

DIF Associate membership special request consideration process.

Corporate Size Assessment

Corporations are often a group of companies tied together under a common brand and interlinked product portfolios, even though the local decision power and focus of these entities might differ. Geographical subsidiaries and non-profits “wings” closely affiliated with for-profit parent enterprises are all considered, for DIF’s purposes, “subsidiaries” of larger enterprises.

As recognition of this variety of legal and liability structures, DIF Steering Committee considers the following when a subsidiary of a large corporation applies for DIF membership.

- 1) The applying subsidiary of a larger company may apply for membership at the price tier appropriate to the subsidiary’s employee count on a **temporary basis** only.*
- 2) During this trial period, the subsidiary and its direct employees can participate fully in DIF IPR-protected working groups and discussions. The only exceptions are that the logos of subsidiaries will not be displayed on the DIF website, their membership will not be promoted through DIF channels, and their representatives cannot be nominated to the Steering Committee.*
- 3) The expectation of this trial membership is to allow extra time for global enterprises to commit to joining DIF as a whole. The trial period (and its membership benefit limitations) end early if the parent corporation joins during the trial period.*
- 4) If the parent company does not commit to joining by the end of the trial period, the subsidiary will no longer be considered a DIF member.*
- 5) The time frame of the trial period is considered on an individual basis by the Steering Committee as appropriate to the subsidiary's needs. The initial time frame may also be extended by the Steering Committee if necessary, however, the maximum time of such a period will be 6 months.*

*A **subsidiary**, subsidiary company, or daughter company is a company owned or controlled by another company, which is called the parent company, parent, or holding company. The subsidiary can be a company, corporation, or limited liability company.*

*In cases where **Research and Development** (R&D, R+D) departments of larger conglomerates and corporations are legally incorporated as subsidiaries, they will not be considered for this temporary basis, which is instead intended for semi-autonomous subsidiaries.*