

Introduction to the CHERI Alliance

Why / What / How?

Executive Summary



The CHERI Alliance is an independent entity

- Non-profit
- Focused on accelerating CHERI adoption
- ISA-agnostic
- Worldwide reach
- Drive / stimulate ecosystem
 - Industry
 - Research
 - Government
 - Communities

- Industry financed
 - Long-term sustainability

 Start-up phase with financial support of



Department for Science, Innovation, & Technology

The CHERI Alliance stimulates CHERI adoption



Technical

- Guidance, best practices
- Tech enablement (code, examples...)
- Interoperability, compliance



Promotion

- Technical & marketing info
- Media
- Policymakers, regulation



Community support

- Open-source software support
- Platform for collaboration
- Education, networking



Benefits for members



Demonstrate security leadership



Network, learn and get visible



Accelerate adoption of CHERI



Save on costs (learning, promotion, development, ...)



Collaborate with the community

The complete story



99

Unite industry leaders, system developers, users and security experts to drive and promote CHERI as an efficient security standard

CHERI Alliance's mission

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Why a CHERI Alliance?

- Accelerate adoption!
- CHERI cannot just be a specification
- Need to go further
 - Bring an ecosystem together industry, users, government and academia
 - Promotion of security (and CHERI in particular)
 - Technical alignment
 - Demonstrate industry adoption
 - Manage communication / branding
 - Educate, support community
 - Network



Getting CHERI adopted

How to stimulate the industry? Regulation Processor IP Modules **Products** Chips Users (intellectual property) Software Tools Available To be done





Role of the CHERI Alliance

Technical Interoperability Compliance Best practices cross ISA alignment Technical & Promotion Media marketing Regulation information Open-source Platform for Education. software collaboration networking support





An independent entity

- ISA-agnostic
 - CHERI could be added to Arm, x86, MIPS, RISC-V, ...
- Country-agnostic
 - Initially driven by UK/US, but security is not country-dependent
- Not just one company
 - Aim for broad industry adoption
 - Connect with communities
- Manage CHERI brand



Structure & Governing board

- Non-profit organization
 - Community Interest Company (CIC)
 - Special type of company asset lock, no shareholders
 - Audited on community purpose
 - Based in Cambridge, UK
- Governing board
 - 5 elected by members
 - 4 directors of the CIC

























CHERI Alliance members – updated on 5 September 2025







































































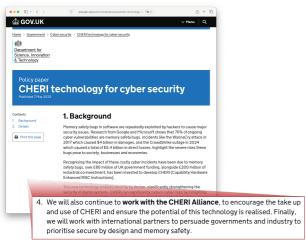




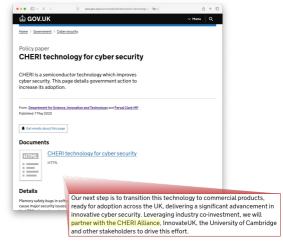




UK govt's partner for CHERI adoption



https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cheri-technology-for-cyber-security/cheri-technology-for-cyber-security



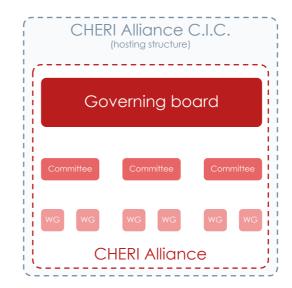
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cheri-technologyfor-cyber-security



Governance







Board

Committees

Working groups



Governing board



Composition

- 7-9 people
 - 1 chair + seats from paying members
 - 0-2 community seats
- Max 1 person per company

Functioning

- Elected for 2 years
 - Elected by Members
 - Chair elected by board
 - By-election if changes
 - Member company acquired
 - Person leaving Member company
- 1 seat = 1 vote
 - Majority voting
 - Quorum 5 people
- No remuneration

Role

- Control structure
- Approve new working groups / projects
- Approve major initiatives from committees
- Allocate budget / approve accounts
- Organize referendums





Committees

Composition

- Max 5 people
- Max 1 person per company

Functioning

- Selected by gov board
 - Members propose candidates
 - Chair selected by board
 - By-election if changes
 - Member company acquired
 - Person leaving Member company
- 1 seat = 1 vote
 - Majority voting
 - Quorum 3 people
- No remuneration

Role

- Propose new working groups / projects
- Propose initiatives
- Manage working groups
- Prioritize work
- Review / approve WG results
- Publish / open results





Working groups

- Focus on key topics
 - Promotion
 - Software / OS / Tools porting
 - Recommendations / compliance
- Opportunity to
 - Collaborate and show expertise
 - Influence outcome
 - Learn
 - Access exclusive content
 - Network
- Open to all members





Marketing Technical

Discover working groups



Target activities

Standardization & best practices

- Promote the CHERI specification and align across ISA
- Support CHERI adoption in open-source software
- Focus on efficient implementation and optimization
- Drive standardization, other organizations
- Establish best practices, guidelines, and implementation methodologies

Marketing

- Advocate for the adoption of CHERI by industry players
- Raise awareness about importance of robust security
- Educate industry stakeholders and regulatory bodies
- Promote and protect the CHERI brand

Compliance

- Develop a compliance program
- Manage testing process
- Manage branding and promotion of compliant products

Collaboration & knowledge sharing

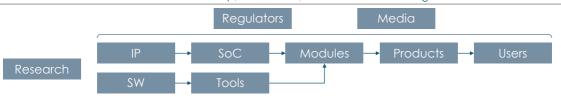
- Foster collaboration among Alliance members
- Facilitate networking opportunities, conferences, and workshops
- Collaborate with related / complementary security initiatives
- Host SW repositories
- Promote HW reference models





Audience

Group	Desired impact of CHERI Alliance	
Govt / Regulators	Requesting a higher security level in products	
End users	Create awareness, pull for CHERI-enabled products	
OEMs	Implement CHERI into their products	
Tech providers	Release CHERI-enabled products (IP, tools, SoCs, modules)	
SW community	Port software to CHERI, use CHERI features (e.g. compartmentalization)	
Media	Create awareness, get visibility	
Research community	Get them involved, develop future extensions	
CHERI Alliance members	Show leadership, drive CHERI, benefit from networking	





CHERI Alliance deliverables

- CHERI tech alignment (for all architectures)
- Tech collaterals and recommendations
- Marketing collaterals
- Marketing campaigns
- Educational material
- Web site
 - Information / Education / Networking
 - Access to deliverables
 - Member visibility
 - Ecosystem support (repositories, forums, collaboration tools...)
 - CHERI-compliant product listing *



O Join the Alliance now!



Demonstrate security leadership



Network, learn and get visible



Accelerate adoption of CHERI



Save on costs (learning, promotion, development, ...)



Collaborate with the community



Member benefits



For all members

- Demonstrate security leadership
- Vote in elections, get elected
- Join committees / working groups
- Drive alignment and standards
- Leverage joint open-source efforts
- Early access to CHERI code
- Network and exchange
 - Member-only address book
 - Member-only content, reports, info

- Accelerate adoption of CHERI
- Benefit from CHERI marketing
- Free visibility on CHERI Alliance Website
 - Member page
 - Blog
- Free visibility at events *
 - Speaking slots, webinars
 - Booth, demo
- Show product compliance **









Example of marketing benefits

- Free demo pods on the CHERI Alliance booth
 - Embedded World
- Web presence
 - Highlights on LinkedIn
 - CHERI Alliance Website
- CHERI Alliance conferences
 - Talks, demos, ...



Organized by the CHERI Alliance

CHERITech

- Technical focus
 - Free entry (even non-members)
 - Talks, demos, workshops
 - Research updates
- Next edition
 - CHERITech'2025
 - 14th November 2025
 - Manchester

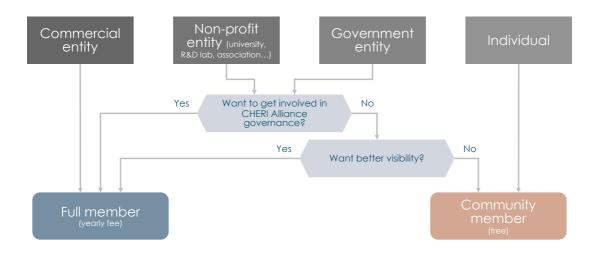
CHERI Blossoms Conference

- Main event
 - Free entry (even non-members)
 - Talks, demos, networking
 - Published online
- Next edition
 - CHERI Blossoms Conf 2026
 - 26-27th March 2026
 - Cambridge





How to decide membership type?





Membership tiers

	Full Member (mandatory for commercial companies, possible for other entities)	Community (accessible only to non-profit – universities / research / govt / associations / individuals /)
Gov board participation	• [7 seats]	● [0-2 seats]
Vote to elect gov board	■ [for member seats]	■ [for community seats]
Committees' participation	•	0
Working groups participation	•	•
Full members benefits (directory, visibility, product listing)	•	
Cost	Depends on organization size	Free
Micro Very small (5 5 people) (5 5 people)		■ Yes arge



Ensuring sustainable activity

- Use of funds
 - Web site dev & maintenance
 - Conferences
 - Marketing activities
 - Infrastructure (hosting, cloud, SW...)
 - Legal & administrative costs
 - Member & Community management
- ... In the future
 - Compliance testing?

 Alliance financed by the industry

 Start-up phase with financial support of



Department for Science, Innovation, & Technology

The Alliance relies on members' participation



- Exchange with other experts
- Provide feedback
- Contribute code & content
- Collaborate



- Participate to CHERI marketing
- Publish your CHERI-related news
- Promote / amplify the message



- Get involved in working groups
- Support and educate the community
- Network

No formal obligation...

but the more we work together, the more efficient we will be





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