

TIP Technical Committee Charter

Version 3.0 - February 22, 2023. Approved by the Board of Directors.
This version supersedes the Technical Committee Charter from July 2019.

This Charter (the “Charter”) sets forth the purpose, scope, responsibilities, duties, composition, and procedures of the Technical Committee (“TC”) of the Telecom Infra Project (“TIP”).

Capitalized terms not defined in this Charter have the meaning set forth in TIP’s Organizational Documents, available at <https://telecominfraproject.com/organizational-documents/>

PURPOSE

The purpose of the TC is to assist the TIP Board of Directors (“Board”) in fulfilling oversight responsibilities with respect to technical matters. The TC provides guidance to promote technical excellence within the TIP Project Groups, TIP projects, and larger TIP community, fulfils the duties and responsibilities regarding Project Group administration, approval of publications, and the provision of recommended actions for consideration by the Board.

SCOPE

The TC is tasked with improving the Project Groups' effectiveness, leveraging synergies across the different TIP Project Groups as well as other industry initiatives in the telecom space and identifying areas of focus to best serve the community. The TC ensures that:

- Project Groups develop technical solutions, demonstrations, specifications, best practices, or other deliverables that address and solve problems acknowledged by communications infrastructure operators.
- Project Groups have an adequate mix of industry experts and representatives that encourages effective collaboration to build technical solutions that are aligned with the approved Project Group Charter.
- Project Group Deliverables are made generally available under the terms as set forth in the Project Group Charter.

The TC uses the TIP mission and tenets to guide Project Group activities, specifically with respect to the following objectives:

- The most important aspect of enabling an economically robust infrastructure is ensuring that operators and integrators have **flexibility and choice**. TIP solutions are expected to expand such opportunities as opposed to constrain them.
- With increasing bandwidth demands, it is critical to focus on enabling **performance leading** technology innovations.

- TIP is committed to preserving opportunities for technology differentiation through innovation. Nonetheless, **collaboration** is a critical aspect of ensuring innovation is focused in the right areas, avoiding gratuitous differentiation and enabling the community to advance in a fashion supportive for all.
- Anticipating an extensive growth in the number of devices powering the network, adopting modern data center design and operational practices will provide operators with the necessary tools for managing a flexible network at a large **scale**.

DUTIES and RESPONSIBILITIES

Project Group Governance:

- The TC develops, publishes, and maintains the criteria used to initiate new Project Group activities within TIP, making agreed TC recommendations to the TIP Board for approval.
- The TC reviews draft Project Group Charters, as well as revisions to existing Project Group Charters, and recommends for Board approval those Project Groups that meet the TIP objectives and the TC Group criteria.
- The TC reviews progress reports from the Project Groups to ensure that Deliverables and milestones are on-track, and provides an executive summary of Project Group status to the TIP Board on a quarterly basis.
- The TC develops, publishes, and maintains the criteria used to close Project Group activities within TIP, taking agreed TC recommendations to the TIP Board for approval.
- The TC reviews and approves Project Group proposals to create Project Group sub-groups focussing on specific technical areas of delivery. The TC approves the Project Group nominations for leadership positions within the sub-groups¹. The TC informs the TIP Board of any new sub-groups and/or sub-group leadership approvals made by the TC during the quarterly Project Group status update.

Project Group Technical Oversight:

The TC is an advisory and approval body, providing technical oversight and recommendations to the Project Groups, working with the Project Group Chairs and sub-group leadership to best prepare the group to deliver meaningful results. The TC is not involved in the day-to-day activities of TIP Project Groups, e.g. contributing technology or commenting on draft PG Deliverables, roadmaps, etc. For this purpose, TIP provides Technical Program Managers (“TPMs”) who support TIP activities in one of the focus areas, support Project Group Chairs, and sub-group leadership, in their work to ensure that:

¹ For clarity, TC approval of PG sub-group leadership candidates in no way affects or conflicts with the Board's obligation/right to appoint PG Chairs as set forth in TIP's Bylaws.

- Project Groups have clear objectives that are aligned with the TIP Mission and goals.
- Project Groups have clearly defined deliverables that will result in solutions that can be delivered to the telecommunications market and ecosystem.

Project Group Resources:

The TC ensures that Project Groups have access to resources they need to build, test and deliver solutions defined within the scope of each Project Group's Charter. It does this through:

- **People** - Engaging on a regular basis with the Project Group Chairs and sub-group leadership to ensure each group maintains the right mix of Participants that will deliver solutions within expected timelines.
- **Productivity Tools** - Enabling collaboration within the Project Groups as well as providing tools for publication and lifecycle management of Project Group results.
- **Lab Support** - Supporting TIP foundational and community functions by providing clear Community Lab entry and exit criteria and review of Project Group milestones related to TIP Community Lab activities.
- **Software development best practices** - Developing a software collaboration model to increase development efficiency and encourage re-use of software components, models, and APIs throughout the TIP ecosystem.
- **Member and Industry Advocacy** - Serving as community evangelists, to seek new Participants and connect existing ones. TC members advocate for the TIP community at large and its specific members in various forums, from the Board to external organizations and events.

TC Approval of Publications:

The TC has the delegated authority from the Board to approve, adopt and release publications that are not Specifications or Software (as those terms are defined in the TIP IPR Policy) including white papers, glossies, and other similar documents that involve promoting TIP solutions including TIP's marketing and educational materials or other publications in any media ("Publications"). Such Publications may originate within a Project Group or within the TC. The TC will develop procedures to be used by Project Groups for the approval of Project Group Publications.

TC Membership and Participation Expectations:

- The TC shall comprise at least seven and up to thirteen individuals, including at least one representative of a Sponsor Participant. TC members are expected to be active, contributing regularly to discussions and decisions of matters before the TC pursuant to this Charter.

- Members of the TC must be employed by a TIP Participant in good standing (the member's organization has met its fiduciary duty and is not in violation of any TIP policies) are qualified for the TC.
- Nominees must have deep technical expertise in at least one of the TIP focus areas which is required to support the work of TIP and the Project Groups.
- Nominees must be sponsored by a current TC member or TIP Director. The Board evaluates and approves new TC members based on the TC's recommendation.
- TC members who are no longer able to fulfil the role of a TC member shall inform the TC and open their TC seat. TC members not fulfilling the duties laid out in this Charter can be removed from the TC by majority vote.
- TIP's Chief Engineer, or their delegate, acts as the liaison between the TC and TIP's PGs. The Chief Engineer is not required to be an employee of a TIP Participant, and does not have voting power on the TC.

Decision-Making Process, Meeting Frequency and Reporting:

- The TC meets at a self-arranged cadence, usually every other week.
- The TIP Chief Engineer facilitates TC meetings, and is responsible at a minimum for publishing meeting agenda, materials for consideration, and recording/circulating TC meeting minutes.
- Decisions are made by majority vote except decision regarding approval of Publications require a supermajority of 75% where a quorum (at least 50% of all TC members) is present.
- Voting may be performed in person during TC meetings or via electronic voting. Each TC member has one vote in decisions made by the TC.
- The TC reports its activities to the Board at least quarterly.

Review of the Charter

The TC will annually review and assess the adequacy of this Charter and recommend any changes to the Board for consideration.