



2020 OFA Virtual Workshop

UNIVERSAL FABRIC MANAGER YEA, OR NAY?

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EXPLORING THE “UNIVERSAL FABRIC MANAGER”

Objectives Today

- Reach a consensus on the problem being addressed
- Develop a common understanding of a possible solution
- Explore the concept – Does it have merit?
- Talk about next steps - a working group to develop the solution?

Non-objectives, (at least for today)

- Develop the architecture
- Deep dive into technical details
- Commit ourselves to a particular solution

Enough feathers to make a bird?

A FEW PROCESS ITEMS

- **Let's keep this as interactive as possible**
- **To start, everybody is muted**
- **To join the conversation, poke the “hand” button, Divya will unmute you**
- **After that, you may mute/unmute yourself at will**
- **If there's background noise at your location, please mute yourself**
- **Ask questions, raise concerns, explore ideas, express support, make your feelings known**

WELCOME TO THE OFA/GEN-Z COMING OUT PARTY

From the recently announced *OFA/Gen-Z Memorandum of Understanding*:

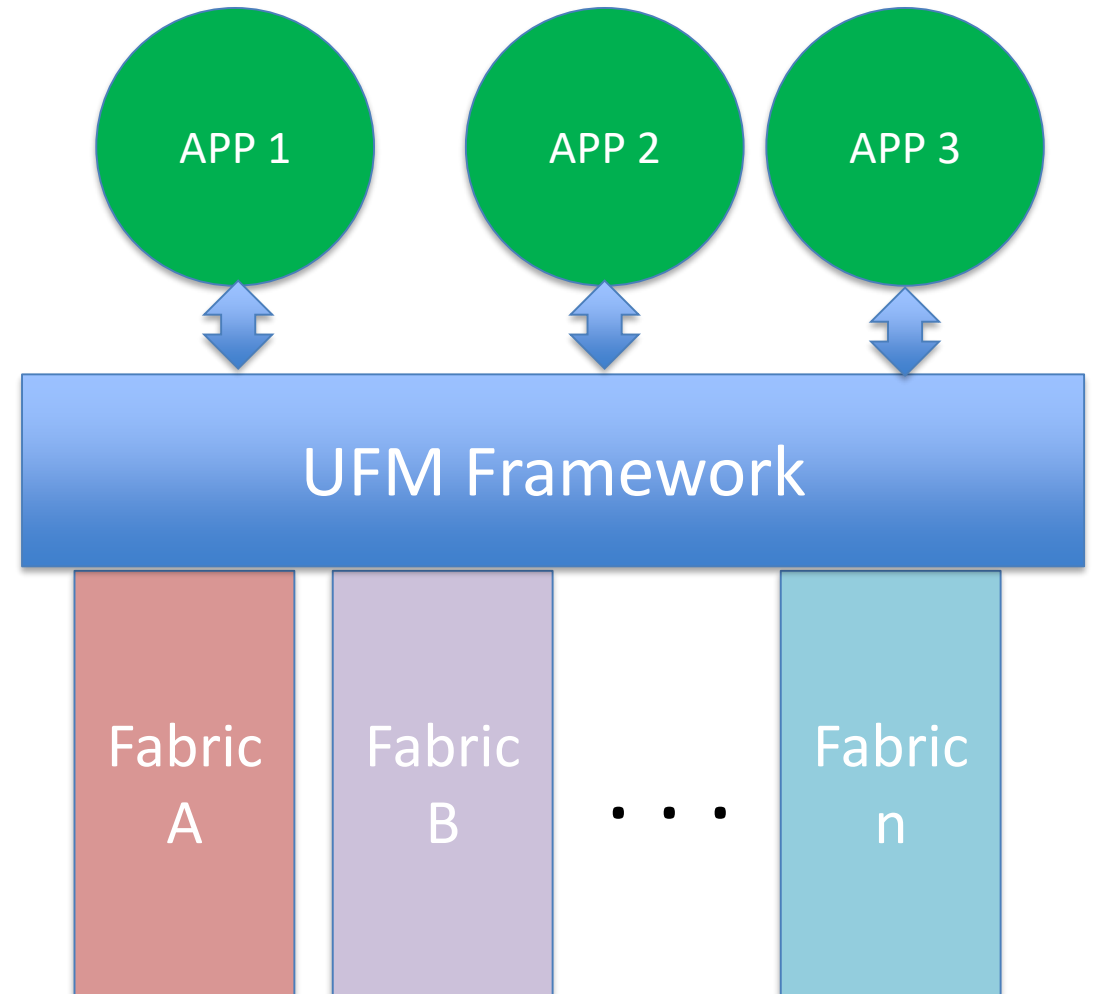
- 4. Abstract Fabric Manager:** The OFA is contemplating the development of an “abstract fabric manager” built on the concepts of Redfish. The intention is to use Gen-Z as a strawman target for such a fabric manager. Similar to libfabric, such an abstract fabric manager would likely be built on a ‘framework/provider’ architecture. The OFA and Gen-Z agree to collaborate on an investigation into the feasibility of such an abstract fabric manager.
- 5. Gen-Z Manager Plug-In:** If the previous activity proves the feasibility of such an approach, the OFA and the Consortium agree to work together, along with others, to develop both the management framework as well as a Gen-Z Plug-in. This work is to be carried out in the context of an open OFA working group, to be defined.

UNIVERSAL FABRIC MANAGER CONCEPT

Network Management Apps: written to UFM-defined APIs, these apps configure, control, and monitor the fabric

UFM Framework: Defines a common set of APIs and a standardized schema, based on DMTF Redfish

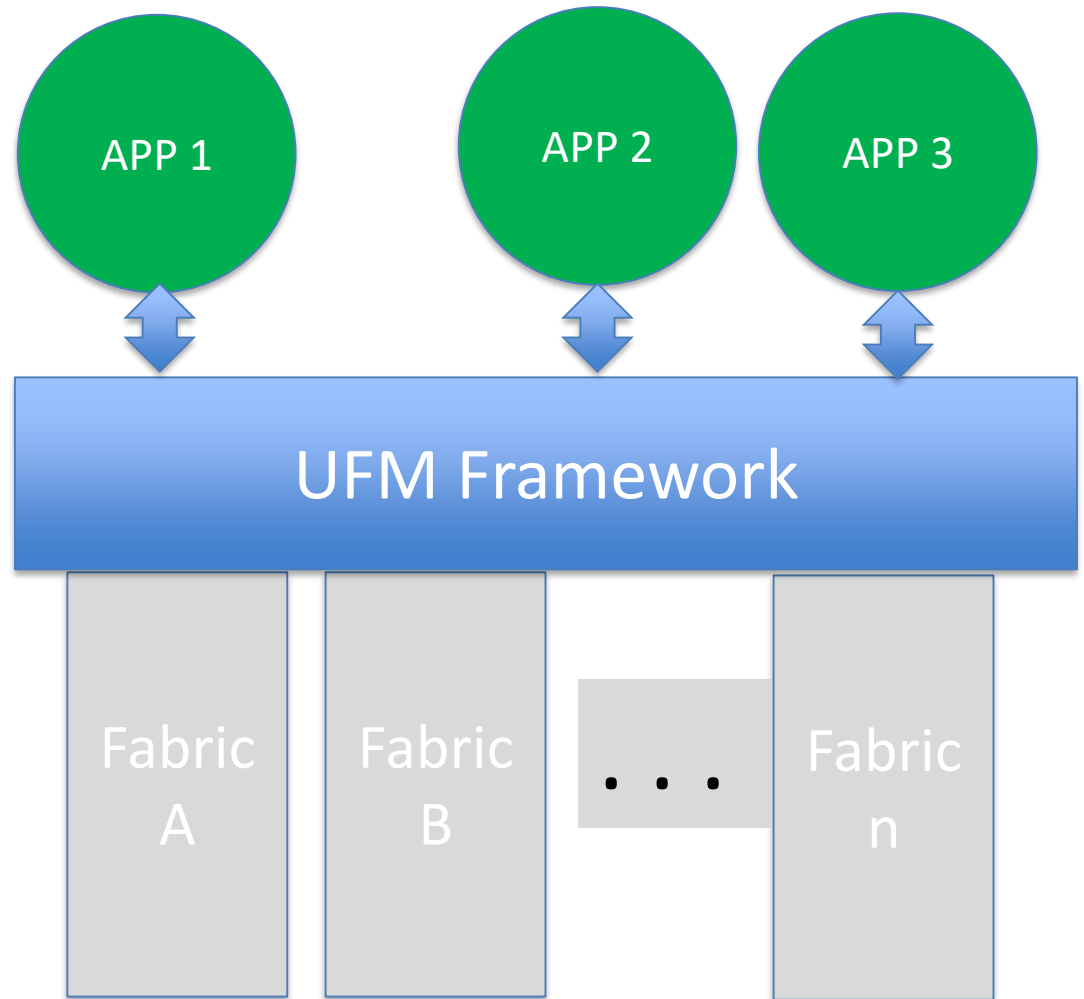
Fabric Specific Providers: Provider exports fabric information upwards using the standardized schema, and accepts configuration and control commands downwards.
First instance is planned to be a Gen-Z provider



NORTHBOUND API

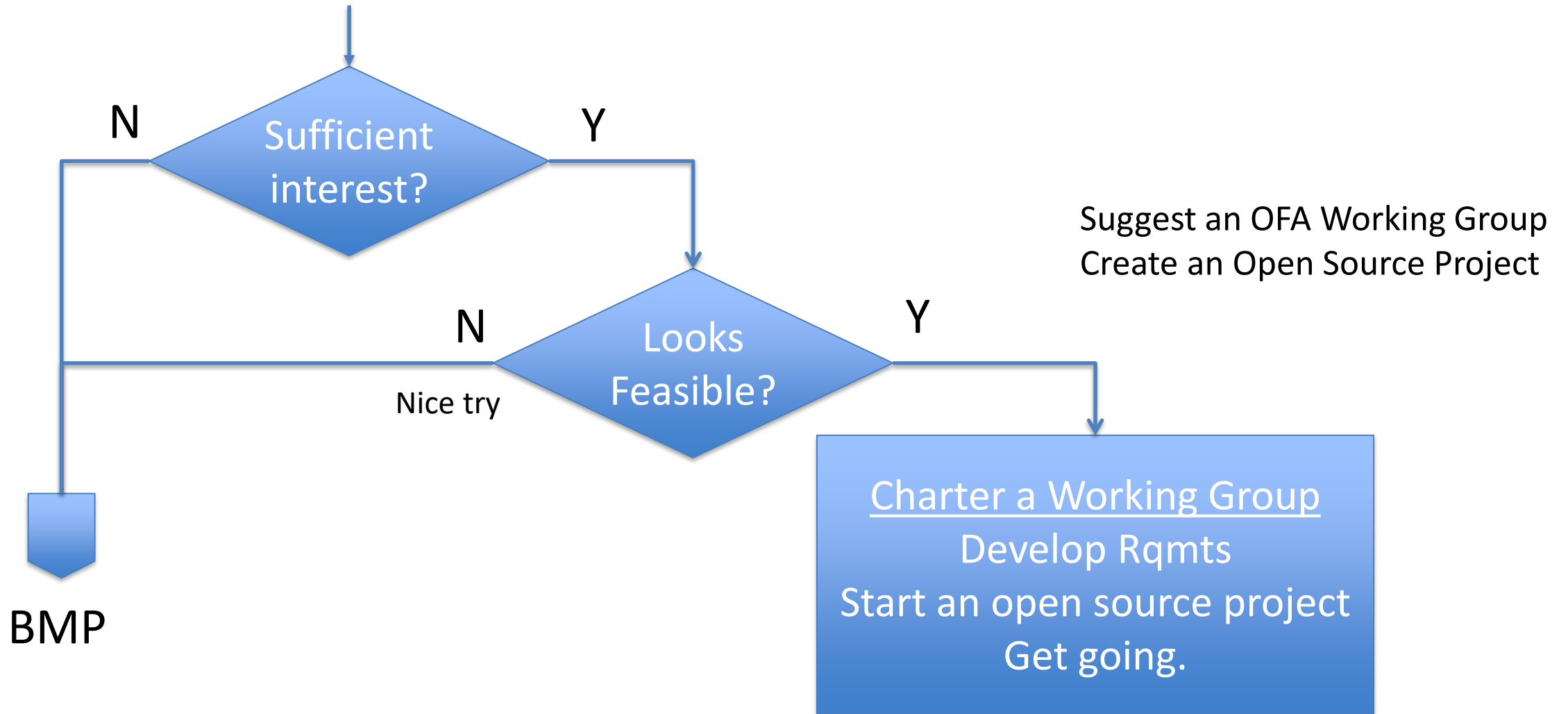
Requirements:

1. Present a simple representation of the network, and its state to the apps,
2. Accept control messages to modify the network's current state



Current proposal: Leverage the DMTF's REDFISH standard

NEXT STEPS – WHERE TO NOW?



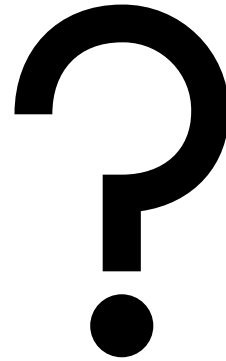
A NEW WORKING GROUP?

- **The OFA has the infrastructure and the means to support this**
- **It is a fully open organization – ALL OFA meetings are always open**
- **Membership in the OFA is NOT required ... but highly encouraged**
- **Plan this as an open source project**
- **New working group supports and accelerates the project**



Let's Discuss

THE MOMENT OF TRUTH



For now, use the OFA's
OpenFabrics Interfaces Working Group (OFIWG).
Shortly, we'll establish a new email reflector.
Watch for follow up email from press@openfabrics.org.



OPENFABRICS
ALLIANCE

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THANK YOU