



Notch8  
457 Corte Maria Ave  
San Diego, CA, 91910

July 15, 2019

Dear Samvera Steering Committee Members:

I am excited to submit this letter expressing Notch8's interest in becoming a Samvera partner. After years of participation in and contribution to the Samvera community, we are well positioned to become collaborators at the formal partner level.

Notch8 was first introduced to the Samvera community in 2015, attracted from the very start to the open source aspect, the academic user base, and the synchronicity with the size of our company and the types of project befitting our team. One of our earliest projects was with Yale Library, helping them to create and implement a roadmap for their Digital Library Program, working closely with developers and librarians at Yale to initiate a training program.

Our commitment to supporting Samvera projects for clients has only increased in the years since, through projects with UCSD, UCLA, OHSU, ATLA, Carleton University, WUSTL, and others. Our engagement has been most visible in our Hyku efforts. I serve as product owner for Hyku, and Notch8 chairs the monthly Hyku Interest Group meeting. Our key Hyku pilot projects include:

- **New York City Department of Records and Information Services (DORIS).** Hyku was chosen to incorporate the latest Hyrax while requiring less configuration of collections and work objects. This was completed in early 2019.
- **The Private Academy Network of Indiana (PALNI) and The Pennsylvania Academic Library Consortium, Inc. (PALCI).** These organizations collaborated with a goal to make a Hyku implementation available to all member institutions, with deference to their limited budgets and minimal IT resources. Phase One was completed in 2019, with enhanced theming customization and more robust permissions and workflows allowing admins to control user access across tenants.

Both of those projects share a goal of expanding diversity in usership - PALNI/PALCI by offering resources to smaller organizations, and DORIS by serving as a high-profile example outside of the academic library base. Notch8 has also been instrumental in creating the Hyku Roadmap, and aligns projects to help further that progress whenever possible. The near future will see Notch8's hosted turnkey Hyku solution, HykuUP, debut in beta.

Notch8 historically has been eager to contribute code and sought to work with organizations who were open to the idea of having work contributed back. Now, we are grateful that when Samvera clients approach us, more often than not community contribution is at the top of their own list of requirements. The ability to leverage funded work that can be contributed back while crediting the sponsor institution is a benefit to us and to the community. Our code contributions include the Bulktrax engine, which allows bulk import for Hyrax based applications; the Persona engine which allows Avalon, Hyku and potentially other Samvera applications to share enhanced user administration functionality including “become user”, password reset and forgot password flows, inviting users and editing their information. Along the way we’ve done our best to contribute back bug fixes and enhancements and will continue to contribute in to the future.

Notch8 has had the opportunity to collaborate with so many of the key figures in the Samvera community. Many members of our team - including myself, Matt Clark, Julie Allinson, Lea Ann Bradford, Kiah Stroud, George Wheeler, Shana Moore, Kelly Chess, and Kevin Kochanski - have participated in and contributed to conferences, interests groups, working groups, and other community outreach efforts beyond writing code. One of Notch8’s key initiatives is community involvement, and we make an effort to add to our team individuals who are passionate about mentorship, volunteering, and generally being an active participant in the local tech community. This is what has made Samvera contribution a natural complement to our core identity as a company.

In the future, Notch8 looks forward to strengthening our ties to the community and increasing our contributions. Goals for our partnership include:

- Community advocacy and continued leadership
- Continued contribution that will benefit the core code
- Fostering efforts to cultivate an increasingly diverse user base
- Offering a hosted solution bundle that will make Samvera/Hyku accessible to smaller organizations
- Stewardship of web content and consolidation of online Samvera/Hyku materials
- Creating and sharing training materials for both developers and users

Notch8 is already an active and dedicated participant in the Samvera community. I look forward to formalizing Notch8’s role by becoming a committed partner. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Rob Kaufman  
Senior Partner  
Notch8