of All of Our Consents?	4
New Laws and Regulations Required for Consent Management	5
We Need to Pay Attention to Our Consent – It’s Becoming Extremely Important	6
About the Author	7

Note to Readers:

I have been writing about rethinking civil registration systems since 2006

- [“The Challenges with Identity Verification”](#)

Over the last several months, I have written 11 papers about:

- New laws required to do this
 - [“Why We Need to Rethink Our Vital Stats Laws”](#),
 - [“Why Your Digital Consent Matters – Including Sex”](#)
 - [“Why We Need New Biometric Laws Protecting Our Privacy”](#)
- What the new age civil registration/vital stats service does and doesn't do
 - [“New Age Vital Statistics/Civil Registration Services: What They Do and Don't Do”](#)
- Leveraging Blockchain and Sovrin
 - [“A Modern Identity Solution: New Age Vital Stats/Civil Registries, Self-Sovereign Identity, Blockchain, Kantara User Managed Access & EMP Resistant Data Centres”](#)
- Protecting the civil registration/vital stats infrastructure
 - [“When Our Legal Identity System Goes “Poof!”](#)
- Separating vital stats services/databases from other identity authentication services
 - [“Architecture Summary”](#)
 - [“Creating Estonia Version 2.0 – Adjusting for Changes From 1999 to 2018”](#)
- Rethinking identity assurance using new age vital stats
 - [“New Age Identity Assurance – Turning it on its Head”](#)
- Rethinking Civil Registrations in Remote Locations
 - [“Where Shit Happens - Rethinking Civil Registrations in Remote Locations”](#)
- New Age Civil Registration/Vital Stats Design, Implementation & Maintenance Vision
 - [“Guy's New Age Civil Registration/Vital Stats Design, Implementation & Maintenance Vision”](#)

This paper deal with new digital consent laws.

All papers are available at my website <http://hvl.net/papers.htm>.

Why Your Digital Consent Matters – Including Sex

A few weeks ago, a new app hit the marketplace. [Good2Go](#) is a way for obtaining digital consent before sex between consenting adults. This is just one in potentially hundreds of different consents a person will give each year as the internet of things emerges.

To just name a few examples, these go beyond sex to approving things like how you'll share your:

- [Fridge data with grocery suppliers](#)
- [Washer/dryer data with apparel suppliers](#)
- [Medical biometric data with](#)
- [Personal identity data with](#)

In short, we are at the beginning of a massive technological revolution that impacts our personal lives from the bedroom, to our homes, to our social and business lives, to our medical care. This then leads to the next question...

How Will We Keep Track of All of Our Consents?

Imagine having hundreds of consents to give each year. Then compound this with changes to your consent when real life occurs e.g. partner changes, falling out with people, people dying, etc. Now add to the mix that each of your consents is living somewhere in some enterprise's database which is separate from the other hundred or so consents you give. There is an answer.

[Kantara User Managed Access \(UMA\) and User Managed Access Federation \(UMA Fed\)](#) is a relatively new protocol allowing you to centralize your consent management across the many different enterprise information silo's you deal with. This allows services to be built and offered where you the citizen can go to one place to manage all your consents.

Let's hypothetically assume that UMA and UMA Fed will become widely adopted over the next few years. Will this solve the consent management problem? No. There are legal issues to be resolved.

New Laws and Regulations Required for Consent Management

There are different levels of risk in giving your consent. For example, the risk of you approving or changing your fridge data consent to be sent to your local grocery store to resupply the fridge is different than you approving or changing your glucose or heart data to a doctor, health insurance company, etc.

Depending on the risk:

- Different levels of identity authentication assurance will be required (e.g. stronger authentication)
- Different time frames may be required to archive and store the data e.g. the data can be used in the future for legal actions
- What happens when you change from one consent service supplier to another?

In the fall of 2017, I realized that we, as citizens, require new laws and regulations protecting our consent. I wrote a paper "[Citizen Consent and the Internet of Things](#)", in which I lay out the underlying principles new laws and regulations need to be based on:

- End user consent must be required to use the device except in those cases where consent is mandated by laws and regulations.
- The chain of custody for consent must exist at all levels, i.e. from vendor through to final user or users based on risk and laws/regulations.
- The device, the system that controls it, and/or the identity management system the device is part of, must be able to use "User Managed Access" and also "OpenID Connect" protocols.
- Any individual, government, or enterprise offering a centralized user consent service must be mandated by laws and regulations.
- Any consent management service must adhere to regulatory security best practices including identity and credential assurance, data storage and transmission as well as archival processes.
- Based on risk, the identity assurance and the credential assurance must be applied to obtain and/or transfer consent between the user and various enterprises and/or other Internet of Things devices.
- Secure, delegated access of consent should be part of the device's consent management system.
- The user of a centralized consent management service should have the ability to transfer this service to other enterprises offering this service in a secure manner.
- When a user leaves a centralized consent management service, the service must securely store the data for a predetermined amount of time according to the timeframes set forth by laws and regulations.

We Need to Pay Attention to Our Consent – It’s Becoming Extremely Important

It’s time to wake up and smell a consent revolution coming our way. If we want to live our lives in privacy, then we will need to have new laws and regulations protecting us and our consents we give. We’ll need services that comply with the laws and also make it easy for us to live in the emerging digital internet of things world we are creating.

Your consent does matter. It’s time we start talking about it.

If you like this short paper, please forward it to others to get the discussion going. Thanks!!!!

About the Author

Guy Huntington is a veteran identity architect, program and project manager who's lead as well as rescued many large identity projects with many of them involving identity federation. His past clients include Boeing, Capital One, Kaiser Permanente, WestJet, Government of Alberta's Digital Citizen Identity and Authentication Program and Alberta Blue Cross. As one of his past clients said "He is a great find, because he is able to do high quality strategic work, but is also well-versed in project management and technical details, so he can traverse easily from wide to deep. With Guy, you get skills that would typically be encompassed in a small team of people."

