



Private Channels In Microsoft Teams Are Here!

What you need to know about the most-requested new feature in Microsoft Teams



Unleash the Power of You

Accessible content is available upon request.

Your presenters...



CTO, AvePoint Public Sector
Microsoft Regional Director

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/johnpeluso/>
<https://twitter.com/johnconnected>



Principal PM Manager, Microsoft
Rockstar!

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/karuanagatimu/>
<https://twitter.com/karuana>



Today's Agenda

Why we're here...

The needs driving private channels

What we've tried...

Why chats and separate teams don't cut it

What it looks like...

Private channels in the wild

Under the hood...

Understanding the architecture

Rolling it out...

Managing for adoption, administration and compliance



Why is this
such a big
deal?



Microsoft Teams

User Feedback Forum

Welcome to the Microsoft Teams UserVoice!

← Public

25,138
votes

Vote

Support for Private Channels

Private channels enable focused private collaboration among a subset of your team. You can find detailed information on the capabilities and management of the private channels feature here - <https://docs.microsoft.com/MicrosoftTeams/private-channels>. Note: Work to release for the government clouds is in progress.

There are four other types of channel functionality on our backlog that we will continue to track – feel free to upvote and/or comment on the items listed next to each:

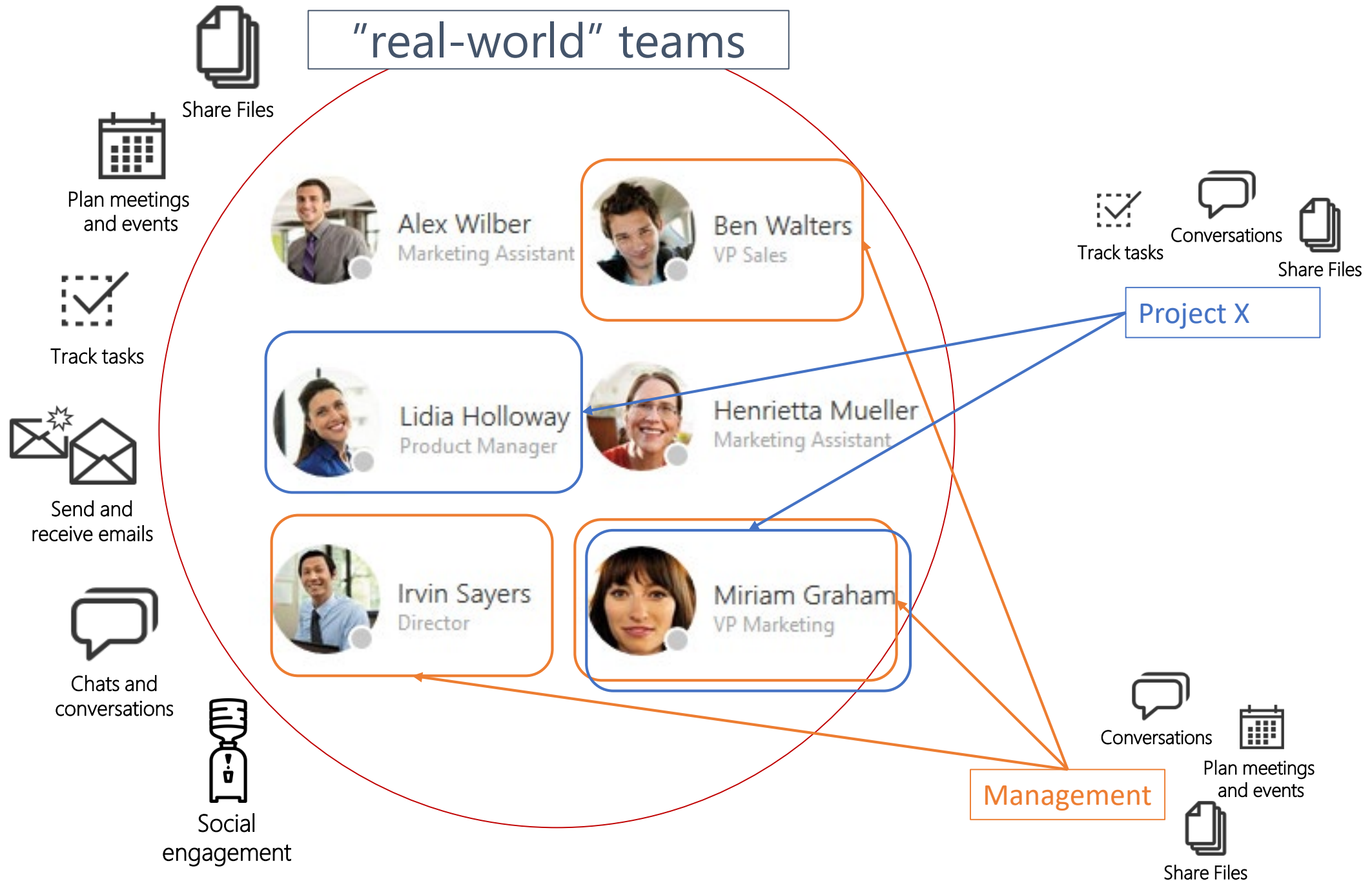
- Channel only members: to enable collaboration with people outside the team in a specific channel, without granting them access to the team itself. The channel member could be someone in your organization, or external to your organization (guest).
<https://microsoftteams.uservoice.com/forums/555103-public/suggestions/31374577>
- Shared channels within an organization: allow people in different teams to collaborate on a shared project or v-team in the context of their own teams. A channel can be shared across teams in the same organization <https://microsoftteams.uservoice.com/forums/555103-public/suggestions/18615565>
- Shared channels across organizations: allow people in an organization other than yours to collaborate on a shared project or v-team. <https://microsoftteams.uservoice.com/forums/555103-public/suggestions/32987917>
- Public channels: to provide an outbound communication window for a team to engage with everyone in an organization. These channels are accessible to everyone in their tenant, without needing to join. <https://microsoftteams.uservoice.com/forums/555103-public/suggestions/34154851>



Angela Sze shared this idea · November 01, 2016 · [Flag idea as inappropriate...](#)



COMPLETED · Alex (Teams Engineering, Microsoft Teams) responded · November 06, 2019





Demo:

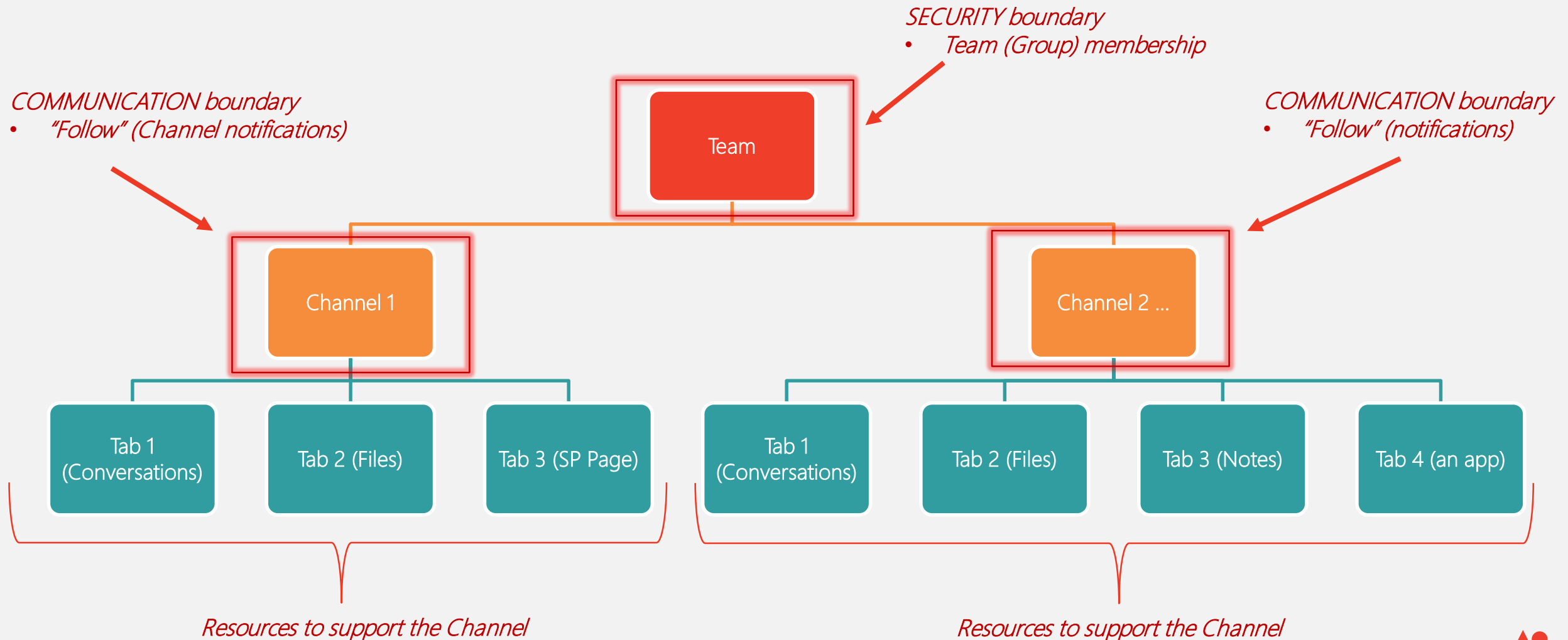
Why group chats are not enough...

Do I need a new Team?

Understanding the Teams vs. Channels question



Teams with “standard” channels...



Teams with “private channels”...

“Standard Channel”
COMMUNICATION
boundary

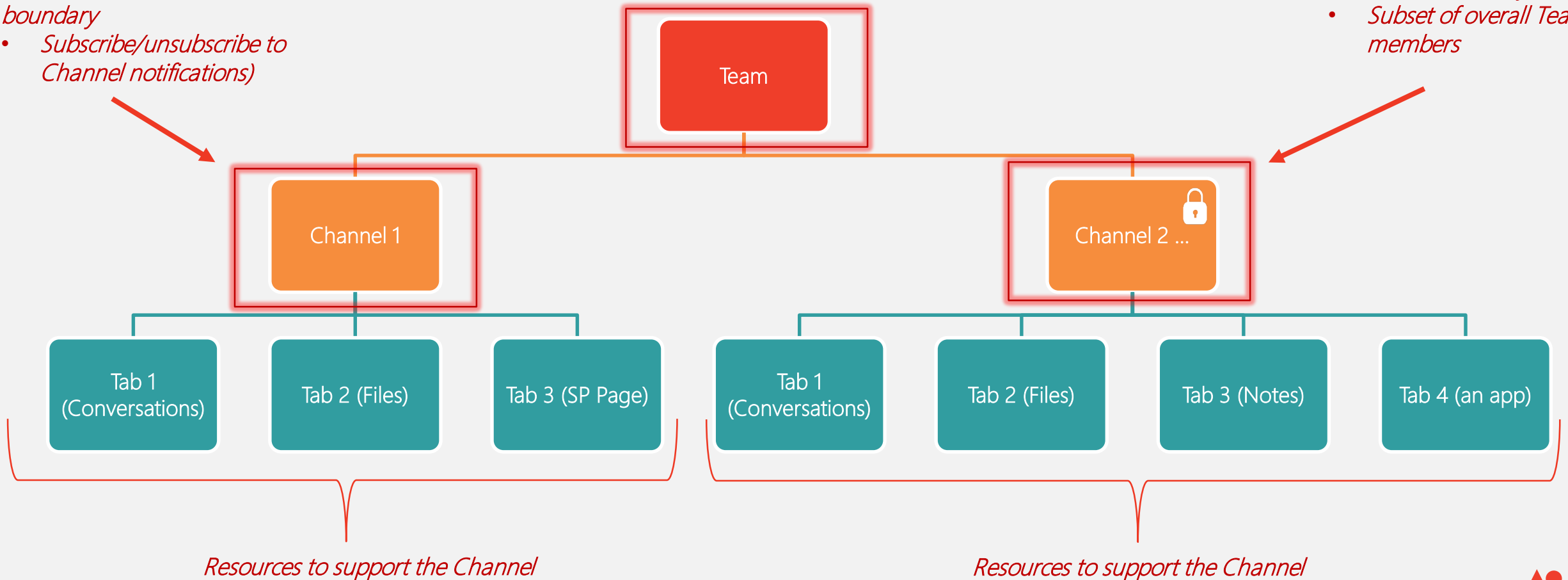
- Subscribe/unsubscribe to Channel notifications)

SECURITY boundary

- Team (Group) membership

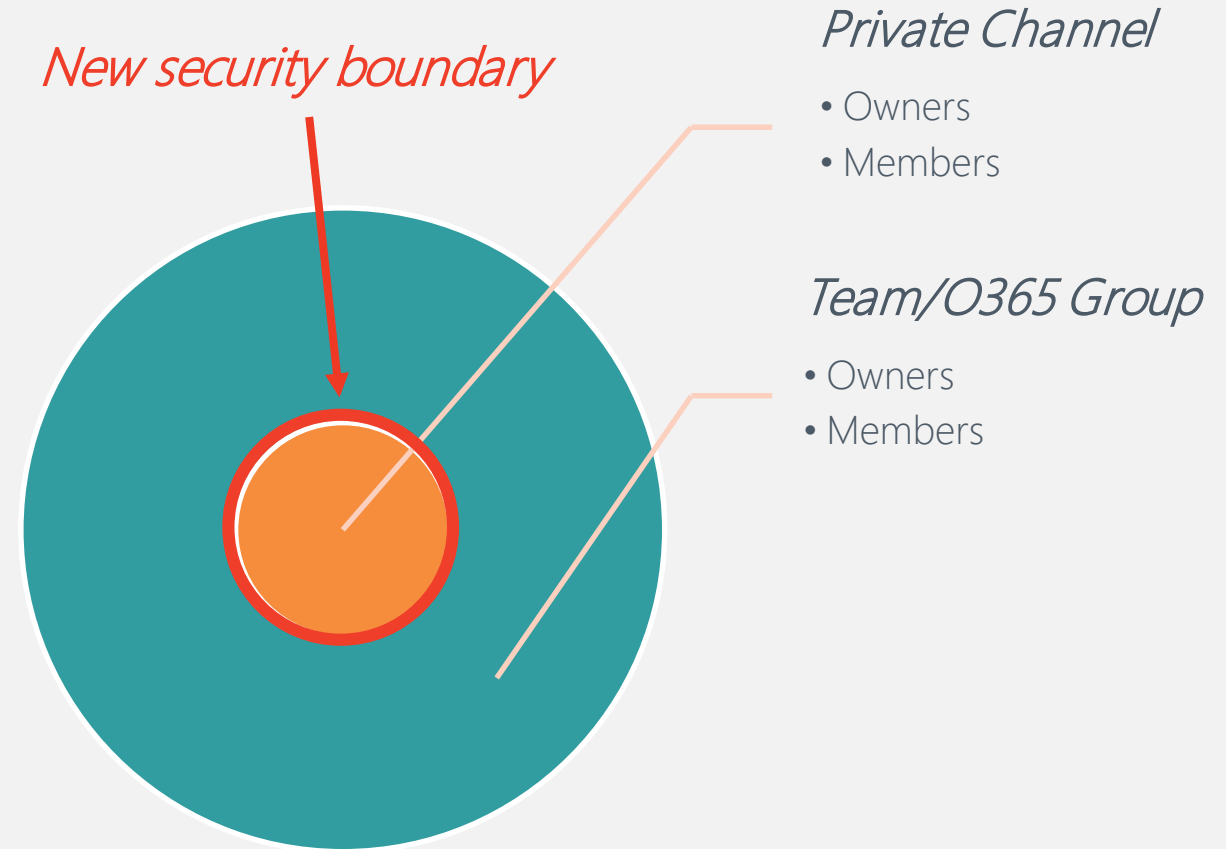
“Private Channel”
SECURITY boundary

- Subset of overall Team members



Introducing channel “members” and “owners”

- A subset of the overall team, so PC members/owners must be Team members
- Each PC has it's own list of members/owners, “mastered” in Teams
- PC owners *do not* have to be Team owners



Who can see private channels in Teams?

Item	Team owner can see	Team members can see
Name and description	All private channels in the team	Only the private channels that they are added to
Conversations and tabs	Only when added to the private channel	Only when added to the private channel
Files and content	Only when added to the private channel	Only when added to the private channel
Private channel owner	All private channels in the team	Only when added to the private channel
Last activity time stamp	All private channels in the team	Only when added to the private channel

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoftteams/private-channels>





Demo:

Private channels in the wild...

Where does private channel content “live”?

Conversations

- Conversations live in the Team channel
- Protected by Teams via access to the channel
- “spool” into the mailboxes of private channel members for eDiscovery

Files

- Files stored in a new, automatically provisioned SharePoint site collection dedicated to the channel
- Naming convention to help trace channel site to its parent Team
- Special template for the channel-specific site collection (*TeamChannel#0*)



Does this mean I have to worry about all those new SPO sites?



Teams handles most of the work...

- Teams ensures SPO site members/owners kept in sync with the PC owners/members
Teams PC member/owner change to SPO= immediate
SPO member/owner changes reverted within 4 hours to Team PC settings
- Teams will also ensure the SPO site for the PC lives and dies with the PC
PC deletion triggers SP site deletion, restoration of PC = restore of site
Teams triggers restoration of sites if deleted before PC

But SharePoint is still SharePoint...

- Management of explicit SPO permissions *outside* of SPO member/owner groups is on you.
- PC site collections are *not* visible in the SPO admin center but *are* discoverable through PowerShell and APIs





Demo:

Exploring the SharePoint/private channel relationship...

Who can manage private channels?

Action	Team owner	Team member	Team guest	Private channel owner	Private channel member	Private channel guest
Create private channel	Yes ¹	Yes ^{1,2}	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Delete private channel	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No
Leave private channel	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes ³	Yes	Yes
Edit private channel	No	N/A	N/A	Yes	No	No
Restore deleted private channel	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No
Add members	No	N/A	N/A	Yes	No	No
Edit settings	No	N/A	N/A	Yes	No	No
Manage tabs and apps	No	N/A	N/A	Yes ⁴	Yes ⁵	No

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoftteams/private-channels>

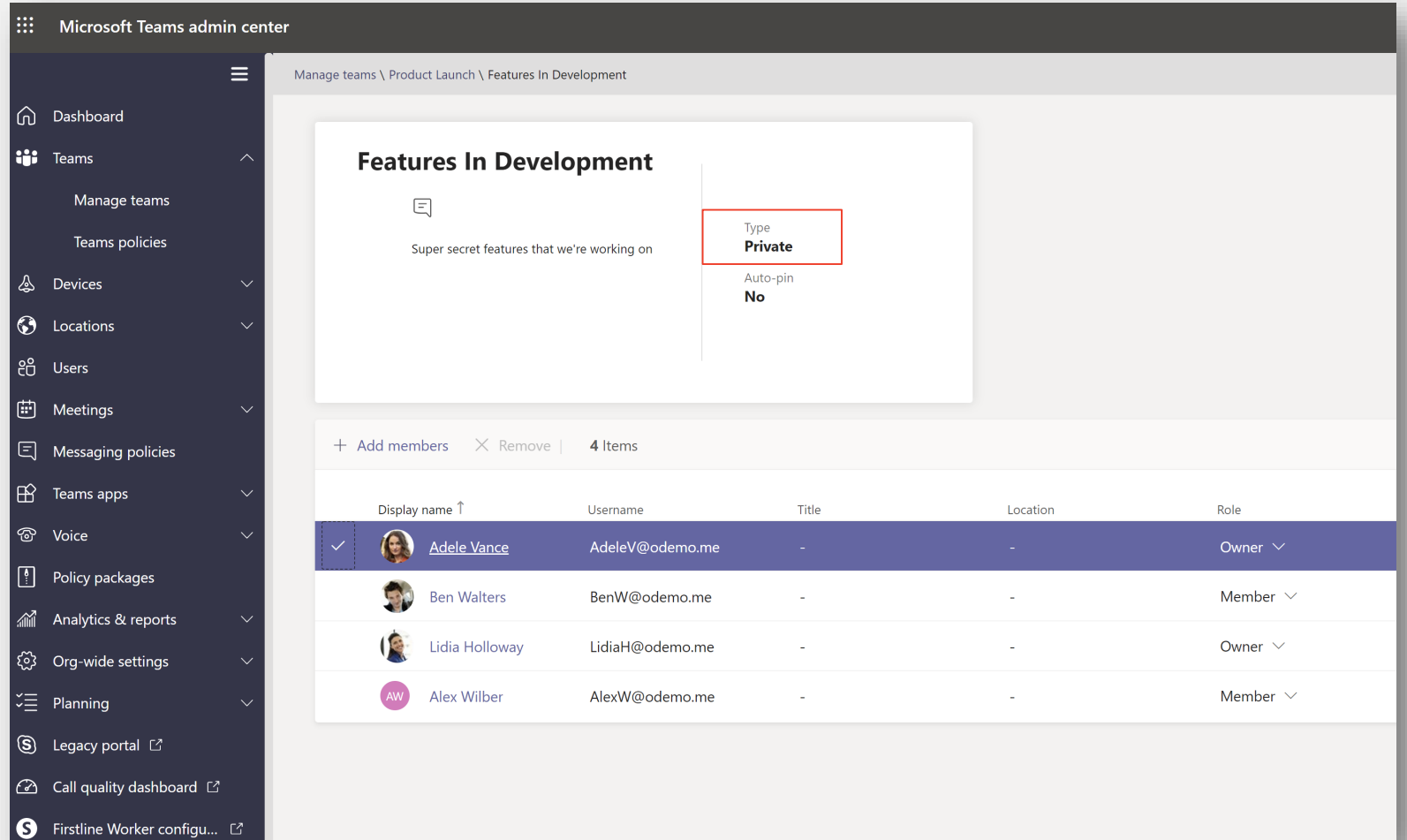
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What about Teams service admins?

Via Teams Admin Center:

- CAN view existence of all private channels
- CAN manage owners/members of private channels
- CANNOT view any channel content



Microsoft Teams admin center

Manage teams \ Product Launch \ Features In Development





Features In Development

Super secret features that we're working on

Type: **Private**

Auto-pin: **No**

+ Add members × Remove | 4 Items

	Display name ↑	Username	Title	Location	Role
✓	 Adele Vance	AdeleV@odemo.me	-	-	Owner ▾
	 Ben Walters	BenW@odemo.me	-	-	Member ▾
	 Lidia Holloway	LidiaH@odemo.me	-	-	Owner ▾
	 Alex Wilber	AlexW@odemo.me	-	-	Member ▾





Demo:

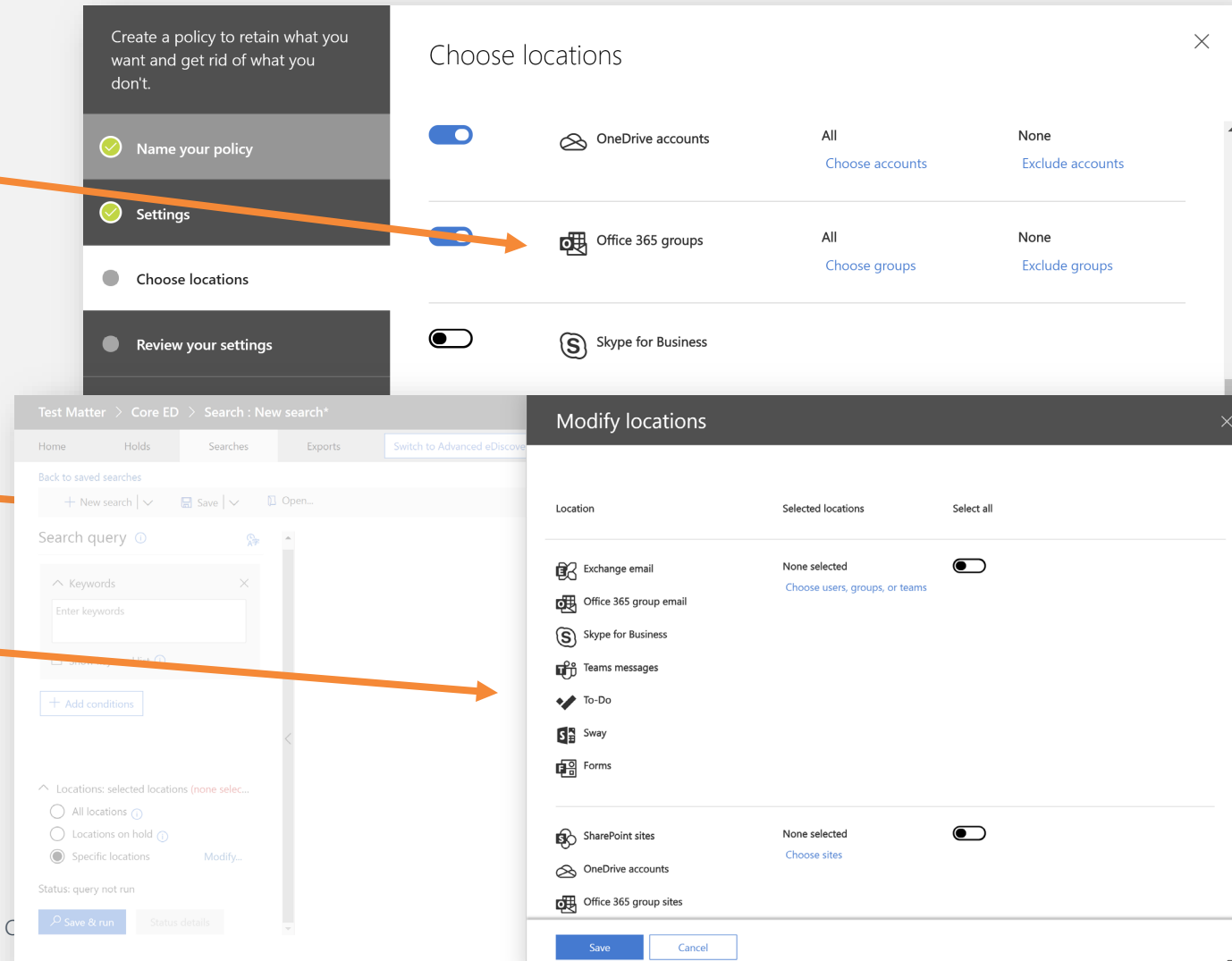
Managing private channel creation, membership and retention...

What's the retention/eDiscovery story standard channels?

Files stored in the SPO site for the Team and subject to the "O365 Group" retention settings in Sec+Compliance center

Conversations spool into the Group Mailbox associated with the Team, and subject to retention policies applied to "Teams Channel Messages" in Sec+Compliance center

eDiscovery searches and hold locations follow similar logic...



What's the retention/eDiscovery story private channels?

At least for now....

Files stored in the SPO site for the private channel are subject to your *SharePoint Sites* retention settings...

Conversations spool into *personal mailboxes* of the PC members. Not yet subject to deletion via retention policy so retained indefinitely

eDiscovery searches for "Teams Messages" will not find PC messages, so also search at least one PC member's mailbox. Also PowerShell available to find and search all PC SPO sites associated with a Team

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoftteams/ediscovery-investigation#ediscovery-of-private-channels>

Create a policy to retain what you want and get rid of what you don't.

- ✓ Name your policy
- ✓ Settings
- Choose locations
- Review your settings

Choose locations

The policy will apply to content that's stored in the locations you choose.

☐ Apply policy only to content in Exchange email, public folders, Office 365 groups, OneDrive and SharePoint documents.

☒ Let me choose specific locations. ⓘ

Status	Location	Include	Exclude
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Exchange email	All Choose recipients	None Exclude recipients
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SharePoint sites	All Choose sites	None Exclude sites
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OneDrive accounts	All Choose accounts	None Exclude accounts
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Office 365 groups	All Choose groups	None Exclude groups

[Back](#) [Next](#) [Cancel](#)



So how do I
plan my Teams
rollout?

*For private channels
and for Teams in
general?*



<https://resources.techcommunity.microsoft.com/adoption/>

Adoption Resources

Simplify and accelerate your adoption

Envision, Onboard and Drive Value with Microsoft 365 Adoption Tools

Use our resources to simplify and accelerate your time to value with teamwork cloud services. We know your time is important, so we've created these guides using the best practices we've gathered from Microsoft and industry experts and you, our customers. Get started, experiment with our services and onboard employees at scale while being confident that you are improving the employee experience with our services.



[MICROSOFT 365 ADOPTION GUIDE >](#)



[MICROSOFT SEARCH >](#)



[MICROSOFT TEAMS ADOPTION GUIDE >](#)



[ONEDRIVE ADOPTION GUIDE >](#)



[OUTLOOK MOBILE ADOPTION GUIDE >](#)



[SECURITY & COMPLIANCE ADOPTION GUIDE >](#)



[SHAREPOINT ADOPTION GUIDE >](#)



[TEAMWORK GOVERNANCE >](#)



[YAMMER ADOPTION GUIDE >](#)

For more on private channels:

AvePoint Blog Series

- <https://www.avepoint.com/blog/microsoft-teams/microsoft-teams-private-channels-2/>

Microsoft Documentation

- PC Overview
<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoftteams/private-channels>
- eDiscovery of PCs
<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoftteams/ediscovery-investigation#ediscovery-of-private-channels>

Ignite 2019 Session

- <https://myignite.techcommunity.microsoft.com/sessions/83912?source=sessions>



thank you

Gracias

ευχαριστώ

Danke

Grazie

благодаря

Hvala

Obrigado

Kiitos

شكراً

Tak

Ahsante

Teşekkürler

متشكراً

Salamat Po

감사합니다

Cám ơn

شكريه

Terima Kasih

Dank u Wel

Děkuji

நன்றி

Köszönöm

ありがとう
ございます

ໂພນຊຸມນຸມ

Dziękuję

谢谢

Tack

Mulțumesc

спасибо

Merci

תודה

多謝晒

дядкую

Ďakujem

Ευχαριστώ