

PLDN-Solid collaboration activities launched

Summary of the PLDN-Solid Kick-Off on April 9th at SURF in Utrecht

Organized by Pieter van Everdingen (PLDN/OpenInc) with support of Mitzi László (Solid-Inrupt), Ruben Verborgh (UGent-imec) Juliska de Vries (ECP), Hans van Bragt (BDVC) and SURF

Attendees: 40 (registrants)

Program/Slides/Photo impression: [PLDN-Solid Kick-Off Event Page](#)

Summary

We can look back on a very constructive PLDN-Solid kick-off session at SURF in Utrecht. With almost 40 participants, we had a full room with Linked Data specialists, who were very interested to learn more about Solid and who are willing to work on a number of Solid use cases.

Starting point for Solid is that personal data is separated from the applications (decoupled) and that you can be in control of your own personal data. Thus, Solid also helps developing new applications that "by design" are satisfying GDPR legislation requirements. To achieve these ambitions, Solid uses universal languages and techniques. The internet and associated techniques, such as (linked) data shapes, are used in such a way that data from different sources can be combined more easy in new applications. And the data that you would like to use can be stored in any location that you prefer (decentralization plus freedom of choice).

The coming six months we would like to work on the following use cases:

- Photo management app
- Reference data management / search app
- Open publications edit / review / publication app
- Open dictionaries / Dutch legislation annotation and edit app
- Sharing economy services based on Solid
- New PLDN website with Solid expert profiles
- Business opportunities for local PODS providers
- Solid beer app (as a follow-up to Linked Beer)

Next to the use cases above, we have discussed other interesting use cases during the kick-off session. For example, use cases for Solid PODS and apps with data from Dutch farmers in agricultural chains, or for Solid PODS and apps with patient data within the healthcare sector and for Solid applications with student data within the educational sector. All these cases are very interesting for Solid and for PLDN, but we will first focus on the cases, which we can work out in a number of small teams as an open community activity. And our intention is to organize a PLDN-Solid event at the end of the year, where we can give a number of demos of great new Solid applications and where we get an update of the Solid movement as a whole.

We were very lucky that we could work with Mitzi László from Solid-Inrupt and with Ruben Verborgh from UGent-imec for this kick-off session. Both are deeply involved in the design of the worldwide Solid movement, ecosystem and community. We will continue to work with them in our efforts to build up an active Solid community in the Netherlands, which uses the community facilities that are already in place for Solid, including the [tutorials](#) on the Solid-Inrupt website, the [online forum](#), where you can ask your questions on a variety of Solid topics, the [chat service](#) with several channels, where you can have discussions with other developers and the [repositories](#) on GitHub with the Solid stack components and the program code examples.

We are still receiving new use cases via platformlinkeddata.nl@gmail.com. For each use case we will decide how we can help these cases starting up and help developing them further as an open community activity within PLDN. And for a number of use cases, we are also looking into a possible Solid development learning experience, where we can collaborate with students, that would like to become members of the Solid and PLDN community and who would like to learn the principles and techniques that are used by Solid via a concrete use case and in doing so also contribute to the realization of new Solid applications.