Fusion of Face Recognition Algorithms (FOFRA) 2018 Prize Challenge – Application and Agreement to Participate

1 Who can participate

1.1 Face recognition researchers and developers from industry, research institutions, and academia are eligible to participate in the Fusion of Face Recognition Algorithms 2018 Prize Challenge – hereafter referred to as the “FOFRA”.

1.2 Certain organizations are ineligible to participate – see FOFRA 2018 Concept and API for Fusion of Face Recognition Scores and Templates document or the IARPA FOFRA challenge website.

2 How to Participate

2.1 To participate in FOFRA, an Organization must provide the information requested in Section 5 of this Agreement identifying the Responsible Party and the Point of Contact. Organization must also print and sign this Agreement, attach business cards from each of the signing parties, and send it to the location designated in Section 5. Signatures of both the Responsible Party and the Point of Contact are required.

2.1.1 The Responsible Party is an individual with the authority to commit the organization to the terms in this Agreement.

2.1.2 The Point of Contact (POC) is an individual with detailed knowledge of the participating Submission.

2.1.3 In some cases, the Responsible Party and the POC may be the same person.

2.2 Upon receipt of the signed application by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), the organization will be classified as a “Participant.” NIST must receive this signed application either before or with the algorithm prototypes. Algorithm prototypes (“Submissions”) shall be submitted as open-source software or pre-compiled software libraries. They may be submitted on or after May 1, 2018. The application shall be submitted either before or with the Submission; subsequent Submissions do not require additional applications.

2.3 NIST intends to evaluate all Submissions from all Participants on a first come, first served basis.

2.4 Participant shall provide a submission (“Submission”), conforming to the specifications in the Concept, Evaluation Plan, and API (“Test Plan”) available on the FOFRA website.

2.5 A Submission shall include all libraries (and/or source code), validation results, configuration files, documentation, and all other files required by NIST and the Participant to validate and execute the tests specified in the Test Plan.

2.6 The Submission need not be used in a production system or be commercially available. However, the Submission must, at a minimum, be a stable implementation conforming to the Test Plan that NIST has published for FOFRA.

2.7 The Submission must be encrypted and signed before transmission to NIST. Instructions for Submission can be found on the FOFRA website. Generic encryption instructions can be found in the Image Group’s Encrypting Software for Transmission to NIST document.

2.8 A box for the Participant’s public key fingerprint is included on the Agreement. Submissions that are not signed with the public key fingerprint listed on the Agreement will not be accepted.

2.9 Submissions must be compliant with the Test Plan, NIST test hardware, and NIST test software. Submissions must be delivered to NIST during the submission period given in paragraph 2.2 of this agreement according to the technical specifications given in the Test Plan.
To the extent allowable by Federal law, NIST agrees to protect closed-source Submissions as business proprietary information by using same degree of care, but no less than a reasonable degree of care, to prevent the unauthorized use, dissemination or publication of the Proprietary Information as NIST uses to protect its own confidential information of a like nature. NIST agrees not to transfer any Submissions to any third party without the prior written permission of the Participant.

These provisions are consistent with and do not supersede, conflict with, or otherwise alter the employee obligations, rights, or liabilities created by existing statute or Executive order relating to (1) classified information, (2) communications to Congress, (3) the reporting to an Inspector General of a violation of any law, rule, or regulation, or mismanagement, a gross waste of funds, an abuse of authority, or a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety, or (4) any other whistleblower protection. The definitions, requirements, obligations, rights, sanctions, and liabilities created by controlling Executive orders and statutory provisions are incorporated into this Agreement and are controlling.

3 Points of Contact

3.1 The FOFRA Liaison is the NIST point of contact for FOFRA.

3.2 All questions should be directed to FOFRA2018@nist.gov, which will be received by the FOFRA Liaison and other FOFRA personnel.

3.3 These questions and answers may be provided as updates to the Test Plan at the discretion of the FOFRA Liaison.

4 Release of FOFRA Results

4.1 Anonymous participation will not be permitted. This means that signatories to this document, Application and Agreement to Participate in the FOFRA 2018 Prize Challenge ("Agreement"), acknowledge that they understand that the results (see Section 4) of the test of their Submission will be published with full attribution to their institution or organization ("Organization").

4.2 After the completion of FOFRA testing, NIST will publish all results obtained, along with the Organization’s name on the internet, and potentially in government meetings, conferences, workshops or journals. NIST does not intend to publicly disclose any pre-decisional data generated from testing the Participant’s Submission in accordance with the Test Plan. Participant acknowledges that such pre-decisional data may be subject to mandatory public disclosure in accordance with relevant Federal regulations.

4.3 Participant will be notified of its results via the Responsible Party and the Point of Contact provided on the Agreement.

4.4 After the release of FOFRA results, Participant may use the results for its own purposes. Such results shall be accompanied by the following phrase: “Results shown from NIST do not constitute an endorsement of any particular system, product, service, or company by NIST.” Such results shall also be accompanied by the Internet address (URL) of the FOFRA website:


5 Open-source Submissions

5.1 Participants who submit an open-source implementation shall release their software to public and provide written documentation/licensing which explicitly acknowledges that their code is released to the public.

5.2 Participants who submit an open-source implementation shall make their software available for public download via a reputable website such as GitHub, university website, or corporate website.

6 Additional Information
6.1 Any data obtained during FOFRA, as well as any documentation required by NIST from the Participant (except the Submission), becomes the property of FOFRA. Participant will not acquire a proprietary interest in the data and/or submitted documentation. Any data or documentation that qualifies as business proprietary information, as defined by the Freedom of Information Act (5 USC Section 552) will be treated as confidential in accordance with Section 2, and will only be used for the purposes of the FOFRA test.

6.2 Participant agrees that it will not file any FOFRA-related claim against FOFRA sponsors, supporters, staff, contractors, or agency of the U.S. Government, or otherwise seek compensation for any equipment, materials, supplies, information, travel, labor and/or other Participant-provided services.

6.3 NIST is not bound or obligated to follow any recommendations that may be submitted by the Participant. NIST is not bound, nor is it obligated, in any way to give any special consideration to Participant on future contracts.

6.4 NIST is conducting FOFRA pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §272(b)(8), (c)(2), and (c)(14).

6.5 By signing this Agreement, Participant acknowledges that it understands any test details and/or modifications that are provided on the FOFRA website supersede the information in this Agreement.

6.6 Participant may withdraw from FOFRA at any time before its Submission is received by NIST, without its participation and withdrawal being documented in the Final Report(s).

6.7 NIST will use the Participant’s Submission only for the agreed-upon FOFRA test, and in the event errors are subsequently found, to re-run prior tests and resolve those errors.

6.8 NIST agrees not to use the Participant’s Submission for purposes other than indicated above, without express permission by the Participant.

6.9 Participant understands that IARPA administers the prize awards, and makes the ultimate decisions on winning algorithms.

6.10 Original signed copies of the FOFRA application are required. Original, signed copies of this application, with business cards from both signing parties attached, must be mailed to the address below. These must be signed paper hardcopies. Scanned documents submitted via email are not acceptable. Please send an email message to FOFRA2018@nist.gov stating that you have sent your application. NIST will not accept applications from generic email addresses (e.g. gmail.com, hotmail.com, qq.com etc.). Upon receipt of your application, we will send you a confirmation email message.

Mailing Address:

FOFRA 2018 Liaison
National Institute of Standards and Technology
Information Access Division (774.03)
100 Bureau Drive, Mailstop 8940
Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8940

Participants should complete the box below per the instructions for transmission of encrypted content to NIST as defined in the Encrypting Software for Transmission to NIST document and available at https://www.nist.gov/itl/iad/image-group/products-and-services/encrypting-softwaredata-transmission-nist If preferred, participants can fax their public key to the FOFRA Liaison at 301-975-5287.
Participant’s public-key fingerprint (enter here)

NIST’s public-key fingerprint

DC7B 6163 70DD 4D35 EDE7 7238 39A1 33E0 EF42 022F

Request to Participate

With my signature, I hereby request consideration as a Participant in the Fusion of Face Recognition Algorithms (FOFRA) 2018 Prize Challenge, and I am authorizing my Organization to participate in FOFRA according to the rules and limitations listed in this Agreement.

With my signature, I also state that I have the authority to accept the terms stated in this Agreement.

SIGNATURE, TITLE AND ORGANIZATION OF RESPONSIBLE PARTY

DATE

PRINTED NAME AND EMAIL ADDRESS OF RESPONSIBLE PARTY

SIGNATURE, TITLE AND ORGANIZATION OF POINT OF CONTACT

DATE

PRINTED NAME AND EMAIL ADDRESS OF POINT OF CONTACT

ATTACH BUSINESS CARDS HERE FOR ALL SIGNING PARTIES