

# What Are the Capabilities of the Cardano Software Toolkit?

The team behind the Cardano ecosystem plans to release a software toolkit later this month that will allow developers to deploy custom sidechains on [Cardano](#) to power the ecosystem. Input Output Global (IOG), a blockchain engineering firm founded by Charles Hoskinson and formerly known as Input Output Hong Kong (IOHK), announced the news on January 12. The announcement includes the official technical documentation for the sidechain toolkit. IOG developers used this toolkit to build a public sidechain test network compatible with the Ethereum virtual machine (EVM) as a "proof of concept". Once the testing is complete, anyone can deploy decentralized applications, create smart contracts, and move tokens between different test chains. The toolkit will also allow sidechain creators to choose their own consensus mechanism in addition to other application-specific features. A sidechain is an independent blockchain that works in parallel with its parent blockchain and is often referred to as the mainnet. Sidechains often seek to add scalability to the mainnet prioritizing decentralization and security. The IOG hopes that the development of the sidechain will "pave the way for mass adoption" in the Cardano ecosystem, and "hopes to see the emergence of a family of Cardano sidechains and partnerchains

in the near future.

**Source:** [The Pipsafe Team](#) - **What Are the Capabilities of the Cardano Software Toolkit?**

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