



Governance Series

WQI-GOV-001

Governance, Funding & Independence Statement

The WiFi Quality Institute: Governance, Funding & Independence Statement

Version: 1.0 – 7 October 2026

Authors: WiFi Quality Institute

London, United Kingdom

Website: <https://wifiquality.institute>

Contact: info@wifiquality.institute

Keywords:

WiFi Quality Institute; WQI Governance; Institutional Independence; Methodological Independence; Editorial Independence; Funding Transparency; Intellectual Property Governance; Conflicts of Interest; Research Integrity; Commercial Separation; Governance Transparency

Status: Active — Approved governance document

Applies to: WQI governance, funding arrangements, intellectual-property stewardship, methodological and editorial decision-making, publication activities, and institutional relationships with founding contributors, funders, rights holders, reviewers and separate commercial implementation or certification programmes.

1. Purpose

This Statement explains the current relationship between the WiFi Quality Institute (WQI), its founding contributors, its foundational funding, the economic ownership of relevant intellectual property, and the safeguards intended to protect methodological and editorial independence.

It supplements the general principles established by WQI-GOV-000 — Standard Governance Principles and provides a public description of the institutional arrangements relevant to funding and independence. It does not replace detailed internal corporate, intellectual-property, contributor, patent or accounting records.

2. Current Institutional Form

At the date of this Statement, WQI operates as an independent technical and research initiative and is not a separately incorporated legal person. It therefore does not maintain a separate corporate bank account or enter contracts in its own legal name.

The absence of separate incorporation does not remove the need for defined governance. WQI accordingly distinguishes among methodological stewardship, economic funding, intellectual-property ownership, participation and commercial implementation, and documents those functions separately.

3. Founding Structure and Contributions

The WQI Founding Charter dated 10 March 2026 records the establishment of the Institute with founding participation from Aerialcom Ltd, Etruriacom Srl and Maurizio Franci. Their founding contributions were technical, operational and advisory in nature.

Founding Participant status does not, by itself, impose a cash-funding obligation, transfer intellectual-property ownership, or create a permanent entitlement to a governance position. Where founding or later participants provide separately documented services, facilities, test environments, data, personnel time or other support, those contributions may be recognised on their own terms.

4. Foundational Funding

San Giorgio Holding Ltd provides foundational economic support for the WQI initiative and may directly incur or pay properly authorised WQI-related costs, including research and technical development, publications, infrastructure, professional services, governance and intellectual-property protection.

Funding is intended to support the development and preservation of WQI's body of knowledge and institutional capability. It is not consideration for a predetermined technical result, favourable conclusion, certification outcome or publication position.

Funding principle

A funder may determine the amount of resources it is willing to make available. It does not thereby acquire the right to determine what WQI evidence, methodology or technical reasoning must conclude.

5. Economic Intellectual Property

San Giorgio Holding Ltd acts as the economic rights holder in relation to WQI-related intellectual property that is validly vested in or assigned to it under applicable law and agreement. The original Founding Charter already identified San Giorgio Holding Ltd as the holder and licensor of intellectual property associated with the initial WiFi Quality Standard framework.

WQI's subsequent work has developed beyond that initial framework into a broader body of conceptual, normative and methodological publications. Economic rights in such work are governed through the applicable chain-of-title, contributor, employment, assignment, licensing and invention arrangements. This Statement does not itself transfer rights from an author, inventor or third party. Authorship and inventorship remain questions of actual contribution and applicable law. Economic ownership, licensing and stewardship are distinct matters and may be allocated separately.

6. Methodological and Editorial Independence

- Technical conclusions and methodological positions must not be determined by marketing pressure, vendor preference, installer convenience or commercial expediency.
- Funding, rights ownership, sponsorship, participation or strategic proximity do not entitle a person or organisation to require a particular WQI conclusion.
- Adverse, inconvenient or commercially unattractive evidence is not to be suppressed or recharacterised merely because of its effect on an interested party.
- Review and oversight are intended to improve the quality and accountability of judgement, not to impose a predetermined outcome.
- Material relationships or conflicts that could reasonably influence judgement should be identified and, where necessary, managed through disclosure, separation of responsibilities, independent review, recusal or other proportionate safeguards.

These safeguards implement the principles already established in WQI-GOV-000 and WQI-PRN-001: funding does not automatically compromise research, but becomes material where funding conditions influence what may be investigated, reported or concluded.

7. Intellectual-Property Review Before Publication

WQI work may generate potentially protectable intellectual property. A limited pre-publication intellectual-property review may therefore be used where reasonably necessary to preserve potential patent or other legal protection before public disclosure.

Such a review may justify a proportionate temporary publication hold. It shall not be used to require alteration or suppression of a substantive technical or methodological conclusion for commercial reasons.

8. Separation from Commercial Implementation and Certification

WQI develops and publishes conceptual, normative and methodological work. Commercial certification programmes, products or operational implementations that use, reference or license WQI-related work remain separate from WQI methodological governance.

This separation applies equally where there are shared founders, related economic interests, licensing relationships or other organisational connections. A commercial implementation does not acquire authority to modify WQI methodology merely because it implements, licenses or commercialises WQI-related work.

Consistent with the Founding Charter, WQI does not itself issue commercial certifications or paid audit services under this governance model.

9. Current Allocation of Roles

Function	Current role / actor	Governance boundary
Methodological and editorial stewardship	WiFi Quality Institute	Technical positions are governed by evidence, WQI principles and controlled publication processes.
Foundational funding	San Giorgio Holding Ltd	Funding supports WQI activity but does not determine technical conclusions.
Economic IP ownership	San Giorgio Holding Ltd, for rights validly vested in or assigned to it	Economic ownership does not itself confer methodological authority.
Founding technical / operational / advisory contribution	Aerialcom Ltd, Etruriacom Srl, Maurizio Franci	Founding status does not create an automatic cash-funding obligation or permanent governance entitlement.

Commercial implementation / certification	Separate programmes and operators	Commercial use does not confer control over WQI methodology.
---	-----------------------------------	--

Steering Committee — Current Status

The WQI Founding Charter envisages a Steering Committee composed of representatives of the Founding Participants, with responsibility for strategic direction and technical oversight.

As at the date of this Statement, no Steering Committee has been formally constituted. Accordingly, no institutional decision, technical approval or governance action is represented as having been undertaken by such a committee.

Pending its formal establishment or a controlled amendment to the Founding Charter, interim governance and publication approval responsibilities shall be expressly documented, with due regard to the principles of independence, accountability and traceability established by WQI-GOV-000.

This Statement does not itself transfer or assign the functions envisaged for the Steering Committee to any other person or organisation.

10. Conflicts of Interest and Governance Development

Commercial, professional or organisational involvement does not automatically disqualify participation in WQI. The relevant question is whether the resulting process remains independent, documented and credible.

As WQI develops, governance may be strengthened through more formally defined roles, independent oversight, external technical participation, conflict-of-interest declarations, recusals and documented approval procedures. No future title, Board position or advisory role is created by this Statement. Detailed conflict-of-interest, publication-governance, appointment and contributor procedures may be issued separately as the institutional structure develops.

11. Transparency and Legitimate Confidentiality

WQI considers transparency necessary for public credibility, but transparency does not require unrestricted disclosure of confidential commercial information, unpublished inventions, private legal advice, personal data, detailed budgets, contractual terms, source code, proprietary scoring parameters or internal deliberative records.

The purpose of this public Statement is therefore to disclose the material institutional relationships and safeguards necessary to understand WQI's funding and independence without converting internal corporate or intellectual-property records into public documents.

12. Relationship with Existing WQI Governance

This Statement should be read consistently with WQI-GOV-000 — Standard Governance Principles, WQI-PUB-000 — Publication and Document Control Policy, WQI-PRN-001 — The WiFi Quality Principles, and the WQI Founding Charter dated 10 March 2026.

Where later governance instruments define more detailed procedures, those instruments should preserve the substantive independence principles stated here unless a controlled and publicly identified governance revision expressly provides otherwise.

13. Effective Status

This Statement takes effect upon formal approval and publication by the WiFi Quality Institute as an Active governance document. It supplements WQI-GOV-000 — Standard Governance Principles and remains subject to the document control, review and revision requirements established by WQI-PUB-000.

Suggested related documents

- WQI-GOV-000 — Standard Governance Principles
- WQI Founding Charter — 10 March 2026
- WQI-PUB-000 — Publication and Document Control Policy
- WQI-PRN-001 — The WiFi Quality Principles