ORBIT Consortium Governance Plan

The ORBIT consortium is a collaborative agreement between Rutgers University and its partners to further develop, improve and operate current and future ORBIT wireless network testbeds based on hardware designs and software resulting from the NSF funded ORBIT project carried out at Rutgers University during the period 2003-07. This document describes the principles for governance of the ORBIT consortium.

1. Organization and Structure

A Steering Committee led by an executive Director is responsible for management oversight of the Consortium. In recognition of the fact that the ORBIT system was initially developed at Rutgers University, the Director will be appointed by Rutgers and ratified by other members of the steering committee. Each charter member will have a permanent seat on the steering committee, while full members will be assigned one of three non-permanent seats on the steering committee on a rotating basis.

2. Membership Categories and Fees

Level	$/Yr	Benefits	Responsibilities
Charter	100K	• **Steering Committee Permanent Seat** • **Unlimited Access to Orbit Events** • **Guaranteed testbed access quota as per consortium usage policies** • Access to All Working Groups • Orbit Public Relations • Author Orbit Design Notes • Access to Research Papers	• Active Participation in Steering Committee • Active Participation in Orbit Events • Member Recruitment • Testbed Contribution • Research Participant (Optional)
Full	50K	• **Steering Committee Rotation** • **Unlimited Access to Orbit Events** • **Guaranteed testbed access quota as per consortium usage policies** • Access to All Working Groups • Orbit Public Relations • Author Orbit Design Notes • Access to Research Papers	• Part-Time Participation in Steering Committee as selected • Testbed Contribution • Research Participant (Optional)
Associate	20K (no charge for academic institutions and WINLAB sponsors)	• **Participation in Working Groups** • **Unlimited Access to Orbit Events** • **Best-Effort testbed access as per consortium usage policies** • Forum for Research Publication	• Testbed Contribution • Research Participant (Optional)

3. Administration

a. Directors
Overall direction of the Consortium shall be the responsibility of the Director. The Director will be appointed by Rutgers University, with the appointee to be ratified by a majority vote of the steering committee.

b. Staff.
The Consortium will not hire and manage staff directly. However, the Consortium may provide funding to member organizations for purposes of retaining consultants or employees to conduct the activities of the Consortium. The Director will publish a list of those individuals paid from ORBIT consortium funding.

c. Steering Committee
The Steering Committee shall include the Director, one permanent representative from each Charter Member and non-permanent representatives from the Full Members (three seats rotate among the Full Members on an annual basis).
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The Steering Committee sets overall policy and provides strategic guidance and review of the Consortium's activities, including the allocation of ORBIT resources, the Acceptable Use Policy (AUP), and other policy statements issued in the form of Orbit Design Notes (ODNs). All policy documents will be posted on the Orbit website (www.orbit-lab.org).

The Consortium Director shall determine the frequency and type of meetings (e.g., conference call, in person), but there shall be at least two in-person meetings each year.

d. Working Groups
To facilitate the work of the Consortium, the Steering Committee will form Working Groups made up of the Consortium Membership. The Steering Committee will determine which Working Groups to form, appoint a chairperson (or co-chairpersons) for each Working Group, and oversee the work of each Working Group.

The Working Group Chair(s) will determine the frequency and type of meetings (e.g., conference call, in person) and the group's activities will be visible via Orbit mailing lists and in published ODNs. Consortium members may schedule time with the Director to propose new working groups to the Steering Committee.

4. Collaboration
The Consortium Members will collaborate with other organizations in the development of the Consortium projects. Aspects of the ORBIT infrastructure will be developed under various collaborative and cooperative arrangements, as outlined in the Membership Agreement.

5. Visitors

Members may volunteer to contribute staff on short-term assignment to the Consortium for specific implementation or research efforts sponsored by the Consortium, and in some cases it may be an advantage to have the Member staff on site at one of the Testbed facilities. At the discretion of the Hosting Party and depending upon the availability of resources, such Member staff will be provided with an unsalaried technical visitor status in accordance with the Hosting Party's rules and procedures.

6. Communication within Consortium

Consortium activities and communications are performed primarily using the World Wide Web and electronic mail.

7. Software Distribution

The Consortium will support a repository of software and related documentation ("Materials") for such purposes as proof-of-concept, interoperability testing, and facilitating the work of the Consortium. Materials will be distributed pursuant to the Licensing as described in the Membership Agreement. For Materials that are being actively maintained, the Consortium will provide mechanisms by which bug reports can be submitted and mechanisms by which the status and correction of a bug can be obtained. Members can incorporate Materials made available by the Consortium into products at any time after it has been released to the Consortium. Members shall not adopt or incorporate such releases into products prior to release to the Membership. Materials are considered released upon distribution to Members by the Consortium or upon being identified as a Consortium release and being made accessible over the Consortium network.

Materials made available by the Consortium may include contributions from Members or non-members ("Contributed Software") however the Consortium shall not be responsible for maintaining Contributed Software. Contributed Software will be accepted only if the contributing Member represents that it has sufficient right, title and interest to allow the Consortium to use and distribute the Contributed Software, however, ALL CONTRIBUTED SOFTWARE SHALL BE PROVIDED "AS IS." THE CONSORTIUM MAKES NO REPRESENTATIONS OR WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, TITLE OR NON-INFRINGEMENT, NOR DO THE CONSORTIUM OR THE MANAGING PARTIES MAKE ANY REPRESENTATIONS OR WARRANTIES THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF SUCH CONTRIBUTED SOFTWARE WILL NOT INFRINGE ANY THIRD PARTY PATENTS, COPYRIGHTS, TRADEMARKS OR OTHER RIGHTS.

In general, all materials distributed by the Consortium will be distributed pursuant to the Membership Agreement.

8. Use of Funds

The Member fees shall be used to support the costs of the Consortium as determined by the Director upon the recommendation of the Steering Committee.

9. Technical Conferences

The Consortium will sponsor an annual conference for Members to promote the exchange of technical information about ORBIT research. Workshops may also be held in various technical areas as deemed necessary and may include experts from the Members, and the international research community as deemed appropriate by the Director.