



# OPENFABRICS ALLIANCE

Re-Introduction & Organizational Overview

[ May 2018 ]

# OFA MISSION STATEMENT

**“The mission of the OpenFabrics Alliance (OFA) is to accelerate the development and adoption of advanced fabrics for the benefit of the advanced networks ecosystem.**

**The mission is accomplished by; creating opportunities for collaboration among those who develop and deploy such fabrics, incubating and evolving vendor independent open source software for fabrics, and supporting and promoting the use of such fabric technology software.”**



# ABOUT THE ALLIANCE

**The OFA is supports the development of open source software for networking and supports and maintains existing fabric technologies (OFS)**

Provides an forum for collaboration, communication and education to support fabric technologies

Enables the development of software for fabrics

Promotes fabric technologies, including emerging usages for such technologies

Provides programs to support fabric technology such as training, testing, validation

Facilitates partnerships with related organizations and communities such as SNIA, Linux kernel communities, and others

# ANNUAL OFA WORKSHOP

- A premier means of fostering collaboration among those who develop fabrics, deploy fabrics, and create applications that rely on fabrics
- Only event of its kind where fabric developers and users can discuss emerging fabric technologies, collaborate on future industry requirements, and address problems that exist today
- Workshop participants include:
  - Application developers and end users
  - Communications middleware developers
  - Network and storage vendors and researchers
  - OS solutions developers
  - Enterprise data center managers and architects
  - System & network administrators
  - System OEMs, architects & integrators
  - Kernel developers and maintainers



# ADVANCED NETWORKS SOFTWARE

- **Advanced Networks Software** for fabrics is used in high performance computing and enterprise data centers that require highly efficient networks, storage connectivity and parallel computing - the OFA is actively developing the following fabric technologies:
  - It includes kernel-level drivers, channel-oriented RDMA and send/receive operations, kernel bypasses of the operating system, both kernel and user-level application programming interface (API) and services for parallel message passing (MPI), sockets data exchange (e.g., RDS, SDP), and NAS/SAN storage (e.g. Lustre™, GPFS™, iSER, NFSoRDMA, SRP, NVMe-oF).
  - This RDMA/Advanced Networks software can run on various network and fabric technologies including: legacy 10 Gigabit Ethernet, iWARP for Ethernet, RDMA over Converged Ethernet (RoCE), 10/20/40/56/100 Gigabit InfiniBand™, and 100 Gigabit OmniPath™
  - OpenFabrics Interfaces (OFI)
    - An extensible, open source framework focused on exporting fabric communication services to applications
    - Libfabric is the library that defines and exports the user-space API of OFI, and is typically the only software that applications deal with directly
- **Note on Licensing**
  - The OFA is sensitive to the needs of the OpenFabrics community regarding licensing of software



# OFA WORKING GROUPS

## ▪ Enterprise Working Group (EWG)

- The EWG qualifies and tests OFS for Linux code prior to distribution and ensures robustness and applicability for commercial usage on popular Linux distributions such as RHEL and SLES

## ▪ Interoperability Working Group (IWG)

- The IWG validates and certifies commercial products that interoperate with OFS

## ▪ Marketing Working Group (MWG)

- The MWG promotes the work of OFA and recruits new members

## ▪ OpenFabrics Interfaces Working Group (OFIWG)

- The OFIWG is committed to (1) developing, testing, and distributing an extensible, open source framework that provides access to high-performance fabric interfaces and services; and (2) extensible, open source interfaces aligned with ULP and application needs for high-performance fabric services

## ▪ OpenFabrics Verbs Working Group (OFVWG)

- The OFVWG is committed to enhancing the verbs interface to meet the needs of future systems and applications

# CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

Promoters



Lawrence Livermore  
National Laboratory



Oak Ridge  
National Laboratory



Sandia  
National Laboratory

Adopters

Argonne  
National Laboratory



Supporters



Consulting  
Participants



# OFA PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

- Objective:
  - Enable greater industry collaboration with OFA experts and Working Groups to jointly advance fabric technologies
  
- Partnership Benefits:
  - Provides a platform to incubate and evolve vendor independent open source software for fabrics
  - Drives technical deliverables to the benefit of both organizations and the industry as a whole
  - Offers joint marketing programs to support technical deliverables
    - OFA Workshop participation
    - Inclusion in OFA member communications
    - Educational sessions to promote industry awareness
    - Promote adoption of the innovative technologies and applications
  
- Recent OFA Partnership: SNIA – Solid-State Storage Initiative
  - [04/09/2018] [Media Alert: SNIA and OpenFabrics Alliance Announce Collaboration](#)



# MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

**The OFA facilitates working relationships among the developers, testers and end users in the open source fabrics community to accelerate the development and adoption of fabric technologies**

Membership in the OFA provides:

- Members are key influencers in the development of open source software for fabrics, OpenFabrics interoperability testing and OFA promotional activities
- Networking opportunities with fellow members and access to a larger community of industry organizations and thought leaders through the OFA Partner Alliance Program
- Publicity and marketing opportunities in conjunction with OFA activities at tradeshow, conferences and workshops
- Can tailor a membership according to a specific membership level

# MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

[Join now](#) and become part of ongoing RDMA development with the OpenFabrics Alliance.

- **Promoter** – organizations and enterprises that wish to become a candidate for a seat on the Alliance’s Board of Directors; strongly influence the technology directions and affect the development process, testing, release preparation and problem resolution in the OpenFabrics Enterprise Distribution (OFED); and help direct the Alliance’s promotional, marketing and educational activities. Dues are US\$3,000 initiation, US\$10,000 annual membership.
- **Adopter** – organizations that wish to contribute to the development process and promotional activities but do NOT feel the need to strongly influence technology directions and promotion. Dues are US\$3,000 initiation, US\$5,000 annual membership.
- **Supporter** – organizations that wish to contribute to the development process and promotional activities but do not wish to strongly influence technology directions and promotion. Dues are US\$3,000 initiation, US\$1,500 annual membership.
- **Academic** – educational institutions that wish to contribute to the technology directions of OFED; participate in the development process, release testing, preparation and problem resolution; and/or institute OpenFabrics education and research into their institution’s curricula. Dues are US\$2,000 annual membership.
- **Individual** – individual users or developers of OFED who wish to contribute to the technology directions of OFED and participate in the development process, release testing, preparation and problem resolution. Individual member applicants will verify their independence or their organization does not wish for privacy, security or government regulation to become a member at another level of membership. Dues are US\$200 annual membership.
- **Consulting Participant** – organizations and individuals that the Alliance selects based on their technical achievements and their standing in the OpenFabrics community. Honorary participation is by invitation only and there are no dues.



# MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

[Join now](#) and become part of advancing fabrics technologies with the OpenFabrics Alliance.

- **Promoter:** Organizations who join at this level will have a seat on the OFA's Board of Directors. This allows the ability to strongly influence the outreach, programs, partnerships, conferences and marketing of the OFA and associated RDMA/Advanced Networks ecosystem. Individuals from Promoter Member organizations are allowed to be Chair/Co-Chair of any OFA Working Group. All the benefits of Adopter and Supporter levels are included in this level.
- **Adopter:** Organizations who join at this level will be included in the wider Annual Member Meeting and will be kept informed of the outreach, programs, partnerships, conferences and marketing efforts as they are being implemented. This level of membership also allows the participation in the various testing programs provided by the OFA to its member organizations, as well as the ability to participate in any Working Group. All the benefits of the Supporter level are included in this level.
- **Supporter:** Organizations who join at this level will be listed as members on our website, and will be promoted at the annual OpenFabrics International Workshop. They will also receive one free pass to that annual Workshop to be used by an individual associated with the organization who is accepted as a technical speaker at that conference through the standard submission and review process.

# DRAFT MARKETING CALENDAR

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
Key Events	OFA WS ✨		ISC ✨		FMS ✨	SDC ✨		SC18 ✨		PM Summit ✨
Milestones	SNIA + OFA		OFA Relaunch	Linux + OFA		Gen Z + OFA?	IBTA + OFA ?	OFA Meet and Greet		
Collateral		Blog: post event, at large dir	New leaders, Flyer, Gold deck	Linux Guest blogger		Gen Z Guest Blog	IBTA Guest blog			Advances in PMoF blog
Media Outreach	SNIA media alert		OFA Press release: relaunch	Partner Announcement	Workshop Save the date	Partners Announcement	Partners Announcement	Workshop call for papers		Media Alert: PM activity
Webcasts	OFA workshop		Virtual Relaunch OFA, SNIA webcast (BrightTalk)?	Sysadmin Thinktank webcast	PM Thinktank webcast	SDC session	Linux container thinktank webcast			PM Summit webcast
Newsletter		Post event	Launch special issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Word from the board, WG news</li> <li>Workshop</li> <li>What's new (partnerships)</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SC18 highlights, OFA Workshop</li> <li>Partnership updates</li> <li>Word from the board, WG news</li> </ul>			PM Summit special issue
Social	<p>Constant activity (Linkedin and Twitter)</p>									

Alliance program

Workshop rolling thunder



# RELAUNCH – ROLLING THUNDER

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
Key Events	OFA WS		ISC ✨		FMS, OSS NA ✨ ✨	SDC ✨	OSS EU ✨	SC18, LPC ✨		PM Summit ✨
Milestones	SNIA + OFA		<b>OFA Relaunch</b>		<b>Linux + OFA</b>	<b>Gen Z + OFA?</b>	<b>IBTA + OFA ?</b>	<b>OFA Meet and Greet@LPC</b>		
Collateral		Blog: post event, at large dir	New leaders, Flyer, Gold deck		Linux Guest blogger	Gen Z Guest Blog	IBTA Guest blog			Advances in PMoF blog
Media Outreach	SNIA media alert		OFA Press release: relaunch	Partner Announcement	Workshop Save the date	Partners Announcement	Partners Announcement	Workshop call for papers – extended audience		Media Alert: PM activity
Webcasts	OFA workshop		Virtual Relaunch OFA, SNIA webcast (BrightTalk)?	Sysadmin Thinktank webcast	PM Thinktank webcast	SDC session	Linux container thinktank webcast			PM Summit webcast
Newsletter		Post event	Launch special issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Word from the board, WG news</li> <li>• Workshop</li> <li>• What's new (partnerships)</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SC18 highlights, OFA Workshop</li> <li>• Partnership updates</li> <li>• Word from the board, WG news</li> </ul>			PM Summit special issue
Social	<p>Constant activity (Linkedin and Twitter)</p>									

Alliance program

Workshop rolling thunder





OPENFABRICS  
ALLIANCE

**THANK YOU**