



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

March 2006

We call on all forward-looking companies to explore membership in Accellera and join with the companies that are already driving the future of design and verification languages.

Value of Membership

Accellera members have a number of benefits that membership in Accellera provides. In addition to the overall good that they are doing for the industry, Accellera members:

- *Directly influence future standards.*
Members get a strong say in the direction that Accellera takes and what it works on, the technical aspects of the standards, and can of course vote standards down or request they go back to committee. Companies might have specific needs that it would like to see addressed in a standard, and these needs can be requested and driven.
- *Belong to the Accellera community.*
Accellera Members tend to have a tight connection with other member companies and can be privy to information on product developments, etc. It is common to have member companies will work together in partnership relationships, beta programs, etc, and as such this could open more doors to early product access.
- *Ensure the future of standards in which you are interested.*
By participating in technical activities, you aid the future development and promotion of key existing standards.
- *Directly influence the entire standards landscape.*
Board members are able to help drive Accellera policy overall, which has a direct affect not just on Accellera but on other standards bodies such as the IEEE. Members drive the kind of standards that Accellera works on and the manner in which these are promoted.
- *Have promotional opportunities*
Accellera has a number of promotional activities going on at any one time, for example panel discussions at trade conferences, press releases, and workshops. Corporate members always have first choice of participation in these activities.

Commitment and Cost

Annual corporate membership dues are \$15,000 per year, while Associate membership is \$5,000 per year. Associate members can apply their membership dues to upgrade to a corporate membership at any point in the year. The membership period is April 1st to March 31st.

The time commitment for a Board representative is not excessive. Board members attend regularly scheduled board meetings, held every other month for approximately 4 hours per meeting. Occasionally, the board members will be asked to participate in teleconferences to address urgent matters. These teleconferences usually last no more than two hours. Board members can also volunteer for additional tasks that support the organization if they desire.

For more information or to apply for membership, contact Lynn Horobin at lynnh@accellera.org or visit www.accellera.org/join.

The Accellera Board of Directors has a maximum of 15 seats drawn from senior management of both EDA vendor companies and EDA tool user companies. The people actually on the board are usually fairly senior managers used to making policy decisions of different sorts within their own companies. The board is responsible for making all policy decisions on behalf of Accellera. They control the budget and activities of the organization.

Standardization Process

When a standard is proposed to the Board for approval, the board members consult technical staff and Accellera committee members for guidance on voting. Motions to approve standards are passed by a two-thirds majority of the Board.

The Board has the power to change its Bylaws and its operating policies and procedures, including those that guide the technical committees. Changes are approved by a majority vote.

Technical Subcommittee chairs report to the Technical Committee (TC). New subcommittees are proposed to the Board usually by the TC Chair. The technical subcommittee then begins the work of drafting a standard LRM or specification document. The proposed standard is sent to the TC and the members for review. Then, the proposal is sent to the Board for final approval as an Accellera standard. When the Board decides the standard is ready to transfer to the IEEE, it votes to do so.

For a more detailed description of Accellera operating processes, please request a copy of the Accellera Policies, Procedures & Guidelines document. Accellera has become a dynamic organization, with donations to several standards from different companies. It is the most effective formal standards organization in the EDA industry today.

Accellera Membership Structure

The membership structure has three main tiers:

- 1) The foundation level is the technical subcommittees that do the actual standards formation work and are comprised of volunteers from EDA industry company technical staff. Although participation is open and encouraged, only Accellera associate or corporate members can vote within the subcommittees.
- 2) The chairs of these subcommittees constitute the next tier; the Technical Committee (TC). This group oversees the workings of the various committees and passes proposed standards to the board of Accellera. The chair of the TC reports directly to the Board.
- 3) The highest tier is the Accellera board itself. This can be thought of as a business-level steering group and controls the overall activities of Accellera, as well as having the final say on any proposed Accellera standards.

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Here is what our members say:

Shrenik Mehta, Sun Microsystems

“Sun believes in open industry standards. As a leading edge user of EDA tools, it is in the interest of Sun to work with other EDA partners and leading edge customers to drive standards across the industry. Sun was a founding member of OVI and Accellera and if we look back at the last 10 years, Sun has benefited by being associated with standards organization.

“Side benefits:

- Networking with EDA partners and customers. Drive what is important to meet your design needs.
- Protects your tool investments if it is an open industry standard.
- Creates alternative EDA suppliers who compete for the "end user/designer business".

Accellera membership is a long term investment in the standards activities as opposed to short term ‘what does 15k buy me?’ Our goal is to grow the pie.”

Scott Sandler, President and CEO, Novas

“The work Accellera is doing is extremely important for advancing design and verification methodologies. Our customers depend on us to deliver advanced debug and design understanding solutions that track with the latest design representation formats and techniques. As part of Accellera, we can stay close to these efforts and work jointly with our partners, customers and competitors in developing standards which are critical to the future success of this industry.

“Our engineers have been involved for more than a year with the Accellera activities. We decided to become a corporate member to derive the benefits that this membership offers and align ourselves to the industry standardization effort around the SystemVerilog initiative.”

Dr. Prakash Narain, Founder and CEO, Real Intent

“We believe that assertion standardization is the key to unlocking the potential of assertion-based verification. With standardization, designers can select from the best in class verification tools to solve complex verification problems.”