

# Lifecycle of a Decentralized Identifier (DID)

Overview  
v07

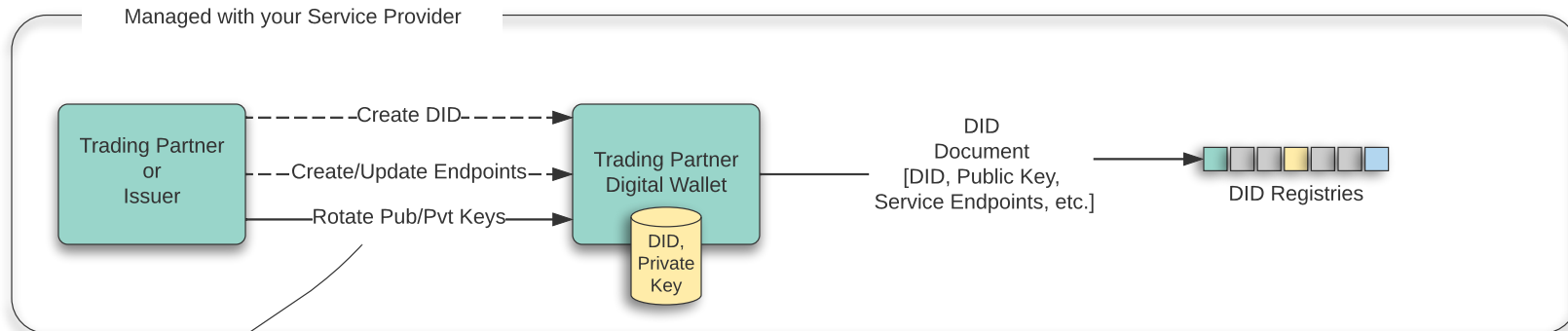
## What is a DID

A Decentralized Identifier (DID) is a new type of identifier that is globally unique, resolvable with high availability, and cryptographically verifiable. DIDs are typically associated with cryptographic material, such as public keys, and service endpoints, for establishing secure communication channels. DIDs are useful for any application that benefits from self-administered, cryptographically verifiable identifiers such as personal identifiers, organizational identifiers, and identifiers for Internet of Things scenarios. For example, current commercial deployments of W3C Verifiable Credentials heavily utilize Decentralized Identifiers to identify people, organizations, and things and to achieve a number of security and privacy-protecting guarantees.

<https://www.w3.org/TR/did-core/>

## DID Considerations

- DIDs & DID Documents allow you to rotate your keys for security purposes.
- DIDs are the addresses of the DID Document.



Typically managed using Digital Wallet software, however it is possible for companies to develop this capability for themselves.

All versions of Pub/Pvt Key pairs are retained. Allows continued use of Credentials and new key use on new credentials.