We believe that readers, players, referees, and gamers deserve a clear statement on what constitutes Fair Use of their Traveller role-playing game rules and background materials.

Traveller, in all of its forms and editions, is copyrighted. Copyright protects the publishers (Far Future Enterprises and its licensees) from unauthorized copying or publication. Traveller and associated words and terms are trademarks. Trademark protection protects the publishers from unauthorized use of the marks.

Fair Use

Copyrights and trademarks are not meant to prevent players, referees, gamers, and readers from enjoying their copies of Traveller. “Fair Use” is the term which allows just such enjoyment.

We have a liberal Fair Use Policy. If your activity is non-commercial, you can make copies to support playing the game, you can scan copies for your computer, you can write short programs and spreadsheets which automate processes within the game. You can make copies of pages as handouts for players. You can make web pages in support of Traveller.

The key word is non-commercial. If you are selling what you copy or reproduce, then you violate Fair Use.

The details of Fair Use are covered in the FAQ below.

Fair Use Explicitly Applies to non- Mongoose Traveller editions. The arrival of Mongoose Traveller does not prevent players and referees from using their other editions and supporting them. This applies equally across Traveller editions, from out-of-print releases by Game Designers’ Workshop or Imperium Games to actively supported editions like QuikLink's Traveller20 edition or Steve Jackson Games' GURPS Traveller. Only Mongoose Traveller is governed by both the OGL and the TTL. The OGL does apply to portions of some Traveller20 publications; you are advised to review each publication for relevant details.

FAQ FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

We receive questions about what we can allow and what we can't allow in order to protect our trademarks and copyrights.

Here are some answers to FAQs (August 1, 2008).

0 What About Mongoose Traveller?

Mongoose Traveller is governed by the Traveller Open Gaming License and the Traveller Trademark License. The texts of both are available at the Mongoose site.

1. May I create my own, original works and put them on a web or ftp site or share them with my friends?

Yes, however the Copyright/Trademark holder, Far Future Enterprises requires the following.

a) You don't charge for it.

b) You include the following site-wide disclaimer in the text of a story or article, on a web site:

The Traveller game in all forms is owned by Far Future Enterprises. Copyright 1977 - 2008 Far Future Enterprises. Traveller is a registered trademark of Far Future Enterprises. Far Future permits web sites and fanzines for this game, provided it contains this notice, that Far Future is notified, and subject to a withdrawal of permission on 90 days notice. The contents of this site are for personal, non-commercial use only. Any use of Far Future Enterprises's copyrighted material or trademarks anywhere on this web site and its files should not be viewed as a challenge to those copyrights or trademarks. In addition, any program/articles/file on this site cannot be republished or distributed without the consent of the author who contributed it.

It is not necessary that this boilerplate text be on the main page, just so long as there is a pointer to it; an abbreviated main page statement can be

"The Traveller game in all forms is owned by Far Future Enterprises. Copyright 1977 - 2008 Far Future Enterprises."

c) You notify Far Future Enterprises (it is sufficient to e-mail farfuture@farfuture.net) saying "I have a Traveller Web site at this URL: http://www.somewhere.org/some.html" or other similar message.

2. May I post the contents of a Challenge Magazine article online or on a web site?

Yes, as long as you have the permission of the original author and our disclaimer is present. The following message about this is from our licensing department:

Far Future Enterprises will give permission to post Challenge articles on Traveller to web sites provided the author of the article has also granted permission. In observance of the magazine article's author's rights, we cannot give permission without the author's permission. Regrettably, Far Future Enterprises is not able to locate
authors for you. The site must carry the proper Far Future Enterprises copyright/trademark acknowledgment.

If the article was authored by Marc Miller, John Harshman, Loren Wiseman, or Frank Chadwick, you have permission.

3 May I rewrite the game in my own words, scan parts of the book, or create any other derivative works.

No.

Our reasoning is this:

If Far Future Enterprises does not establish standards for fair use, and does not police any use that is made, then Far Future Enterprises runs the risk of losing an enforceable ownership right. I can't use your car, even if you aren't using it. I need your permission. I can look at it, admire it, even write about it, but I can't take it or re-paint it without permission. Intellectual property is a special case, but the idea is much the same.

You can write about the Traveller universe, and put it on your web site... but you can't reproduce the rules (or reproduce re-writes of the rules, etc.) except for about a page (because we give permission to do that, provided you post the proper acknowledgment). Some publishers just say "You can't post anything." We are trying to have a kinder, gentler approach.

We understand that you love the game and want to see it promoted. We believe in supporting you the best way we can. Right now, we encourage you to create your own original works and have them follow our policies, which are the fairest in the industry.

But you can't just go rewrite the books in your own words.

4 What is considered Fair Use of your material?

About a page at a time.

The site must carry the proper Far Future Enterprises copyright/trademark acknowledgment. For posting of text or material from printed books and modules, Far Future Enterprises permits inclusion of some material and mention of trademark names (Traveller, and other titles). Our permission does not extend to wholesale or complete republication of our texts on-line (for obvious reasons). Limit your republication of texts to short passages (essentially a page or less of text). Our policy is to not be burdensome in our requirements, while still protecting our ownership of the text to these games. We appreciate game player support of our titles and we work to make involvement in these games interesting and fun.

This permission allows you to cite a portion of the book without copying the entire book. For instance, for an adventure about the Spinward Marches where you need to repeat a section about Regina, you could cull it from various texts and reproduce it. You could use a quote or two, or if need be extend that to about a page. However you cannot say "Here is page one of the T4 Core Rules book." "Here is page two of the T4 Core Rules book."

4a Can I make a PDF of Traveller Stuff? Can I make scans of Traveller pages?

Yes. Subject to Fair Use, you can make scans or PDFs of pages from books you own. If you are making scans or PDFs for some project you are doing, there should be no problem.

If you are PDFing a whole book (or more than a few pages), you've gone too far.

5 May I scan in a piece of artwork or a map for use?

Some artwork was created by the artist under a "work for hire" contract where the ownership of the art becomes the property of the publisher. Some artwork is provided on a limited use contract, in particularly photographs. If the artist created the works as work for hire for GDW (usually staff artists at GDW), then Far Future Enterprises has the rights to say "Yes" or "No" to the question. If it was done by the artists on their own time, in particular for photographs, it may have been done on a limited use base, and that artist may own the copyright. So here is what we can allow:

Artwork such as equipment items, vehicles, charts, maps and logos were created for GDW and we have the full rights to them. Atmosphere pieces, other illustrations and cover art, you need permission from the artists. Far Future Enterprises regrets that we cannot contact the artist for you.

As a special case, you may reproduce covers credited to Steve Venters, or Chris Fosse.

Far Future Enterprises will allow you to use those items which we have the rights to, but in limited terms. You must include a Copyright for each piece used similar to:

This map is Copyright © 1977 - 2008, Far Future Enterprises All Rights Reserved. Licensed for individual use. [or current date, as time goes by]

You cannot scan entire sections of art in an attempt to reproduce a book, but if you want a to display a map on your web page to annotate an adventure you are writing, or you need to display a tank for an article that you have composed about it, then its OK to use it. You also must still have the site-wide copyright/trademark acknowledgment/disclaimer.

6 What if I have a Special Case?

Contact Far Future Enterprises for a specific ruling.