

Open Repository Guidelines and Procedures

as approved by Board 2018

*Posted at: <https://www.oasis-open.org/policies-guidelines/open-repositories/>
[Marked to show proposed changes 2022 0601](#)*

Overview

OASIS TC Open Repositories are a distinct class of information and sharing portals (for example, a [GitHub](#) project), that can be set up to support and complement the work of an OASIS [Technical Committee \(“TC”\)](#). These repositories add the strengths of open source development to OASIS’ existing stable and well-recognized governance process.

1. REPOSITORY DEFINITION

An OASIS TC Open Repository (“TC Open Repository”) is a distinct facility operated by OASIS for collection of voluntarily contributed information relevant to the work of a specific TC, under the rules set forth in these procedures. TC Open Repositories may reside on third-party server resources. See [REPOSITORY TOOLS](#) below.

2. REPOSITORIES ARE INITIATED BY OASIS TCs

Any Eligible OASIS TC may create one or more TC Open Repositories at its election, by a simple majority vote of its membership, conducted in the same manner as is used to approve other administrative matters consistent with the OASIS TC Process (an “Administrative Vote”). TC Open Repositories may only be created by, and in connection with the work of, Eligible OASIS TCs.

An “Eligible OASIS TC” is a currently-active OASIS TC that is operating under the [Non-Assertion](#), [RF on Limited Terms](#), or [RF on RAND](#) IPR Mode as defined by the OASIS [IPR Policy](#).

3. REPOSITORIES ARE SEPARATE FROM A TC’S SPECIFICATION WORK

TC Open Repositories created by a TC are separate and distinct resources from the TC’s specification work. Specification work, sometimes described as the TC’s work product, is governed by the [OASIS TC Process](#), and available under the licensing terms of the [OASIS IPR Policy](#). In contrast, TC Open Repository contents are governed by these rules, and available under an open source license as provided here. **Because different licenses apply, there is no guarantee that the licensure of specific material in a TC Open Repository will be compatible with the licensing requirements of an implementation of a TC’s specification.**

34 No TC member shall have any obligation to join, contribute to, or reference, any TC Open
35 Repository. Members of an OASIS TC incur no other licensing or disclosure obligations by
36 reason of any TC Open Repository, unless that member explicitly contributes to it under these
37 rules. See [REPOSITORY LICENSES AND LICENSING RULES](#) below.

38 TC Open Repository contributions (“repo contributions”) and contents are not automatically
39 also contributed to the TC’s Work Product as specification “[Contributions](#)” as defined in the
40 OASIS IPR Policy. TC members may choose to use any contents of an Open repository in TC
41 specification development, by taking the separate, additional step of offering that material as
42 their own “Contributions” to the TC’s Work Product under the OASIS IPR Policy. Each
43 member is responsible for determining the suitability of their own contributions.

44 **4. REPOSITORY LICENSES AND LICENSING RULES**

45 Each TC Open Repository will be subject to a declared “Applicable License,” selected from
46 the list of licenses at the end of this section. The Applicable License for a repository will apply
47 to all repo contributions donated to the repository, by posting it or requesting its inclusion in
48 that repository. Anyone, whether an OASIS member or TC member or not, may contribute into
49 a TC Open Repository, subject to the Applicable License, as evidenced in the manner noted
50 in [LICENSE TOOLS AND NOTICES](#) below. Anyone (including but not limited to the TC that
51 created it) will be entitled to make use of the contents of a TC Open Repository, according to
52 the terms of its Applicable License.

53 The TC creating an TC Open Repository will [select](#) its Applicable License, [at the time of its](#)
54 [creation](#), from among the [set of eligible licenses then provided in the OASIS Open Project](#)
55 [Rules. \(OASIS periodically will review other widely-used free and open source licenses for](#)
56 [inclusion in this list by amending these procedures.\)](#); ~~Apache License v 2.0; CC-BY 2.0;~~
57 ~~CC-BY 4.0; Eclipse Public License v 1.0 the TC makes no license selection in its approval~~
58 ~~action following list: BSD-3-Clause License (which shall apply if~~

59 **5. PURPOSE STATEMENT AND CONTENTS**

60 Each TC Open Repository should have a purpose statement, indicating its intended contents
61 or topic, declared by the TC that creates it, as part of its approval action. If the TC’s approval
62 action specifies no purpose statement, then the purpose shall be any kind of information
63 including examples, code, implementation details, bug reports, and actual, model or dummy
64 content that may relate to the Work Products to be produced by that TC as defined in its
65 charter.

66 **6. ARCHIVAL PERMANENCE**

67 OASIS warrants that it will not inhibit open and free access to all of the material contributed to
68 each TC Open Repository, as open and freely-available resources. This warranty is perpetual
69 and will not be revoked by OASIS or its successors or assigns; however, neither OASIS nor

70 its assigns shall be obligated to: (a) perpetually maintain its own existence; nor (b) provide for
71 the perpetual existence of a website or other public means of accessing such material; nor (c)
72 maintain any material which it is legally required to remove from publication. Some
73 contributed material may be treated as superseded by Maintainers or by version control
74 methods. See [REPOSITORY MANAGEMENT](#) below. However, Maintainers shall not delete
75 content; the original form of each repo contribution shall continue to be available for review,
76 through appropriate version control or document management methodologies.

77 **7. REPOSITORY MANAGEMENT**

78 When a TC creates a TC Open Repository, it shall designate one or two TC members to act
79 as its initial "[Maintainer\(s\)](#)", by an Administrative Vote, to organize the material in that
80 repository. Maintainers may exercise editorial organization of the contents of their TC Open
81 Repository, including by classifying it, evaluating and responding to pull requests, designating
82 main or recommended branches, and designating deprecated branches or material. However,
83 no contributed information may be deleted from any TC Open Repository, due to the open
84 nature of Applicable Licenses and the [ARCHIVAL PERMANENCE](#) rule. In cooperation with
85 the community, the Maintainer(s) and the TC may select additional or successor Maintainer(s)
86 to share responsibilities for the repository. See [REPOSITORY LIFECYCLE](#) below.

87 **8. REPOSITORY TOOLS**

88 OASIS will create and support TC Open Repositories using web resource tools, selected and
89 configured by staff, that are clearly marked as a distinct resource, and under different Internet
90 subdomains, from the Work Product of a TC conducted under the OASIS IPR Policy and TC
91 Process. OASIS initially will create TC Open Repositories as either distinct [GitHub](#) projects, or
92 distinct Subversion repositories. *(OASIS periodically will review other widely-used tools,
93 either hosted by OASIS or from appropriate and commercially-neutral third parties, for
94 inclusion in this list of available platforms, by amending these procedures.)*

95 **9. LICENSE TOOLS AND NOTICES**

96 Each TC Open Repository shall be subject to a Contributor License Agreement ("CLA") by
97 which all persons making repo contributions into it are bound. The CLA shall bind each donor
98 of a repo contribution to the repository's Applicable License and such other consistent terms
99 as OASIS may require as a publisher to assure its availability. While certain nominal write-
100 access privileges (such as adding issues and comments) may be granted automatically to the
101 public by the tools, only persons who have signed the CLA will be permitted to contribute
102 substantive content. Each person making a repo contribution must be bound to the terms of
103 the CLA, by obtaining their signature (which may be an equivalent electronic assent) in a
104 manner appropriate to the web resources tools employed to implement that repository; and
105 those signatures shall be recorded and maintained in an auditable manner. Notices of the
106 Applicable License or an appropriate link shall be conspicuously visible both from each
107 repository's contribution channels (for potential contributors of material) and resource pages

108 (for potential readers and users). See the [OASIS TC Open Repositories FAQ](#) for details about
109 the form and location of the notices.

110 **10. REPOSITORY LIFECYCLE**

111 Once a TC Open Repository has been created by an Eligible OASIS TC, it will remain open
112 as a resource for public use and reference, and continuing contributions, after the OASIS TC
113 is closed, under the [ARCHIVAL PERMANENCE](#) rule above, with such remaining Maintainers
114 as may have been appointed. A TC may, if it so elects, designate a successor Eligible OASIS
115 TC, by an Administrative Vote at any time prior to its closure, to assume its remaining
116 responsibilities to its TC Open Repository