



## Press Release

February 9, 2021

### Announcing the formation of the Teleoperation Consortium

The Teleoperation Consortium (TC) has been established as a non-profit business league to facilitate the interaction, and advance the interests, of the entities involved in the vehicle teleoperation ecosystem. Teleoperation of vehicles, is the ability to remotely drive or assist a piloted or self-driving car. Most leading companies in the industry believe that to bridge the gap between current self-driving capabilities and the requirements needed for widespread adoption of autonomous vehicles, there is a need to have teleoperation capabilities for assisting self-driving cars.

Tao Zhang, PhD, IEEE Fellow and Manager of the Emerging Technology Working Group of the National Institute of Standards and Technology ([www.NIST.gov](http://www.NIST.gov)) noted that, "Vehicle teleoperation, or remote driving, is a crucial part of the automated driving ecosystem and is receiving growing industry attention. Today, teleoperation systems have emerged for robots, mining, delivery, trucking, fleets, while also playing an important role in helping self-driving cars navigate difficult situations. Future teleoperation systems, powered by artificial intelligence and advanced networks such as 5G, could allow some automated driving intelligence to be off-loaded from the vehicle into the cloud and thus enable new automated driving solutions that are not feasible today."

The Board of Directors of the Connected Vehicle Trade Association ([www.connectedvehicle.org](http://www.connectedvehicle.org)) has unanimously endorsed the formation of this consortium.

Join our mailing list by contacting [sjm@teleoperation.org](mailto:sjm@teleoperation.org)

The Consortium has multiple membership levels and the following activities and benefits:

- Committees: Identify the key issues in vehicle teleoperation that can be best addressed by collaboration. The Teleoperation Consortium will have a number of standing committees devoted to Security, Training and Certification, Communications and other areas that members can participate in, lead to advance their interest.
- Newsletter: The Teleoperation Consortium will send out a condensed email to members of significant industry news, Pilots, RFP/RFQs, funding opportunities and global programs of interest to members in the teleoperation space.

- Press Releases: Members can have the Teleoperation Consortium send out Member's press releases, white papers, and other news to the Teleoperation Consortium's contact database.
- Conferences: The Teleoperation Consortium will negotiate marketing partnerships with conferences organizers annually, obtaining significant registration fee discounts, and usually able to suggest and have members allocated speaking session, moderator positions to events in the US, Europe and Asia.
- Networking: With the global contact database, the Teleoperation Consortium will be able to connect members to other companies needing channel partners for programs and product launches in every region of the world
- Summit, Forums and Workshops: The Teleoperation Consortium will hold an annual Summit, as well as focused forums and Workshops on various topics for members to network, gain new insights, and connect with both members and non-members to advance their business interests.
- Training: Subject matter experts will be engaged to develop a Teleoperation Professional Training and Credentialing program (similar to the Connected Vehicle Professional Credentialing Program developed by CVTA and the Next Education) as a vendor-neutral comprehensive education and certification curriculum that signifies the requisite foundational understanding necessary to perform tasks in this ever-changing industry. Participants learn the latest in connected intelligent transportation and infrastructure, teleoperation principles, autonomous vehicles, in-vehicle safety, communication protocols, data, cybersecurity and security spaces.

There are seven (7) classes of Membership in the Teleoperation Consortium:

- Corporate Member. A Corporate Member is a person or organization that operates a business which has interests in the vehicle communication environment. Corporate Members may have other types of business interests and still meet the criteria to be a Corporate Member. Corporate Members may be elected to the Board of Directors.
- Associate Member. An Associate Member is any entity that qualifies as a Corporate Member that may join the Teleoperation Consortium at a reduced dues rate. Associate Members will have all the rights and responsibilities of Corporate Members, except that they cannot hold board seats or chair Board committees. Dues shall be at one-fourth Corporate Member dues.
- Startup Member. A Startup Member is any entity that qualifies as a Corporate Member self-funded or less than \$5 million in funding, pre-revenue, fewer than 10 members and under 5 years old. Startups may join the Teleoperation Consortium at no cost. Startup Members will have all the rights and responsibilities of Corporate Members, except that they cannot hold board seats or vote and pay no dues.
- Affiliate Member. An Affiliate Member is any standards or specification developing entity, patent pool or alliance, non-profit or similar entity that does not qualify for

Corporate, Associate or Academic membership. Affiliate members have no voting privileges and pay no dues.

- Public Entity Member. A Public Entity Member is any municipal government agency or any federal, state, territory, province or country involved in communications, vehicle safety, transportation management or related area. Public Entity Members have no voting privileges and pay no dues.
- Academic Member. An Academic Member is any college, university or other educational institution as approved by the board. Academic Members have no voting privileges and pay no dues.
- Advisory Member. An Advisory Member is any individual so appointed by the Board of Directors for significant contributions to the Consortium. Advisory members have no voting privileges and pay no dues.

In addition, there are four (4) ex-officio (non-voting) Board Advisory positions to represent each of the non-voting Startup, Affiliate, Public Entity and Academic membership classes.

For more information contact Scott J. McCormick at [sjm@teleoperation.org](mailto:sjm@teleoperation.org) or call 734.730.8665



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