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Framework and Implementation of Common Data Environment solutions and workflow, in accordance with EN ISO 19650

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Framework and Implementation of Common Data Environment solutions and workflow, in accordance with EN ISO 19650

Cadre et mise en oeuvre de solutions et flux de travaux pour un environnement de données commun (CDE) conformément à l'EN ISO 19650 Rahmenbedingungen und Umsetzungen gemeinsamer Datenumgebungslösungen nach EN ISO 19650

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Contents		Page
Euro	pean foreword	3
Introduction		
1	Scope	7
2	Normative references	7
3	Terms, definitions and abbreviations	8
3.1	Terms and definitions	8
3.2	Abbreviations	10
4	Information management according to EN ISO 19650	
4.1	Information management in the normative environment	
4.2	Domain view	11
5	CDE concepts and principles	
5.1	CDE terms and definitions	_
5.2	CDE as an agreed source of information (see EN ISO 19650-1:2018, 3.3.15)	16
5.3	CDE layer concept	17
5.4	CDE metadata concept	18
6	CDE workflow layer	
6.1	CDE workflow	
6.2	CDE process	
6.3	CDE activity	
6.4	CDE processes in EN ISO 19650	
6.5	Notation of CDE workflow management systems	
7	CDE connection layer	
7.1	Metadata	
7.2	Information Delivery Plan (IDP)	33
8	CDE solution layer and information container	
8.1	Information containers in the CDE solution layer	
8.2	CDE information requirements and information models	
8.3	CDE information container versioning and archiving	36
Bibli	ography	37

European foreword

This document (CEN/TR 18093:2024) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 442 "Building Information Modelling (BIM)", the secretariat of which is held by SN.

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Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users' national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CEN website.

Introduction

About the normative landscape:

EN ISO 19650 is the framework on collaborative Information Management in BIM. Its first parts were published in the end of 2018.

To enable the market CEN/TC 442 is delivering various standards and guidelines on some of the concepts introduced by the EN ISO 19650 series (e. g. EN ISO 7817-1 "Level of Information Need", CEN/TR 17741 "Guidance to Information Delivery Manual IDM (based on EN ISO 29481), CEN/TR 17654 "Guidance to EIR/BEP" - cf. Bibliography).

The UK BIM Framework serves as another example on how to enable its market. It is a collaborative effort from British Standards Institution and NIMA (formerly the UK BIM Alliance) providing guidance on implementation of the EN ISO 19650 series and on the transition from previous national BIM standards.

This document covers the concept of the "Common Data Environment solution and workflow (CDE)" to support collaborative Information Management in BIM.

Preliminary work to explain what a CDE is and how it can be implemented has previously been done by a national initiative within the German mirror committee of CEN/TC 442 in DIN. The result was published in March 2019 as DIN SPEC PAS 91391 "CDE".

This document is accompanied by a work item on "Open Application Programming Interface (API)" defining a technical interface for a CDE. This work is launched in parallel in CEN/TC 442/WG 2.

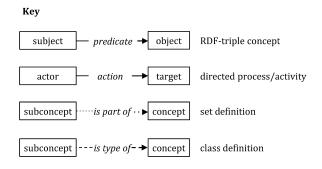
Enabling market:

The EN ISO 19650 series of standards requires implementers to have at least a base level of understanding of concepts and options and on how to apply the processes in practice. Market participants applying and engaging in information management with BIM according to EN ISO 19650 therefore face a range of approaches. The CDE component is particularly challenging as it is often falsely only considered to be a technology requirement rather than consistent work process obligation. They can have the option to manage workflow or include integration of application programming interfaces (API) to various CDE solutions. Exchanging information containers (cf. EN ISO 19650-1:2018, 3.3.12) and exercising process management will need a suitable metadata concept. Avoiding inconsistency of deployment from project to project, from asset to asset requires a functionally sound CDE already at the start of the project. This document will provide guidance for users. The work item on CDE Open API will provide further details on how to implement respective interfaces in a CDE solution.

Understanding semantics:

The EN ISO 19650 series provides and defines a collection of new terms, concepts and principles (cf. part 1). At the same time, it also provides rules, requirements and conditions attached to them. The present Technical Report illustrates the semantics of these elements in a stringent way using a combined schema notation. The semantic schemata used in this document combine (see figure 1 and figure 2):

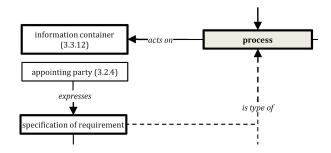
- a class diagram according to UML to visualize the entity relationships with (dotted lines),
- a triple graph according to RDF to visualize the process interdependencies (full lines) while actoraction-artefact/target can be seen as an specific example of subject-predicate-object.



Kev

— predicate → RDF triple concepts are composed of full lines with the predicate on the line
 — action → Directed process/activity
 ……is part of ·· ► "is part of" relations set definitions
 — is type of → "is type of" relations class definitions

Figure 1 — Key to the combined semantic schema



Key

— predicate → RDF triple concepts are composed of full lines with the predicate on the line
 — action → Directed process/activity
 — is part of → "is part of" relations set definitions
 — is type of → "is type of" relations class definitions
 (3.3.12) References to EN ISO 19650-1:2018 are given by the clause number in "normal" brackets.
 [3.3.12] References to EN ISO 19650-4:2022 are given by the clause number in squared brackets.

Figure 2 — Example of a combined semantic schema visualizing entity relationship (is type of) and activity triple (subject-predicate-object/actor-action-artifact, e.g. "party expresses specification")

The combination of part of/type of relations with process semantics provides a more holistic view. This view suits better to understand the combination of information entities and processes managed by the workflow of CDE.

Workflow concept in the CDE concept:

Workflow is a term being used in the title of clause 12 in EN ISO 19650-1:2018, but it is only superficially defined within EN ISO 19650 series. There are several ISO based definitions for workflow specific for and within the environment in which they are being used. Generalizing them results in the following: Workflow is the main concept hosting processes (see figure 3). Processes are being made up by activities (reference ISO 12651-2 and EN ISO 9000:2015, 3.4.1). In a way an activity as the basic element of workflow can be compared with an information container being the basic element of information management.

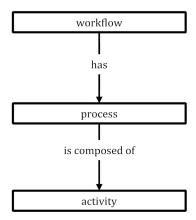


Figure 3 — Workflow as a combination of processes composed by activities

Entity concept in terms of CDE:

Entity management in a CDE explained here uses the concept of information container (EN ISO 19650-1:2018, 3.3.12). It is slightly different to the entity concept used in EN ISO 16739-1. The entity concept in EN ISO 16739-1 is embedded in an object-orientated environment (model language of ISO 10303-11:2004). The entity concept in EN ISO 19650 series rather uses entity as a static concept in contrast to the dynamic concept of a process. Information container used in ISO 19650 and this document can be understood as a type of an entity in the general semantic meaning of entity.

1 Scope

This document summarizes and explains the concept of "CDE solution and workflow" - hereby abbreviated by "CDE". The concept of CDE is primarily defined but not extensively explained in EN ISO 19650 series. Due to the very nature of the EN ISO 19650 series the standardized definition and usage of CDE described in the very series can be too abstract for direct implementation. By explaining the CDE concept in more detail this document will also serve as an implementation guidance.

Doing so this document will detail the following concepts introduced by EN ISO 19650:

- workflow as a collaborative process of managing the information and information containers,
- solutions to support the management and project processes inherent for BIM.

Archiving and versioning of information containers can become very complex when considering various typical information situations of a project. Further elements, rules and terminology for information management and digitisation needs to be explained and technically framed in the context of a CDE. In particular this document describes:

- the framework established by the concepts in and around the CDE concept of EN ISO 19650,
- the relation between workflow and solution by differentiating between process and entity management using the layer concept and
- the connection between workflow and solution by using Information Delivery Plans (MIDP and TIDP in ISO 19650).

This document enables thereby the market participant and CDE user on:

- how to manage processes in collaborative information management according to EN ISO 19650,
- how to manage entities (e.g. Information Containers like models, requirements, container states),
- how to maintain and manage "living documents" like Information Models (AIM, PIM) and
- how to maintain, exchange and manage Information Requirements like (OIR, AIR, EIR) as well as BIM Execution Plans (BEP).

This document identifies the range of important terms related to the CDE concept and associated relationships to relevant normative references.

This document is accompanied by a parallel work item within CEN/TC 442 defining Application Programming Interface for the information management interfacing between various CDE and CDE solutions. This European standard (under development) named "Open API for CDE" is being developed within a Joint Task group of CEN/TC 442/WG2 and CEN/TC 442/WG3.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

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