

Operating Rules for a TC39 Royalty Free Task Group

These Operating Rules provide guidance on the operation of the Ecma Experimental TC39 Royalty-Free Patent Policy (approved June 2013), and identifies the Experimental Policy clause it relates to (e.g., (E.2) in grey italics). The Ecma By-Laws and Rules apply and, in case of doubt, take precedence on these guidelines.

Guidelines:

- 1) The Technical Committee 39 provides the scope of a projected RF TG to the Ecma General Assembly. The General Assembly approves the creation of the RF TG with the proposed scope *(E.2)*. Once the GA has approved the formation of the RF TG (or in parallel with and conditional to this approval) Ecma Secretariat invites the membership to register their willingness to participate by completing a "Registration Form". *(E.3)*
- 2) Participation in a TC39 RF TG is limited to individuals representing members having registered to the RF TG
- 3) Ecma Secretariat, in consultation with the TC and RF TG chairs a, determines the start and end dates of each Opt-Out windows (at least 60 days long, with no less than 4 months between opt-out windows and no more than 18 months plus requirements for final Draft), and to which Draft Standards the windows apply *(E.5)*
- 4) Agreement of all RF TG members needs to be sought to obtain relief from the 4 months interval requirement between two consecutive Opt-Out windows. *(E.5)*
- 5) Ecma Secretariat fully informs the RF TG membership in advance of each Opt-Out window, making available an Opt-Out Form. *(E.5)*
- 6) A Late-Joining or Re-Joining participant in an RF TG is responsible for requesting and filling, if applicable and at the time they re-join,, an Opt-Out form *(E.8)*
- 7) To withdraw from a RF TG, a member completes a Withdrawal Form. *(E.7)*
- 8) Participation in a RF TG is limited to those individuals where each entity on whose behalf the individual participates has registered to the RF TG and has not withdrawn. *(E.3, E.7)* Note: Participation of invited experts is under deliberation as a general Ecma rule (an Invited Expert Form may become available shortly) The Ecma Secretariat needs to be consulted should this be envisaged.
- 9) The work of an RF TG is restricted to its scope as approved when the General Assembly designates the TG as RF. If a scope change is requested, the General Assembly must approve the RF designation for the new scope and members have to renew their registration (i.e. to register again to the new scope). Only then can work be conducted under the revised scope. *(E.1, E.2)*
- 10) The Ecma Secretariat logs in its archive all Registration and Withdrawal forms, full details of each Opt-Out window, all Opt-out forms received, all TG contributions (with submission date) and meeting summaries (verbal contributions are captured in summaries).
- 11) The TG can make its working documents visible at TG level, Ecma level or publicly. However, the TG cannot receive contributions to draft Standards from non-TG members. Contributions from non members on the state of the art in the area of work are permitted.
- 12) The General Assembly is notified when an RF TG is disbanded.

Forms:

- 1) Registration Form for a TC39 Royalty Free (RF) Task Group (TG) *(E.3)*
- 2) Opt-Out Form *(E.4, E.6)*
- 3) Withdrawal Form *(E.7)*