



Kym Watson

Principal Scientist

IIC Member Profile



Member since 2015

Non-profit member

Co-chair, Distributed Data Interoperability Management Task Group
Participant, Standards Task Group
Lead, Smart Factory Web Testbed

Author, "Outcomes, Insights and Best Practices from IIC Testbeds: Smart Factory Web Testbed," *Journal of Innovation*

Why is Fraunhofer IOSB a member of IIC?

We first joined IIC because several research institutes of Fraunhofer were already involved with the organization. We joined primarily to understand the developments in IIoT – not only in Germany (where we are headquartered), but also globally. Active membership has helped us keep track of important technology developments, and we renew our membership yearly because we are seeing great benefit from membership in IIC.

How has Fraunhofer IOSB benefited from being a member of IIC?

Membership in the IIC has provided excellent visibility for Fraunhofer IOSB. Fraunhofer is funded by R&D projects with industry and government so IIC membership has helped to build partnerships and drive our organization's growth.

Active participation in IIC provides us with a deep understanding of emerging technologies. Since one of our primary activities is to advise companies on future technologies - like Factory of the Future – membership and engagement in IIC keeps us well informed and enriches our consulting abilities.

What do you participate in at IIC?

I co-chair the DDIM Task Group and participate in the Standards Task Group as an active supporter of open standards and interoperability.

I also lead in the Smart Factory Web Testbed. Now in its 4th year, many new projects have come out of this testbed. We work together with the Negotiation Automation Platform testbed to identify factories with the right capabilities for their negotiations. We also have a project with Plattform Industrie 4.0 on the implementation of Asset Administration Shell together with a number of key players such as Microsoft and SAP. Membership at IIC also gives us a platform to promote our work. We often exhibit with other key players in the IIC member pavilion at major shows like IOT Solutions World Congress.

What advice would you give new members?

My advice to new members is to take part in the discussion. There is so much to learn here at IIC, as well as the opportunity to get feedback from other experts. Get involved and contribute to the technical work being done. It doesn't have to be time-consuming. Volunteer to write a short section of a paper, not the full paper. Once you become more comfortable, take the opportunity to propose a testbed or test drive. The IIC offers lots of promotional support and marketing of your activities.

