

Technical Steering Committee Charter

Section 1. Guiding Principle

The AllJoyn Open Source Project (the “AJOSP”) will operate transparently, openly, collaboratively, and ethically. The Technical Steering Committee (“TSC”) shall ensure that all technical decisions are made in an open and transparent fashion, and that all communication between and within Working Groups will be fair, open and consistent.

There will be a single TSC that will span all Working Groups of the AJOSP.

Section 2. Terminology

“Project” – The most fundamental organizational unit. There will be many of these in the AJOSP. Projects may formally become a part of the AJOSP following approval by the TSC.

“Service” – Modular units of code produced by a Project that extend the core project code.

“Working Group” – Logical grouping of Projects in a way that makes sense. Grouping is done by the TSC.

Section 3. Evolution of the AJOSP Governance

The amendment process for this document is for the TSC to ratify changes using a two-thirds supermajority vote of the full TSC membership at the time of the vote.

Section 4. Composition of the TSC

Initial Composition of the TSC

The initial composition of the TSC following the establishment of the AJOSP as a stand-alone project will be the AllSeen Alliance (“ASA”) TSC members that qualify under the On-going Composition defined below. Up to four at-large members will be selected from nominees from the ASA TSC membership that do not qualify for the on-going positions.

Elections for the various positions that make up the TSC, as well as the TSC Chair and Vice-Chair positions will be called by the TSC, and are to be held no sooner than three months and no later than six months after the establishment of the AJOSP as a stand-alone project.

On-going Composition of the TSC

The TSC will be composed of:

- All Working Group Chairs
- All Active Project Maintainers
 - When a project becomes Dormant (as defined in 6(b) below) the Maintainer is no longer a member of the TSC.
 - If a project becomes Active again (as defined in 6(b) below), the Maintainer shall notify the TSC in order to reinstate their membership.
- The chairs of any sub-committees formed by the TSC
- Up to 4 additional at-large members elected from among the contributors to the AJOSP

Section 5. Responsibilities of the TSC

The TSC is responsible for:

- I. defining the technical direction of the AJOSP;

- II. approving project proposals (including, but not limited to, incubation, deprecation and changes to a project's charter or scope);
- III. defining Working Groups and grouping Projects within them;
- IV. creating sub-committees or working groups to focus on cross-project technical issues or opportunities;
- V. communicating with external and industry organizations concerning Project technical matters;
- VI. appointing representatives to work with other open source or standards communities;
- VII. establishing community norms, workflows or policies for releases, defining release dates, release quality, technical best practices, and monitoring technical progress
- VIII. discussing, seeking consensus, and where necessary, voting on technical matters relating to the code base that affect multiple Projects;
- IX. mediating technical conflicts between Committers, Working Group Chairs, and Project Maintainers, organizing inter-Working Group collaboration; and
- X. coordinating sponsorship matters including any needed budget support topics.

Section 6. The AJOSP Operations

(a) The TSC shall be under the leadership of the TSC Chair, who will run its operations and provide overall direction. In the absence of appointed representatives, the Chair will represent the AJOSP to outside entities. The TSC Vice-Chair shall lead the TSC when the TSC Chair is unable to do so and will serve as an advisor to the TSC Chair on the direction and running of the TSC.

(b) The AJOSP has the following organizational units which function as described below:

Projects. There will be multiple Projects under the AJOSP. Each Project must have a well-defined scope and must work within that scope. Each Project will have a Maintainer who serves as the project lead. Projects will typically be part of a Working Group;

however, it is possible for Projects to be unaffiliated. A project is considered Active if there has been meaningful code contributed and merged within the last 90 days. After 90 days the project is considered Dormant. A project shall be restored to Active state once a meaningful code contribution is made.

Working Groups. As necessary, Working Groups shall be established by the TSC in order to logically group and coordinate appropriate Projects. The TSC will oversee and approve the progress of a Working Group, which will include consideration of the following criteria:

- Cleanliness of code base
- Ample and diverse Contributors and Committers to assure vitality of the Working Group.
- Stability (e.g., presence of test suites and use of an appropriate source-code control system).
- Predictability of releases

(c) Voting.

For election of persons (TSC Chair, Working Group Chairs, etc.):

A multiple-candidate method will be used; an Instant-runoff election will be conducted. (For example: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Instantrunoff_voting.) Multiple-candidate methods reduce to simple majority when there is only one position to be filled.

- A Project Maintainer is selected from among the committers of a Project by the committers of that Project.
- A Working Group Chair is selected from among the Maintainers of the Projects within a Working Group by the Maintainers of the projects of the Working Group.
- The TSC Chair and Vice Chair are selected from members of the TSC by the members of the TSC. Both shall serve one year terms, and can be removed if they disruptive, or have been inactive in the TSC for 90 days.

- The at-large TSC members are selected among nominated contributors by a vote of the contributors. At-large members shall serve one year terms, and can be removed if they disruptive, or have been inactive in the TSC for 90 days.

In the even that a person steps down, or is removed from a position, that position should be filled as expediently as possible. In the case of the at-large members back-filling is at the discretion of the TSC.

For making decisions:

- For Working Group and Project internal decisions these will be made by consensus when possible; where no consensus can be reached, a vote will be taken and a simple majority will prevail. The Maintainers and Committers have voting privileges in Working Groups and Projects respectively.
- At all meetings of the TSC, a majority of the members who have joined the TSC and who have active voting rights on that TSC shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business; however, it is required that quorum cannot be less than 25% of the full TSC membership. The act of a majority of such members present at any meeting at which there is a quorum shall be the act of the TSC; in the case of acting via email, a majority of those members with active voting rights must act in order to be a valid act of the TSC. The voting rights of a member shall become active upon joining the TSC. The voting rights of any member who misses, or does not have a proxy attend on their behalf for two consecutive meetings of the TSC shall be suspended for the following TSC meeting, and the member not counted for purposes of determining quorum for the following meeting. The voting rights of members who have been suspended for non-attendance shall be restored as of the call to order of the next TSC meeting the member attends; that member counts towards quorum for that meeting and does not affect the number of attendees required to attain quorum. A member of the TSC may identify a proxy to attend meetings in their absence; that person must be made known to the TSC no later than the commencement of a meeting.

- A member of the TSC with suspended voting rights cannot vote in absentia via email and they cannot participate in email votes.

Section 7. Working Group Roles

Each Project has one or more Contributors, who produce code, and one or more Committers and one Maintainer, who control technical direction. Each Working Group will be headed up by a Working Group Chair who sets overall direction for the Projects within the Working Group.

(a) Working Group Chairs. The Working Group Chair is responsible for providing strategic direction and coordinating the work of the various projects within the Working Group; as well as building consensus and resolving conflicts. The term of a working group chair is 1 year. A Working Group Chair who is disruptive, or has been inactive for 90 days may have their Working Group Chair status revoked by the TSC Chair.

(b) Maintainers: The Maintainer is the committer who leads the Project, and represents it on the TSC. The term of a working group chair is 1 year. Maintainers who are disruptive, or have been inactive for 90 days may have their Maintainer status revoked by the Working Group Chair.

(c) Committers. Committers are the people within a project with rights to commit code to the source code management system.

- The Committers will be the decision makers on design, code, and patches for their Project.
- Initial Committers are identified as part of the Project proposal, and as such Committer rights are granted to them by the TSC along with Project approval. After project inception Committer rights are earned via code contribution and community trust. Committers select and vote for new Committers, subject to Working Group approval via a simple majority vote.
- Committer rights are per Project; being a Committer on one Project does not necessarily give an individual Committer rights on any other Project.

- A Committer who is disruptive, or has been inactive for 90 days may have their Committer status revoked by the Maintainer or the Working Group Chair.

(d) Contributors. Contributors contribute code or other artifacts, but do not have the right to commit to the code base. To be considered a Contributor the contributions must be considered meaningful and have been accepted by the project. A Contributor may be promoted to a Committer by the Project's Committers as described in section (c) above.

Section 8. Working Group Principles

The following relate to the Working Groups initiated by the TSC and the artifacts created therein:

- Singularity: To the extent possible, there should be no overlap between the goals of the various Working Groups and artifacts created by them.
- Cohesiveness: The artifacts created within each mature Working Group should connect appropriately to other mature / core Working Groups to form a cohesive system. (It is understood that this will not apply to artifacts that are stand-alone by design).
- Non-interference: Services should work in any configuration and not create negative interference with each other's functionality.