



Pimpri Chinchwad Education Trust's
Pimpri Chinchwad College of Engineering (PCCoE)
(An Autonomous Institute)
Affiliated to Savitribai Phule Pune University (SPPU)

**Policy on Technology Readiness Level (TRL) Assessment and
Technology Upgradation for Technology Transfer**

Ref. No.

Date: 16/07/2026

1. Title

Policy for Technology Readiness Level (TRL) Assessment and Technology Upgradation of Granted Institutional Patents for Technology Transfer

2. Purpose of the Policy

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Systematically assess the Technology Readiness Level (TRL) of granted patents owned by the Institute
- Identify the actual maturity level of institutional technologies
- Facilitate technology upgradation up to TRL-6, which is the minimum acceptable level for commercialization or licensing
- Enable structured commercialization, licensing, and industry transfer of institutional intellectual property

This policy aims to bridge the gap between academic research and industry deployment, often referred to as the "Valley of Death" in technology development.

3. Scope of the Policy

This policy shall apply to:

- Granted patents filed in the name of the Institute
- Patents where faculty members are inventors or co-inventors
- Technologies intended for commercialization, licensing, or industrial collaboration

4. Definitions

TRL (Technology Readiness Level): A standardized scale (TRL 1-9) used to measure the maturity of a technology from basic research to full commercial deployment.

TRL-6: Technology demonstrated in a relevant or simulated operational environment; considered the minimum threshold for commercialization or licensing.

Applicant(s): The Institute or authorized institutional entity holding the patent.

Inventor(s): Faculty members listed as inventors in the granted patent.

TRL Assessment Agency: A recognized external agency/organization authorized to conduct TRL evaluation.

5. Guiding Principles

1. TRL assessment is voluntary but structured
2. Cost sharing shall ensure joint ownership and responsibility
3. Institutional consent and inventor consent are mandatory at every stage
4. Commercialization shall be pursued only after achieving TRL-6 or above

6. Willingness Call and Eligibility

6.1 Call for Willingness

The Patent Facilitation Cell shall periodically invite willingness from faculty whose patents:

- Are granted
- Are owned by the Institute

Willingness shall be obtained through a formal expression of interest (EOI).

6.2 Eligibility Criteria

- Patent must be granted
- Patent must be active and valid
- Patent must have commercial or industrial relevance

7. TRL Assessment Process

7.1 Appointment of Assessment Agency

TRL assessment shall be conducted by a recognized external agency (e.g., NRDC, TTOS, incubators, government-approved agencies).

7.2 Assessment Methodology

Assessment shall be carried out based on:

- Prototype availability
- Experimental validation
- Environment of demonstration
- Scalability potential
- Technology risks and limitations

7.3 Outcome of Assessment

The TRL assessment report shall clearly specify:

- Current TRL level
- Gaps preventing progression to TRL-6
- Technical, financial, and infrastructure requirements for upgradation

8. Minimum TRL Requirement

TRL-6 is defined as the minimum mandatory level for:

- Commercialization
- Licensing
- Industry transfer

Technologies assessed below TRL-6 shall be eligible for structured upgradation.

9. Technology Upgradation Framework

9.1 Consent Mechanism

Technology upgradation shall proceed only after:

- Written consent from the Institute (Applicant)
- Written consent from the Inventor(s)

9.2 Upgradation Objective

To upgrade the technology from its current TRL to TRL-6. Activities may include:

- Prototype development
- Validation in relevant/simulated environments
- Design optimization
- Performance testing

10. Financial Model

10.1 Cost Sharing

- 50% of the total cost (TRL assessment + technology upgradation) shall be borne by: The Institute (Applicant)
- 50% of the total cost shall be borne by: The Inventor(s)

10.2 Cost Components

- TRL assessment charges
- Prototype development costs
- Testing and validation costs
- Consultancy or expert support costs

11. Post-Upgradation Commercialization Pool

Upon successful achievement of TRL-6, the patent shall be:

- Included in the Institutional Commercialization Pool
- Actively promoted for:
 - Licensing
 - Technology transfer
 - Industry collaboration
 - Startup engagement

12. Revenue Sharing

Revenue generated through licensing or commercialization shall be:

- Shared between Applicant(s) and Inventor(s)
- Governed strictly by the Institute's separate Commercialization / Revenue Sharing Policy

This policy does not alter existing commercialization revenue norms.

13. Roles and Responsibilities

Intellectual Property Cell

- Issue willingness calls
- Coordinate TRL assessment
- Liaise with assessment agencies
- Monitor progress and documentation

Inventor(s)

- Provide technical inputs
- Participate in upgradation activities
- Share financial contribution

Institute (Applicant)

- Provide financial support as defined in the policy
- Grant approvals
- Facilitate infrastructure and administrative support

14. Governance and Review

This policy shall be:

- Reviewed periodically
- Updated based on national guidelines and institutional priorities

Final authority rests with the Institute's Competent Authority.

15. Effective Date

This policy shall come into effect from the date of approval by the competent authority of the Institute.

Approved By:



Director,

PCCOE

