



DMTF Committee, Working Group, and Forum Process

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Notice

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1 Definitions

- 1.1 **Member Company.** A corporation or association that allows its employees or representatives to subscribe to the email lists, participate in list discussions, attend and participate in meetings, and make contributions to the DMTF. The process for becoming a Member Company can be found at <http://www.dmtf.org/join/company>.
- 1.2 **Board Member.** Member Companies who are Voting Members and are elected by Voting Members to serve on the Board of Directors. Board Member companies appoint persons as representative directors to the Board.
- 1.3 **Board of Directors.** All corporate powers are exercised by and under the authority of the Board of Directors, and the affairs of the corporation are managed under its direction.
- 1.4 **Leadership Member.** Member Company that has full voting privileges, has full access to DMTF specifications and standards, and may chair a Working Group. Leadership Members may join, participate in and vote in multiple Committees and Working Groups.
- 1.5 **Participating Member.** Member Company that has full access to DMTF specifications and standards. Participating Members may join, participate in and vote in multiple Working Groups.
- 1.6 **Monitoring Member.** Member Company that has access to content and communications on the member-only section of the DMTF web site but does not participate on any Committees or Working Groups.
- 1.7 **Sponsored Member.** An individual who is not an employee of a Member Company but who is sponsored to participate by a Member Company and participates at the membership level of that Member Company.
- 1.8 **Alliance Partner Member.** Not-for-profit association that has been offered and has accepted a membership in the DMTF. The designated Alliance Partner Member representatives may participate in designated DMTF Working Groups and designated Committees as non-voting members. Alliance Partner Members may also subscribe to the email lists, participate in list discussions, attend and participate in meetings, and make contributions to the DMTF.
- 1.9 **Academic Alliance Member.** Accredited institution of higher learning that has applied and has been offered a membership in the DMTF. The designated Academic Alliance Member representatives may participate in designated DMTF Working Groups and designated Committees as non-voting members. Academic Alliance Members may also subscribe to the email lists, participate in list discussions, attend and participate in meetings, and make contributions to the DMTF.
- 1.10 **Voting Member.** Member Company that has full voting privileges (which includes Board and Leadership Member companies).

2 Committees. The Board of Directors is responsible for the creation and termination of Committees. Committees focus on specific aspects of the work and mission of the DMTF and are responsible for the development of DMTF marketing programs, technologies, and initiatives. Each Committee has a DMTF Board-approved charter that defines the scope of work to be undertaken by the Committee in alignment with the direction of the DMTF.

2.1 Membership and Participation. A Committee consists of a representative from each of the Voting Member companies that are interested in participating, non-voting chairpersons of Working Groups (see “Working Groups,” section 3), and a non-voting designated representative from each of the Alliance Partner Members that are interested in participating. DMTF expects as much continuity in representation as possible, subject to the contingencies of the Member Company’s business.

2.2 Committee Meetings. Notice of Meetings must be posted on the DMTF Event calendar. Meeting agendas should be included in the Event calendar and must be sent to the Committee email list by the Committee Chair at least one day before the meeting. Meetings can be face-to-face events or teleconferences. Committees determine the frequency of their meetings.

2.3 Committee Chair. A Committee Chair is responsible for informing the Board of the progress and status of the specific work under development. Board companies should provide sufficient staffing of the right experience so that a Committee can complete its tasks on schedule.

2.4 Committee Voting. The principle for the working of all DMTF Committees is one vote per participating company. Non-voting or non-participating members of a DMTF Committee may comment on a ballot by using the “abstain with comment” option on the ballot. Voting can take place through voice, electronic, or written ballot. An affirmative vote requires a 75 percent majority of those Voting Members who vote. Abstentions are not counted.

2.5 Committee Ballot Process. The process used to resolve outstanding Change Requests (CRs) is as follows:

2.5.1 A preliminary vote is taken, typically by electronic ballot, before the next Committee meeting. Results of the ballots are compiled in the meeting minutes. The Committee Chair may choose to discuss the results of the ballot during the meeting to expedite the finalizing of a CR as a release date approaches.

2.5.2 For a description of the rest of the process used to resolve CRs, see section 5.4.

3 Working Groups. The Committees form Work Groups, which are commonly known as Working Groups. The Working Groups focus on issues in specific areas of the Committee’s charter. As goals, charter, timeline, and deliverables evolve, the Working Group Chair is responsible for updating this information and notifying the Chair of the parent Committee. In turn, the Chair notifies the Chairs of the other Committees. If there are issues with the changes, a discussion among the Committees, the Working Group

Chair, and the Working Group members is scheduled. After all issues are resolved, the updated charter, list of goals and deliverables, and timeline are balloted by the Board of Directors.

To exist, a Working Group must have "active" goals, deliverables, timelines, and a charter. A Working Group can be considered active regardless of whether scheduled teleconferences occur or change requests are submitted. Additional requirements for submissions and participation can be defined by a Working Group by extending its charter and deliverables. If this is done, it must be approved by the Working Group members and documented on the Working Group's main web page. Changes to a Working Group charter *must* be approved by the parent Committee and the Board of Directors.

3.1 Working Group Formation. The process to propose and form a new Working Group is as follows:

- 3.1.1 Proposals for new Working Groups can be proposed by any three Voting Member companies of the DMTF. They are brought to the Chair of the appropriate Committee. A Working Group proposal must be submitted and an interim Chair or Co-Chairs identified (hereafter referred to as "interim Chair"). The interim Chair must be from a Board or Leadership Member company. The Committee Chair then hosts a discussion with the interim Working Group Chair and the appropriate Committee. The goals of the discussion are to determine if the work aligns with the strategy and focus of the DMTF, what existing work is available in the industry, whether cooperative relationships with standards outside the DMTF might be necessary, and so on. The proposal goes to the Board for approval.
- 3.1.2 After the Working Group proposal is approved by the Board, an announcement is sent to all Voting Member companies soliciting interested participants to attend one or more teleconferences or face-to-face meetings. The purpose of these meetings is to craft an initial Working Group charter, a list of goals and deliverables, and a proposed timeline. At least three Voting Member companies must express interest in order to continue to the next step.
- 3.1.3 After at least three Board or Leadership Member companies have expressed interest in forming the new Working Group, representatives from these companies meet to discuss goals, a charter, deliverables, and a timeline. An interim Working Group may be created on the DMTF web site at this point to facilitate discussion and coordinate meetings. The Chair of the appropriate Committee is responsible for providing insight and observations about the DMTF, any requested help in anticipating Committee/Board questions and responses, and answers to procedural questions.
- 3.1.4 At the conclusion of the meetings, the interim Chair submits an initial charter, a list of goals and deliverables, and a timeline to the Chair of the appropriate Committee. In addition, the interim Chair must identify at least three member companies that are committed to the ongoing work. The Committee Chair then verifies the submitted information and, if valid, forwards the information to the other Chairs of the other Committees to determine if any issues exist. If issues exist, the charter, timeline, and lists are returned to the interim Working Group

Chair for resolution. If no issues exist, the charter, timeline, and lists are sent to the Committee for ballot following the normal ballot process, and then ultimately to the Board for approval.

- 3.1.5 Issues with the Working Group's goals, charter, deliverables, committed companies, and timeline should be raised in the initial ballot and then worked to closure.
- 3.1.6 After Board approval of the initial Working Group charter, the appropriate Committee Chair sends a second announcement to all DMTF members indicating the formation of the new Working Group and the timing of its first meeting. At the Working Group formation meeting, the charter, goals, deliverables, list of committed companies, and timeline are reviewed (and possibly amended), the chairing method for the Working Group is decided (single chair, chair/vice-chair or co-chairs), the official Chair nomination process is started, and work on the deliverables commences. Meeting times for the new Working Group should also be discussed and balloted if agreement during the meeting is not reached.
- 3.1.7 At the Working Group formation meeting, the presiding Committee Chair accepts nominations for the Chair of the new Working Group. Nominations can be submitted at the meeting or by email to the appropriate Committee Chair alias. At the next meeting, the appropriate Committee Chair announces the list of nominees. Each nominee describes his or her background and interest in the Chair role. If multiple candidates for Working Group Chair exist, the Working Group Chair is selected through an email ballot to the appropriate Committee Chair alias. If only one Working Group Chair candidate exists, members may voice objections to the candidate to the appropriate Committee Chair alias within seven days of the candidate announcement. If the group has decided that a vice-chair should be selected, the vice-chair is elected after the Working Group Chair has been selected and the process follows the Chair selection process. For vice-chair ballots, candidates must not be from the same company as the chair and no two candidates can be from the same companies. If the group has decided that co-chairs should be selected, the election process is different if multiple candidates exist. For co-chair ballots, each company gets 2 votes for WG chair but each vote must be for different individuals and different companies. If there are two candidates with a majority of votes, they are elected co-chairs. If there is one winner with a majority votes and there is a tie for the other co-chair, there will be a run-off vote for the other co-chair between the tied candidates. In the event that balloting is deadlocked, co-chairs will be selected one at a time (similar to the process of voting chair then vice-chair).

- 3.2 **Working Group Membership and Participation.** Working Groups are open to DMTF Board, Leadership, Participating, and Sponsored Members and designated Academic Alliance and Alliance Partner Members. Board, Leadership, Participating, and Sponsored Members are encouraged to participate in as many Working Groups as they can actively contribute to. Academic Alliance and Alliance Partner Members are non-voting members of Working Groups, as approved by the DMTF Board. Academic Alliance and Alliance Partner Members are assigned to specific Working

Groups as non-voting members when the board approves their application. Monitoring Members do not participate in Working Groups.

- 3.3 Working Group Meetings.** Meeting Notices are posted on the DMTF Event calendar. Meeting agendas should be included in the Event calendar and must be sent to the Working Group email list by the Working Group Chair at least one day before the meeting. Meetings can be face-to-face events or teleconferences. Working Groups determine the frequency of their meetings.
- 3.4 Working Group Chair.** Voting Members are eligible to chair a Working Group. Chairing a Working Group includes being a co-chair or vice-chair of a Working Group. Sponsored Members can chair a Working Group with Board approval. No other categories of membership have the right to chair a Working Group. The Working Group Chair is a non-voting member of the parent Committee, unless voting as the Voting Member representative. The Chair is responsible for informing the parent Committee of the progress and status of the specific technologies or programs under development. The Chair is responsible for bringing Working Group issues to the parent Committee for resolution, and Working Group output to the parent Committee for forwarding to the DMTF Board for publication. Working Group Chairs are responsible for maintaining email lists for their Working Groups and for ensuring that accurate minutes of each meeting are taken and posted on the web site, together with pertinent documents. The Chair or designate is also responsible for tracking meeting attendance by using the tracking tool in the Working Group area of the web site. Subsequent elections for a Working Group Chair follow the process for chair selection used in the Working Group Formation section.
- 3.4.1** There is no fixed term for a Working Group Chair. Once elected, a Working Group Chair serves until they resign or a new election is mandated by the parent Committee.
- 3.4.2** In the unlikely circumstances that a Working Group Chair is unable to fulfill the responsibilities of the position and has not resigned, three Voting Member Working Group participants from three separate companies may submit a request to the parent Committee that a new election be held. The request must be submitted and voted upon using the standard CR process. Prior to initiating the request, Working Group members are strongly encouraged to attempt to resolve their concerns directly with the Working Group chair.
- 3.5 Working Group Voting.** Any changes to DMTF specifications, processes, or other items to be balloted in a Working Group that will be brought forward to the parent Committee are made through Change Requests (CRs). CRs are created using the Change Request template, which is available from the member section of the DMTF web site. Issues that are solely within the scope of the Working Group may be balloted without the generation of a CR. The principle for the working of all DMTF Working Groups is one vote per participating company. Non-voting or non-participating members of a DMTF Working Group may comment on a ballot by using the "abstain with comment" option on the ballot. Voting can take place through voice, electronic, or written ballot. An affirmative vote requires a 75 percent majority of those Voting Members & Participating Members who vote. Abstentions are not counted.

3.6 Working Group Ballot Process. The process used to resolve outstanding Change Requests (CRs) is as follows:

3.6.1 A preliminary vote is taken, typically by electronic ballot, before the next Working Group meeting. Results of the ballots are compiled in the meeting minutes. The Chairperson may choose to discuss the results of the ballot during the meeting, to expedite the finalizing the change requests as a release date approaches.

3.6.2 For a description of the rest of the process used to resolve CRs, see section 5.4.

3.6.3 **Working Group Sub Teams.** The formation of a sub-team is sometimes necessary within a Working Group to focus the members. When a sub-team is formed, the work of the sub-team must fall within the charter of the parent Working Group—and the Working Group's goals, charter, deliverables, and timeline must be updated to reflect the activities of the sub-team. The formation, leadership and termination of a sub-team are a prerogative of the Working Group and shall follow the Working Group Ballot Process.

3.7 Updating a Working Group Charter. From time to time, it is necessary for Working Groups to update their charter. This could be an expansion or reduction in scope, change in deliverables, timelines, chairs or other information in the charter. The process to update a Working Group charter is as follows:

3.7.1 When a Working Group has prepared an updated charter, they must forward it to the Committee. The Committee then is responsible for approving the changes to the charter.

3.7.2 The Committee Chair then notifies the Board of the changes to the charter. If the changes involve changes in scope, the charter must be approved by the Board. Changes in the first three sections of the charter are considered changes in scope (Management Problem(s) and Environment, Working Group Charter, Alliance Partnerships). If the changes do not involve changes in scope, the charter does not need formal approval by the Board. The charter can be considered to be approved after the following board meeting unless the Board chooses to take action and formally rejects the changes.

3.8 Dissolving a Working Group. The process to dissolve a Working Group is as follows:

3.8.1 A Working Group Chair or Committee Chair may make a request to the appropriate Committee Chair that a Working Group be dissolved. This move is justified when no Working Group goals and deliverables remain or the Working Group is inactive. This information is then conveyed to the Committee by the appropriate Committee Chair. If anyone takes issue with the move to dissolve, a discussion between the Committees and the Working Group Chair is scheduled. If there are no issues or discussion, a request to dissolve the Working Group is sent to the Board for approval.

- 3.8.2 After Board approval, an announcement is sent to all the DMTF members indicating that the Working Group is dissolved and providing the web location of its archived information. Questions regarding the work and deliverables of the Working Group can continue to be mailed to the DMTF list through the [Contact Us](#) page.

4 Forums. The Interoperability Committee forms Forums. Forums focus on issues in specific areas of the Interoperability Committee's charter. Forums are different from Working Groups in that Forums pursue work that is interesting to a subset of DMTF members and they collect/disperse monies, within the rules and regulations of the DMTF Bylaws, from this subset of the DMTF membership to succeed at their stated mission. As such, membership in a forum may be restricted to DMTF members who fulfill key requirements like paying special dues or a membership fee. Forum may exist for any purpose within these guidelines and the DMTF Bylaws. Forums are intended to be self funding (that is they are responsible for collecting monies to pay for programs or initiatives they seek to deliver) but may request funds from its governing committee. As goals, charter, timeline and deliverables evolve; the Forum chair is responsible for updating this information, and notifying the Chairperson of the Committee. In turn, the Chairperson will notify the Chairpersons of the other Committees. If there are issues with the changes, then a discussion between the Committees, and the Forum chairperson and members will be scheduled. Once all issues are resolved, the updated charter, list of goals and deliverables, and timeline are balloted by the Board of Directors.

Forum may still be considered active regardless of whether scheduled teleconferences occur, and/or change requests are submitted. It is necessary that Forums have "active" goals, deliverables, timeline and charter in order to exist. Additional requirements for submissions and participation can be defined by a Forum basically extending the charter and deliverables of the team. If this is done, this must be approved by the Forum members and documented on the Forum's main web page. Changes to a Forum charter MUST be approved by the interoperability committee and the Board of Directors.

4.1 Forum Formation The process to propose and form a new Forum is as follows:

- 4.1.1 Proposals for new Forums can be brought to the Chair of the Committee. They can be suggested by any three Voting Member companies of the DMTF. A Forum proposal must be submitted and an interim Chair or Co-Chairs identified (hereafter referred to as "interim Chair"). The interim chair must be from a Board or Leadership Member company. The Chair of the Committee then hosts a discussion with the interim Forum Chair. The goals of the discussion are to determine if the work aligns with the DMTF's strategy and focus, what existing work is available in the industry, whether cooperative relationships with standards outside the DMTF might be necessary, etc. The proposal is balloted in the Committee following that committee's normal voting process. If approved in the Committee, then the proposal goes to the Board for approval.
- 4.1.2 When approved by the Board, an announcement is sent to all Voting Member companies soliciting interested participants to attend one or more teleconferences or face-to-face meetings. The purposes of the meetings are to craft an initial Forum charter, list of goals and deliverables, and proposed timeline. At least three Voting

Member companies must express interest in order to continue to the next step.

- 4.1.3 When at least three Voting Member companies have expressed interest in forming the new Forum, representatives from these companies meet to discuss goals, initial charter, deliverables, forum fees, and proposed timeline. An interim Forum may be created on the DMTF Web site at this point to help facilitate discussion and coordination of meetings. The Chair of the sponsoring Committee is responsible for providing insight and observations from the DMTF, any requested help in anticipating Committee/Board questions and responses, and answers to procedural questions.
- 4.1.4 At the conclusion of the meetings, the interim chair submits an initial charter, list of goals and deliverables, and timeline to the Chair of the Committee. In addition, the interim chair must identify at least three member companies, which are committed to the ongoing work. The Chair then verifies the submitted information and if valid, forwards the information to the "other" Chairs of the other committees to determine if any issues exist. If yes, then the charter, timeline and lists are returned to the interim chair for resolution. If no, then the charter, timeline and lists are sent to the Committee for ballot following that committee's normal ballot process, and then ultimately onto the Board for approval.
- 4.1.5 Issues with the Forum goals, charter, forum fees, deliverables, committed companies and timeline should be raised in initial ballot and then worked to closure.
- 4.1.6 After Board approval of the initial Forum charter, a second announcement is sent by the Committee Chair to all the DMTF members indicating the formation of the new forum and the timing of its first meeting. At the Forum formation meeting, the charter, goals, forum fees, deliverables, list of committed companies and timeline are reviewed (and possibly amended), the official chair, treasurer, and other forum officer nomination process is started, and work on the deliverables commences. Meeting times for the new forum should also be discussed, and balloted if agreement during the meeting is not reached.
- 4.1.7 At the Forum formation meeting, the presiding Committee Chair accepts nominations for officers of the new Forum. Nominations can be accepted at the meeting or by email to the Committee Chair alias. At the next meeting, the Committee Chair announces the list of nominees. Each nominee describes his or her background and interest in the officer role. If multiple candidates for Forum Officers exist, email ballot to the Committee Chair alias is used to select the Forum Officers. If only one Forum Officer candidate exists for a position, members may voice objections to the candidate to the Committee Chair alias within 7 days of the candidate's announcement.

- 4.2 **Forum Membership and Participation** Forums are open to DMTF Board, Leadership, Participation, and Sponsored Members and designated Academic Alliance and Alliance Partner representatives that pay any additional fees/dues established by the Forum. Academic Alliance and Alliance Partner representatives are non-voting members of Forums, as approved by the DMTF Board. Academic Alliance and Alliance Partner Members are assigned to specific Forums as non-voting members when the

board approves their application. Monitoring membership does not include Forum access.

- 4.3 Forum Meetings** Notice of Meetings shall be posted on the DMTF Event calendar. Meeting agendas should be included in the Event calendar and must be sent to the Forum email list by the Forum Chair at least one day before the meeting. Meetings may be face-to-face events or teleconferences. Forums may decide on the frequency of their meetings.
- 4.4 Forum Officers** Forums may establish the cadre of officer positions needed to govern however, each Forum must at least have a Chairperson. Officer positions may include but are not limited to Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, or Secretary. Voting Members who pay applicable Forum dues are eligible to be an officer in a Forum. A DMTF member company may hold only one officer position in any given Forum. Sponsored members can be an officer in a Forum with board approval. No other categories of membership have the right to be an officer in a Forum. The Forum Chairperson is a non-voting member of the sponsoring Committee, unless voting as the Voting Member representative. The Chairperson is responsible for informing the sponsoring Committee on the progress and status of the specific technologies and/or programs under development. The Chairperson is responsible for bringing Forum issues to the sponsoring Committee for resolution, and Forum output to the sponsoring Committee for forwarding to the DMTF Board for publication. The Chairperson is responsible for maintaining email lists for their Forum and for ensuring that accurate minutes of each meeting are taken and posted on the Web site, together with pertinent documents. The Chairperson or designate is also responsible for tracking meeting attendance using the tracking tool in the Forum area of the Web site, and leading other officers that are elected to the Forum. Officers in a Forum should be elected every two years. In the event that an Officer in a Forum resigns or can no longer fulfill the obligations of the office, a new Officer is selected according to the process for chair selection used in the Forum Formation section.
- 4.5 Forum Voting.** All changes to DMTF specifications, processes, or other items to be balloted in a Forum are made through Change Requests (CRs). CRs are created using the Change Request template, which is available from the member section of the DMTF Web site. The principle for the Work of all DMTF Forums is one vote per participating company. Non-voting or non-participating members of a DMTF Forum may comment on a ballot using the "abstain with comment" option on the ballot. Voting may take place via voice, electronic or written ballot. An affirmative vote requires a 75% majority of those member companies voting. Abstentions are not counted in establishing the majority.
- 4.6 Forum Structure and Sub Teams** It is sometimes necessary to form sub-teams within a Forum in order to focus the members. When this occurs, the work of the sub-team must fall within the charter of the "parent" Forum -- and the Forum's goals, charter, deliverables and timeline must be updated to reflect the activities of the sub-team. The formation, leadership and termination of a sub-team is a prerogative of the Forum. Also, the Forum may be organized into different classes of membership each of which has different voting rights and membership fee/dues requirements.
- 4.7 Collecting Membership Dues/Fees and Accounting** Dues/Fee collection, banking services and accounting services will be provided to the Forum from DMTF

central services. All Forum memberships will align with the DMTF's membership cycle and fiscal year, and follow DMTF's established practices.

4.8 Technical Specifications/Standards The Technical Committee shall ultimately govern/manage all standards or specifications that a Forum may require.

4.9 Interoperability Services The Interoperability Committee may choose to oversee or govern all conformance testing and certification programs required by a Forum. It may also choose to be the sole supplier of tools and infrastructure needed to carry out conformance testing and certification programs. As such, the interoperability committee may assess a fee to the Forum for these services and/or tools. These fees will be jointly agreed to by the Interoperability Committee and the Forum(s).

4.10 Marketing and PR Activities Marketing and PR needed to carry out the Forums objectives will be supplied to the Forum through the DMTF Marketing Committee.

4.11 Updating a Forum Charter. From time to time, it is necessary for Forums to update their charter. This could be an expansion or reduction in scope, change in deliverables, timelines, chairs or other information in the charter. The process to update a Forum charter is as follows:

4.11.1 When a Forum has prepared an updated charter, they must forward it to the Committee. The Committee then is responsible for approving the changes to the charter.

4.11.2 The Committee Chair then notifies the Board of the changes to the charter. If the changes involve changes in scope, the charter must be approved by the Board. Changes in the first three sections of the charter are considered changes in scope (Management Problem(s) and Environment, Working Group Charter, Alliance Partnerships). If the changes do not involve changes in scope, the charter does not need formal approval by the Board. The charter can be considered to be approved after the following board meeting unless the Board chooses to take action and formally rejects the changes.

4.12 Dissolving a Forum. The process to dissolve a Forum is as follows:

4.12.1 A Forum Chair or Committee Chair may make a request to the Interoperability Committee Chair that a Forum be dissolved. This move is justified when there are no remaining Forum goals and deliverables or the Forum is inactive. This information is then conveyed to the Committee by the Interoperability Committee Chair. If there are issues with the move to dissolve, then a discussion between the Committees and the Forum Chair will be scheduled. If there are no issues or discussion, then a request to dissolve the Forum is sent to the Board for approval.

4.12.2 After Board approval, an announcement is sent to all the DMTF members indicating that the FORUM is dissolved, and the web location of its archived information. Questions regarding the work and deliverables of the FORUM can continue to be mailed to the DMTF list, via the [Contact Us](#) page.

5 Other Situations

- 5.1 Rules or Order** The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the DMTF (including Committees, Working Groups, Forums and Subteams) in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the DMTF Bylaws and any special rules or processes that the DMTF adopts.
- 5.2 Escalations** From time to time, in the course of DMTF activities a situation may arise where action taken or not taken by a group or member is alleged to be in violation of the policies, processes and procedures set forth by the DMTF. Members involved in a disagreement should attempt to resolve the disagreement within the group. If this attempt is unsuccessful, the issue should be documented in the group minutes. When this situation occurs, an eligible member may appeal this with an escalation. The creation of an escalation results in review of the situation and resolution by the parent group, "Group" may represent a Working Group, Committee, Board, Forum or any other DMTF grouping structure.
- 5.2.1 Eligibility** Any DMTF member may raise an escalation.
- 5.2.2 Responsibilities** When a member raises an escalation, it is the responsibility of the chairperson of the parent group to place the issue on the agenda for discussion within the next 3 regular meetings or 30 days, whichever is smaller.
- 5.2.2.1.** Parent group chairperson must inform the originating group chairperson and the escalating member of the escalation and when it will be on an agenda for discussion. During that agenda slot, the originator and origin group chairperson are invited to attend regardless of normal participation rights.
- 5.2.3 Escalation Requirements** The complaint should state the nature of the objection(s) in writing, including any direct and material adverse effects upon the appellants; the relevant section(s) of the DMTF policies, procedures or processes at issue; the actions or inactions at issue; and the specific remedial action(s) that would satisfy the appellants' concerns.
- 5.2.4 Timeline** An escalation must be raised within 30 days of the contested action.
- 5.2.5 Further escalation** If the member escalating an issue is dissatisfied by the resolution of the parent group or committee, the escalation may be raised to the next level in the organization. For example, an escalation starting in a Working Group would move to the TC, and then the Board.
- 5.2.6 Final Decisions** Escalations which reach and are resolved by the Board of Directors are considered final within the DMTF.

6 DMTF Management Initiatives. The DMTF may create Management Initiatives for purposes of consolidating messaging around technical or interoperability deliverables.

- 6.1** A Management Initiative is a DMTF protected term applied to a set of specifications, documents and activities that address a specific resource domain (e.g. Server Management, Storage Management, Desktop Management, etc.) that meet the following conditions.
- 6.1.1** It must have technical components:

- 6.1.1.1. It must have a top-level specification that normatively defines the content of the Management Initiative. That specification must reference one or more Management Profiles and one or more WBEM Protocols or other specifications within the management domain.
- 6.1.1.2. It must reference White Papers that describe the specifications and how they apply to the management domain.
- 6.1.2 It must have messaging components:
 - 6.1.2.1. It must have requirements for messaging or technical evangelism to promote the Management Initiative for the mutual benefit of membership companies. This may include, but is not limited to, press releases, tech notes, presentations and coordination of events. This may be as simple as a web page presence and press release or presentation and does not require a significant marketing effort.
- 6.1.3 It should have compliance and/or interoperability components:
 - 6.1.3.1. It may have requirements for compliance & interoperability. This may include, but is not limited to, any of the following: formation of DMTF Forums, plug-fests, development of compliance specifications and test suites. This may be as simple as plug-fests or compliance specifications and is not meant to imply DMTF enablement of this activity.
- 6.2 A Management Initiative can be initiated from any Committee. The Technical Committee is responsible for approving that the technical aspects of the Management Initiatives are appropriate. The Marketing Committee is responsible for approving that the messaging components of the Management Initiative are appropriate. The Compliance and Interoperability Committee is responsible for ensuring that the compliance and/or interoperability components are appropriate.
- 6.3 When all of the components are approved by the appropriate Committees, the proposal must be taken to the Board for approval.

7 Information Access. A policy of the DMTF is to have stable information available to its members. Committee and Working Group members are entitled to have access to any pertinent data related to the decisions and operations of the team.

- 7.1 **Web Posting.** It is the responsibility of the Working Group Chairs to ensure that all of the data required for the work of the team is made available to all participants. Chairs accomplish this by posting to the Working Group web page in the "Members Only" section of the DMTF web site.
- 7.2 **Email Lists.** The DMTF maintains email lists for each Working Group for distributing information to its members. The email lists are for participants of Committees and Working Groups. Committee and Working Group email lists are for the internal use of the teams in support of their development or marketing activities. These lists are not for general dissemination of information.

- 7.3 Information Restriction.** The restriction of information to a Committee or Working Group (until approved by that team and passed to the next group in the DMTF organizational hierarchy) is to protect the DMTF and all its members from partial ideas or incomplete or inaccurate information taken out of context. Participants understand the history and context of this internal information.
- 7.4 Access Removal.** Failure to participate can result in an individual being dropped from a Committee or Working Group, at the discretion of the Chair. This step is not taken hastily. Additions to and removals from the Committee and Working Group rosters are the responsibility of the Chairs who have that access right. Member access IDs and passwords are the responsibility of the DMTF.
- 7.5 Information Dissemination.** If a member of a Committee or Working Group wants to disseminate DMTF information within their company for internal review, it is permitted unless the information is marked as "DMTF Confidential." Confidential information should not be redistributed without the permission of the authoring Committee or Working Group.
- 7.6 Document Information.** Document information is generally disseminated through the DMTF specification web pages and the Members are informed of specification updates through the DMTF Newsletter. Access to the specification web pages is open to all DMTF members and partners.
- 7.7 Call for Essential Patent Rights.** When a document is posted a Preliminary Document, a request is made by the appropriate Vice President, after approval from the Executive Committee, to Member Companies to disclose any essential patent rights that might be infringed by an implementation of the technology described in the posted document, as required in the [DMTF Patent Policy](#).

8 Change Requests

- 8.1 Change Request Creation.** After a Chair determines that a change request (CR) is needed, a CR is added to the appropriate group's Change Request folder with a state of WG – Pending or CMTE – Pending. Documents added to the Change Request folder are automatically named with the following format: wgabbrevCR\$docnum.\$revnum.\$extension.
- 8.2 Change Request Sharing.** CRs should be shared with the Committee and any Working Groups that might be interested in the change. CRs that originate in a Working Group sub team are initially shared only with the parent Working Group. After the CR is approved by the sub team, it is shared with the parent Working Group and its state is set to WG – Pending.
- 8.3 Change Request Owner.** Each CR must have an owner defined within the owner section of the CR header. The owner of the CR may be the Chair of the Working Group or a designate. The owner of the CR is responsible for collecting ballot comments, updating the discussion point section of the CR, and in the case of CRs that span Working Groups, facilitating the balloting between Working Groups.

8.4 Change Request Balloting. When the CR is ready for balloting by the Working Group or Committee, its status is changed to WG – Balloting or CMTE – Balloting while it is being balloted. After the CR has been approved at the Working Group level and is ready for Committee (CMTE) ballot, the status of the CR is changed to CMTE – Pending and the CR is shared with the Committee. At this point, the description of the CR must identify the version of the specification impacted by the CR, a summary of the change, and in the case of CIM schema changes, the model or models impacted by the change (for example, CIM V2.9.1 Preliminary, Addition of SoftwareIdentityResource in core model).

8.4.1 CRs that have unanimous YES votes with no comments are accepted accordingly.

8.4.2 CRs that have unanimous YES votes with comments are accepted pending the changes identified in the comments. Comments with a YES vote must be minor (for example, pointing out typographical errors or mistakes in punctuation). Comments with a YES vote must not suggest a change in semantics or identify major problems with the CR.

8.4.3 Any NO votes on a ballot are resolved at the Working Group level. Any NO votes on a ballot must include comments that are clear and actionable. The Working Group may ask for additional clarification from the company representative who voted NO. The Working Group's options are as follows:

- ACCEPT the comments associated with any NO votes.
- DEFER the CR with a specific closure date.
- WITHDRAW the CR from the table (perhaps consolidating the CR with another).
- RESOLVE the comments by working out an alternative solution.

If the Working Group develops an alternative solution, the solution is sent to the Committee for a final vote of a ballot, which follows the normal Committee Voting process.

8.4.4 If the Working Group cannot reach a resolution, the Working Group Chair may request to have the CR discussed at the Committee level by notifying the appropriate Committee Chair. Any CR issue that cannot be resolved in the discussion of the vote must be documented in the CR comments section prior to balloting by the Committee.

8.4.5 A comment can be actionable either in terms of specific elements of the CR that need to be changed or because a relevant area of analysis or investigation has not been sufficiently explored in the production of the CR. When specific elements of the CR require change, the elements and the changes need to be included in the CR ballot comment. These changes should be sufficiently detailed so that the owner of the CR can implement them without conferring with the commenter. When the comment refers to an area of analysis or investigation, the comment must explain in what way the area of study cited calls into doubt the conclusions or assumptions that form the basis of the CR. The suggested action resulting from this comment may be either revision or withdrawal of the CR. The area of analysis and

investigation must already be familiar to the Working Group that put forth the CR, or the comment must sufficiently introduce the area of analysis and investigation so that the Working Group can take action.

- 8.4.6 The resolution must be accepted by the Working Group through a reballot of the CR after the issues have been resolved.

8.5 Change Request Adoption. After all required parties have approved a CR, its state is changed to Adopted. The CR is then “copied” into the appropriate change request folder within the Committee. Adopted CRs are automatically published on the members’ review page. For CRs originating in a sub-WG, follow the same process as a WG, but do not share with the Committee or Change Request group, share only to the parent WG. Once the CR is approved and passed on to the WG, turn on sharing with the Committee and set state to WG – Pending.

8.6 Change Request and Document States.

- 8.6.1 **Adopted:** The document or CR has been approved.
- 8.6.2 **Approved:** Additional approval of the CR is required.
- 8.6.3 **BOD – Balloting:** The CR is being balloted by the Board.
- 8.6.4 **BOD – Pending:** The CR has been forwarded to Board and is waiting for ballot (initial state for Board).
- 8.6.5 **CMTE – Approved Pending:** The CR has been approved by the Committee but requires minor updates.
- 8.6.6 **CMTE – Balloting:** The CR is being balloted by the Committee.
- 8.6.7 **CMTE – Pending:** The CR has been forwarded to the Committee and is waiting for ballot.
- 8.6.8 **CMTE – Revision Needed:** The CR is being discussed, revised, or both at the Committee level.
- 8.6.9 **CMTE – Update Needed:** The CR requires an update by the Committee after the Board vote. Use this state for Committee-originated ballots.
- 8.6.10 **Draft:** This state designates a normal document.
- 8.6.11 **Member Comment:** Documents in this state appear on the DMTF Document Review web page. Note: This state applies to the Technical Committee only.
- 8.6.12 **On Hold:** The CR is not moving through the process—it is on hold.
- 8.6.13 **Placeholder:** Use this state for CRs that are planned but not yet completed.
- 8.6.14 **Private:** The document should not be shared outside of the Working Group.
- 8.6.15 **Rejected:** The document or CR was rejected in its current form.

- 8.6.16 **WG – Approved Pending:** The CR has been approved by the Working Group but needs comments addressed before it can be submitted to the Committee.
- 8.6.17 **WG – Balloting:** The CR is being balloted by the Working Group.
- 8.6.18 **WG – Pending:** This state is the default for CR creation—waiting for ballot at the Working Group level.
- 8.6.19 **WG – Revision Needed:** The CR is being discussed, revised, or both at the Working Group level.
- 8.6.20 **WG – Update needed:** The CR requires updating by the Working Group. Use this state for CRs that did not pass the Technical Committee review and after the Working Group ballot.
- 8.6.21 **Withdrawn:** The document or CR has been withdrawn.

Appendix A – Change History

Version 1.8a	April 28, 2006	Clarified co-chair, vice-chair and chair election & removal Added existing practices for sub-teams and voting Clarified some text
Version 1.8b	May 1, 2006	Changes made in Process Committee call
Version 1.8c	May 8, 2006	Corrections made in Process Committee call
Version 1.8d	June 5, 2006	Changes to 3.1.1 & 4.1.1 on forming new committee
Version 1.9	October 31, 2006	Changes to Add Management Initiatives and cover charter changes and Dissolving WG/Forums.
Version 1.10	July 09, 2007	Changes added to include call for Essential Rights, formalize Sub Teams, and dissemination of information. Add Roberts Rules and Clarified Membership.