

Code_Aster professional network Membership agreement

Version
2013



GOALS OF THE NETWORK

The **Code_Aster Professional Network** aims to spread and to acknowledge the benefits of *Code_Aster Open source* and *Salomé Méca as open-source softwares*. They make it possible to connect the users within the community beyond the technical and specific exchanges of the forum.

Five actions of utmost importance were retained as a starting point :

- to **create multilateral exchanges** (with EDF R & D and between the members) of better quality while raising the limits of a public and anonymous forum ;
- to **increase the visibility of the members** on the various applications carried out and the various usages ;
- to **spread privileged information** on the roadmaps engaged by the members contributing to the development, including EDF R & D ;
- to **gather** common requests to service providers ;
- to increase the opportunities of **co-operative developments**.

MEMBERSHIP

VOLUNTARY MEMBERSHIP OF VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

Three categories of voluntary organizations are invited to join the Network :

- **teams of industrial organizations** (R & D team, operational or subsidiary team, suppliers ...)
- **academic teams** committed to teaching about **Code_Aster Open source** and / or *Salomé*;
- researching teams and organisations for **exchanges between university-industry** about *Code_Aster Open source* as a framework for capitalizing researches in computational mechanics ;
- **service providers** and Value Added Reseller (VAR) for *Code_Aster Open source*.

The managing authorities behind *Code_Aster* and *Salomé Méca* are founding members of the Network and represent the Community of the users of the EDF Group.

COMMITMENT OF PRINCIPLE

Membership is open to everyone provided they respect the following agreements.

Membership implies a **clear commitment to the improvement** of *Code_Aster Open source distribution*.

The conditions of membership grant to the members an **efficient operation** and a guaranty against the diversion of the following objectives ;

- to respect the rights of each other in the choice of the software (commercial or open source) for inner use or service providing ;
- to guarantee the neutrality of EDF R & D in the relations between customers and service providers ;
- to ensure mutual sharing from the members (win-win relationship).

MEMBERSHIP DESCRIPTION

Membership may be solicited at any time by paper, provided it is signed by a ruling authority. This letter must be accompanied by a document describing the interest for *Code_Aster Open Source*, which will not make it liable to exclusiveness in the choice of software. However, this document should receive authorization for publication on the *code-aster.org* website, section "ProNet", alongside the company logo and contact. If the applicant requires it, some parts may remain private.

If necessary, an organization may split its membership along different business units or different subsidiaries. Each entity therefore become a single member of the network, with a rank in agreement with its commitment.

NETWORK OPERATION

Rank of the members

USER MEMBER

The requirements to be met by members are the proof of effective's activities implementing *Code_Aster Open source*.

This proof may be brought off at least one of the following activities (non exclusive list) :

- having conducted **two studies** in the past year by the applicant member ;
- having developed **one specific skill add-on** implementation for *Code_Aster Open source* for in-house uses or diffusion ;
- having sponsored **one Phd in computational mechanics** with *Code_Aster Open source* as a capitalizing tool for the thesis and with commitments to publication in international journals ;
- having conducted two **benchmarks** that have been published in the *Code_Aster* newsletter ;

This rank is granted for three years (Phd or ANR project turnover) and renewable every three years). This rank also grants total access to the activities of the network.

The persons in charge of the Network reserve the right to invite the organizations which agree to give evidence of their interest for *Code_Aster Open source*, *without being able to still prove an effective commitment*.

This invitation is granted for **one year** (renewable once) and for a representative per organization.

SERVICE PROVIDER

Service providers are granted an active member rank with a distinction being made between **engineering services and Value Added Reseller (VAR)** (development, computer set-up, support ...).

Engineering providers will be regarded as industrial users as long as they are able to justify experience in Code_Aster use. Note that this rank can not be leveraged in call for tenders by the EDF group or any other member of the network.

The **VAR** promoted to active membership will be able to discuss the needs of other organizations and adapt their offer. They will also be able to answer tenders originating from the network.

Activity of the Network

Each member has, in the network, a few numbers of representatives (less than five).

THREE PLACES OF EXCHANGES

The current project resolves around three axes :

- one or two **annual meetings** gathering the whole network with a detailed agenda ;
- regular public meetings discussing general interest topics or particular ones ;
- a **dedicated section** Forums ProNet **of the code-aster.org website**, with privileged access.

EXCHANGES THROUGH THE WEB SITE

The dedicated section on the website will feature:

- displaying the network regulation, the members list as well as the membership form;
- a specific information regarding the roadmaps ;
- several forums dedicated to the network threads opened must be endorsed and should address only the key objectives of the network. Any technical query or specific problem will be redirected to the public forum.

Any member may enquire about Code_Aster Open Source process or question the possibilities offered by the GPL license.

DUTIES AND RIGHTS IN THE DISCUSSIONS

Active members may start discussions about *Code_Aster Open source* so as to :

- **highlight** on the use of specific feature with pros and cons ;
- **describe needs** to help services providers to forge their offer ;
- **formulate feature requests or planned improvements** in order to get preliminary feedback. These discussions may help mould specifications for service providers and possibly dress a mutual funding ;
- **make available** in the *Code_Aster Open Source* releases developments that they choose not to distribute by themselves (as granted by the GPL license) ;
- **appeal** to the members on general or specific topics (validation, Phd launch ...) or **communicate** on opportunities linked to ANR projects.

Invited members may receive notifications on tenders but cannot propose any. They must agree to a non-disclosure contract and any information they acquire through the network is for their sole purpose.

Service providers may take part in any discussions regarding call for tenders but their business offer can only be featured in the dedicated (public) part of the website. EDF R&D shall not act as mediator between service providers and their clients.

In-house users at EDF Group have a read-only access to the contents of the network forum.

ANIMATION OF THE NETWORK

EDF R&D, founding member of the Network, wishes to separate the guidance of the network from the managing authority behind *Code_Aster* and *Salomé*.

To begin with, the animation of the Network is therefore entrusted by EDF R&D to Jean-Raymond LÉVESQUE (Company ACCELMEDIA).

In order to correspond with the network, an e-mail has been set up : contact@code-aster-pronet.org.

FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION

A participation in the operation costs is invoiced (by Company ACCELMEDIA), at the beginning of each calendar year at each organization member of the Network. For adhesions in the course of year the participation is modulated in proportion to the duration.

Several levels of discounts are applied according to the size of the organization and its perimeter of activity. **The organizations of teaching, with non lucrative goal, are exempted of contribution.**