**Membership Benefits**

**Institute Projects —** Members participate in Institute-funded projects to advance Food Manufacturing Technology. The projects will be defined by an announced project call process and they will be carried out both at member facilities and at the Institute Hub facilities in Lincoln, NE, Atlanta, GA, and Davis, CA.

**Technical Activities** — Members assign their employees to working groups that create and maintain the TFMII technology roadmap, conduct project calls, and monitor projects; all members have access to the roadmap.

**Education/Workforce Development** — Members participate in workforce development projects that provide skills development targeted at industry demand identified by research, and participate in curriculum development in all participating institutions nationally.

**Intellectual Property (IP) Access** — Members operate under the IP guidelines policy described below in the two membership tables and is designed to reward invention and speed commercialization.

**Hub Facilities and Nodes** — TFMII's manufacturing demonstration and education center – the Institute Hub – is in Lincoln, Nebraska and available on a priority basis to members. Two partner test facilities will be situated in Atlanta, Georgia and Davis, California. All demonstration and testing facilities will be providing unique access to tools, materials and subject matter experts.

**Institute Governance** — Most tiers get a voting seat on the Technical Council. Platinum Corporate members get a voting seat on the Governing Council; Gold / Silver Corporate and Gold / Silver Academic / Non-Profit members share representation on the Governing Council.

**Networking, Information Sharing, Resources** — TFMII creates opportunities for members to share their capabilities and identify potential partners, exchange information, and gain access to industry information and events at a discount.

**Observer Status** — TFMII invites small, start-up companies to become Observers, providing visibility into Institute activities and potential participation in Education/Workforce Development/Training programs.

**Academic / Non For Profits** — The academic / Non-profit membership structure is constructed in a way that will encourage academic and nonprofit institutions to join the TFMI Institute and at the same time encourage their current or future corporate partners to join as well. This will ensure that their membership will have maximum effect on the overall success of the TFMII strategic objectives.

**Membership Levels**

**CORPORATE**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **PLATINUM** | **GOLD** | **SILVER** | **Non-Voting Observer 1** |
| **Membership** | **Annual Membership or Annual In-Kind****Contribution 2** | $1,000,000 | $250,000 | $100,000 | $1,000 |
|  |
| **Governance** | **Leadership****Council** | 1 Vote each | ¼ Vote each,4 Shared Votes for Gold group3 | 1 Shared 4 Vote for Silver group | none |
| **Technical****Advisory Board 5** | 1 Vote each | 1 Vote each | none | None |
|  |
| **Benefits** | **IP License** | Full Access | none | none | none |
| **IP Evaluation License** | Full Access | Full Access | 3 Active | none |
| **Education/Workforce****Development** | Full Access | Full Access | Full Access | Full Access |
| **Technical Working****Groups** | Full Access | Full Access | Full Access | Full Access |
| **Networking** | Full Access | Full Access | Full Access | Full Access |
| **Funding Proprietary Projects** | 5 Active | 3 Active | 1 Active | none |

(1) Reserved for start-ups: <$5M gross annual revenue, <20 employees; 3 years maximum.

(2) Membership fee in cash /or in-kind contributions in support of the Institute.

(3) One Vote for every 4 members of the group; up to 4 votes.

(4) Voting when group membership reaches 10 members; 1 total vote for group.

(5) Participants each have a primary Technical Council representative; other representatives to be involved in sub-committees or working groups.

**ACADEMIC / NON FOR PROFITS**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **PLATINUM** | **GOLD** | **SILVER** | **Non-Voting Observer 1** |
| **Membership** | **Annual Membership Cash or In-Kind Contribution AND****Number of Corporate Partners in TFMII 2** | $250,000 And 1 Platinum Member | $75,000 And4 Gold Members | $25,000 And 1 Gold or 4 Silver Members | $1,000 |
| encouraged |
|  |
| **Governance** | **Leadership 5****Council** | 1 Vote each3 | 1 Shared Vote for Gold group4 | none | none |
| **Technical****Advisory Board** | 1 Vote each | 1 Vote each | none | None |
|  |
| **Benefits** | **IP License** | Full Access | none | none | none |
| **IP Evaluation License** | Full Access  | Full Access | 3 Active | none |
| **Education/Workforce****Development** | Full Access | Full Access | Full Access | Full Access |
| **Technical Working****Groups** | Full Access | Full Access | Full Access | Full Access |
| **Networking** | Full Access | Full Access | Full Access | Full Access |
| **Funding Proprietary Projects** | 3 Active | 2 Active | 1 Active | none |

(1) Reserved for smaller Institutes or Non-Profits; 3 years maximum.

(2) Cash or In-Kind Contribution AND number of Corporate Partner/s signed up as full TFMII Members.

(3) One Vote for each academic /non-profit member; 1 vote for each Platinum Corporate member signed in TFMII (see corporate structure and rules).

(4) Voting when group membership reaches 10 members; 1 total vote for group.

(5) Participants each have a primary Technical Council representative; other representatives to be involved in sub-committees or working groups.