

Project full title	The European Robotics Research Infrastructure Network
Project Acronym	TERRINet
Grant Agreement number	730994

Deliverable no.	D4.1
Title:	Creation of a TERRINet Technology Transfer Committee. The deliverable will describe the organization, members (e.g., one per partner) and mission of the TTTC
Contractual Date of Delivery	Month 03 – 28-02-2018
Actual Date of Delivery	March 12, 2018
Organisation Short Name of Milestone Leading Partner	EPFL
Organisation Short Name of Other Participants	
Authors	Behzad Bayat & Auke Ijspeert
Editors	
Version	1.3
WPs contributing to this deliverable	WP4
Dissemination Level (*)	PU
Total number of pages (including cover page)	4

(*) Dissemination Level

- PU** Public
- PP** Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services)
- RE** Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services)
- CO** Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)

Table of Contents

List of acronyms.....	2
Executive Summary.....	2
TTTC organization and members.....	3
TTTC Mission	3
Primary discussions and directions towards each task	3
Task 4.1: Fostering the potential for innovation and technology transfer.	4
Task 4.2: Enhancing the use of research infrastructures by industrial researchers.	4
Task 4.3: Promoting and improving interactions and communication to engage the support of a large number of external stakeholders	4

List of acronyms

TTTC	TERRINet Technology Transfer Committee
TTO	Technology Transfer Office
IP	Intellectual Property

Executive Summary

Coordinated by EPFL, the TERRINet Technology Transfer Committee has been created with a representative from each partner institution. The TTTC had its first meeting by videoconference in mid-February 2018 to discuss its organization and the overall approach towards the three tasks of WP4. The TTTC’s mission was discussed and established as described in this document. The TTTC will meet regularly from now on. It will take its decisions in a democratic manner with one vote per partner, i.e. per corresponding member of TTTC.

TTTC organization and members

TTTC is formed by one or two representatives from each partner institution. Representatives are listed in the Table 1. In case of putting decision to votes, only one vote per partner institution is kept.

Row	Institute	Name
1	SSSA	Gastone Ciuti
2	CEA	Pascale Betinelli
		Christophe Leroux
3	LAAS CNRS	Laurent Perez
		Philippe Souères
4	KIT	Tamim Asfour
5	TUM	Marie-Luise Neitz
6	IIT	Giorgio Metta
7	UT	Iddo Bante
8	UPC	Antoni Grau
		Alberto Sanfeliu
9	USE	Anibal Ollero
		Begoña C. Arrue Ullés
10	EPFL	Behzad Bayat
		Auke Ijspeert
11	BRL	Farid Dallami
12	IMPERIAL	Robert Merrifield
13	UL	Matjaž Mihelj

Table 1. Members of TTTC which is formed by one/two representative(s) from each partner institution.

TTTC Mission

The TTTC's mission is to create strong, mutually beneficial links between TERRINet and industry, with a particular focus on start-ups and SMEs. In particular, its objectives are (1) to promote technology transfer from academic research to innovation in industry, (2) to support small start-ups and SMEs by offering access to state-of-the-art experimental facilities, and (3) to create links to established relevant robotics industries to benefit from their expertise, their robotics technologies, and possibly their financial sponsorship.

To reach these objectives, the TTTC will be in charge of implementing the Tasks of WP4 "Reinforce partnership with industry to foster innovation" as described in the TERRINet Description of Work. In particular, the TTTC is responsible for setting the rules for access of industrial partners to TERRINet lab facilities (to be defined in Deliverable D4.2 at Month 6), and for evaluating the future proposals coming from industrial partners.

TTTC will have regular meetings, every 2-3 months, either in person or via video conference to discuss and decide on regulations for the different initiatives organized by the TTTC.

Primary discussions and directions towards each task

The TTTC had its first meeting by videoconference in mid-February 2018 to discuss its mission, general ideas, and the overall approach towards the three tasks of WP4. Each representative proposed possible actions and approaches for TTTC activities. As a result, each representative will provide local information and existing initiatives for each task in the coming months. The idea is to put all this information in a collective, consistent, unified portal within the TERRINet project website. The consensus is to not re-invent the wheel as much as possible and redirect the researchers to the current existing initiatives. The current initiatives that are currently available in each partner's institution and will be collected include:

1. Assistance for startup creation that is already available at each partner institution.
2. Service for preparation, advice, and submission of patents available at each partner institution.
3. Local events, workshops, or talks that can be leveraged to promote TERRINet and more importantly to foster innovation and engage with industry.
4. Industrial outreach through current initiatives such as TTO available at each partner institution.

Below are the summary of ideas and discussions that pave the road towards accomplishing each task and facilitate the goal that TERRINet has in mind to reach researchers from academia and industry.

Task 4.1: Fostering the potential for innovation and technology transfer.

The main ideas in this task is to make a portal and make connection to existing initiatives, provide coaching possibilities, review application for spinoffs. In terms of IP, the TTTC will help researchers with patent filing through linking to available infrastructures in each partner's institution. All these initiatives will be recorded in a database.

Furthermore the TTTC will hold tech transfer events, possibly in parallel with current events to reduce cost of operation and unifying with current events. Some of these events can include TED-like inspiring talks by entrepreneurs or CEOs. An initiative is to direct interested researchers to current online courses for the subject via TERRINet portal.

This task requires connecting to TTO of each partner institution to understand what is existing, thus direct to the current existing information or event and provide complimentary information and events in case needed for specific application in robotics, which is the aim of TERRINet.

The other direction which will be investigated by TTTC is to see how this task can help in EU13 outreach. The questions that need to be investigated locally at each partner institution are:

1. Can the local TTO help researchers from EU13?
2. Would it be possible to organize local workshops for EU13?
3. Online courses will be useful in informing and attracting EU13 interested researchers.

Task 4.2: Enhancing the use of research infrastructures by industrial researchers.

There are certain questions that need to be addressed, in order to give access to researchers from industry, including:

1. In what form shall we give access to industrial researchers?
2. TTTC will be in charge of assessing the applications but the criteria have to be defined by TTTC.
3. Should we apply fees for the interested industrial researchers?

Specifically for question 3, different approaches can be taken. Thus, different models are currently under vote from TTTC members. The main idea is to be more open to attract industry but within the budget available and with a vision to come up with access rules that make this a sustainable system for long term. The rules will be defined in the Deliverable D4.2 at Month 6.

Task 4.3: Promoting and improving interactions and communication to engage the support of a large number of external stakeholders

The main directions that need further discussion with TTTC members are the following:

1. Plan and organize events in collaboration with industry
2. Plan workshops at big robotic events such as ERF.
3. Host TERRINet booth at big industry events such as Hannover Messe.
4. To reach industry, plan direct interaction or make tech days or information days.
5. It can also be unofficial events or booth merged with other booths, as chances come. Since the budget is limited, it will be a more opportunistic approach to make the most out of a possible situation of merging booth with current running initiatives.

The main conclusion is to create a list of events that TERRINet can join, prioritize them and decide which one(s) would make the most impact locally or in a European scale. The proposed initiatives will be described in more details in the Deliverable D4.2 at Month 6.
