What Is A Trust Framework?

Trust Frameworks provide a common set of agreed upon standards for disparate entities to establish trust. Ensuring all organizations meet the same agreements and requirements allows for forgoing additional legal contracts or peer-to-peer agreements. This is often referred to as "scalable" trust, because each new connection between organizations and their users/clients grows the network of exchange participants at an exponential, rather than linear, rate. In the case of digital identity in online transactions, the Trust Framework provides policy and technical interoperability for the issuers of digital identity credentials, the individuals asserting their identities, and the organizations relying on the identity assertions linked to the digital credentials.

POLICIES
The common set of minimum requirements (policies) for network participants, identity providers, or users. The policies are published, allowing organizations that depend on those policies to conduct business to make a determination concerning trust.
Example: DirectTrust Certificate Policy

INFRASTRUCTURE
The technical mechanisms of delivering a single source of truth of who/what is trusted.
Example: The DirectTrust Aggregated Directory

CERTIFICATION
The process of ensuring adherence to all Trust Framework requirements. DirectTrust federates trust by accrediting HISPs, Certificate Authorities, and Registration Authorities. Issuers within trust in identity environments are approved or revoked through regular audits and monitoring.

TRUST FRAMEWORK

LEGALITY
The minimum obligations for being in accordance with the law, and/or with verifying the validity of a human identity before binding it to a digital credential.

INTEROPERABILITY
The ability for information or credentials to be accepted and used easily and seamlessly by using a common set of standards.

TECHNICAL STANDARDS
DirectTrust Standards develops standards and specifications that, when adopted, enable and promote healthcare interoperability using Direct exchange and/or trust frameworks.
Examples: The Direct Standard, Trusted Instant Messaging Plus (TIM+), Event Notifications via Direct, DirectTrust Identity

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