The TOGAF® Standard

10th Edition

Content, Capability, and Governance

2025 Update

The TOGAF® Standard — *10th Edition*

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The TOGAF® Standard, 10th Edition

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Preface

The Open Group

The Open Group is a global consortium that enables the achievement of business objectives through technology standards and open source initiatives by fostering a culture of collaboration, inclusivity, and mutual respect among our diverse group of 900+ memberships. Our membership includes customers, systems and solutions suppliers, tool vendors, integrators, academics, and consultants across multiple industries.

The mission of The Open Group is to drive the creation of Boundaryless Information Flow™ achieved by:

- Working with customers to capture, understand, and address current and emerging requirements, establish policies, and share best practices
- Working with suppliers, consortia, and standards bodies to develop consensus and facilitate interoperability, to evolve and integrate specifications and open source technologies
- Offering a comprehensive set of services to enhance the operational efficiency of consortia
- Developing and operating the industry's premier certification service and encouraging procurement of certified products

Further information on The Open Group is available at www.opengroup.org.

The Open Group publishes a wide range of technical documentation, most of which is focused on development of standards and guides, but which also includes white papers, technical studies, certification and testing documentation, and business titles. Full details are available at www.opengroup.org/library.

This Document

This document is a compilation of two documents within the TOGAF® Standard:

- The TOGAF Standard — Architecture Content
  This document describes the TOGAF Content Framework and a structured metamodel for architectural artifacts, the use of re-usable Architecture Building Blocks (ABBs), and an overview of typical architecture deliverables.
- The TOGAF Standard — Enterprise Architecture Capability and Governance
  This document discusses the organization, processes, skills, roles, and responsibilities required to establish and operate an architecture function within an enterprise and describes an Enterprise Architecture governance framework.

The TOGAF® Standard

The TOGAF® Standard is an open, industry consensus framework for Enterprise Architecture.

It is a foundational framework, which means that it is applicable to the development of any kind of architecture in any context. This foundational framework is supplemented by The Open Group TOGAF Library, a publicly-accessible resource with an extensive and growing portfolio of guidance material, providing practical guidance in the application of the TOGAF framework in specific contexts; refer to: www.opengroup.org/togaf-library.

The TOGAF Documentation

The TOGAF documentation consists of a set of documents:

- The TOGAF Standard, which describes the generally applicable approach to Enterprise and IT Architecture
- The TOGAF Library, a portfolio of additional guidance material, which supports the practical application of the TOGAF approach

Intended Audience

The TOGAF Standard is intended for Enterprise Architects, Business Architects, IT Architects, Data Architects, Systems Architects, Solution Architects, and anyone responsible for the architecture function within an organization.

Acknowledgements

The Open Group is grateful for the contribution of many individuals and organizations in the development of the TOGAF Standard. See the TOGAF Standard — Introduction and Core Concepts for details.

Trademarks

Referenced Documents

Please refer to the TOGAF Standard — Introduction and Core Concepts, Appendix A for documents referenced in the TOGAF Standard.

Volume: Architecture Content

The Open Group

1. Introduction

This chapter provides an introduction to the guidance provided in the TOGAF Standard — Architecture Content (this document).

1.1. Overview

Architects executing the Architecture Development Method (ADM) will produce a number of outputs as a result of their efforts, such as process flows, architectural requirements, project plans, or project compliance assessments. The Content Framework provides a structural model for architectural content that allows the major work products that an architect creates to be consistently defined, structured, and presented.

The Content Framework provided here is intended to allow the TOGAF framework to be used as a stand-alone framework for architecture within an enterprise. However, other Content Frameworks exist (such as the Zachman® Framework) and it is anticipated that some enterprises may opt to use an external framework in conjunction with the TOGAF framework. In these cases, the TOGAF Content Framework provides a useful reference and starting point for TOGAF content to be mapped to other Content Frameworks.

The Architecture Content Framework uses the following three categories to describe the type of architectural work product within the context of use:

- A **deliverable** is a work product that is contractually specified and in turn formally reviewed, approved, and signed off by the stakeholders

  Deliverables represent the output of projects and those deliverables that are in documentation form will typically be archived at completion of a project, or transitioned into an Architecture Repository as a reference model, standard, or snapshot of the Architecture Landscape at a point in time.

- An **artifact** is an architectural work product that describes an aspect of the architecture

  Artifacts are generally classified as catalogs (lists of things), matrices (showing relationships between things), and diagrams (pictures of things). Examples include a requirements catalog, application interaction matrix, and a value chain diagram. An architectural deliverable may contain many artifacts and artifacts will form the content of the Architecture Repository.

- A **building block** represents a potentially re-usable component that can be combined with other building blocks to deliver architectures and solutions

  Building blocks can be defined at various levels of detail, depending on what stage of architecture development has been reached. For instance, at an early stage, a building block can simply consist of a name or an outline description. Later on, a building block may be decomposed into multiple supporting building blocks and may be accompanied by a full specification. Building blocks can relate to “architectures” or “solutions”.

- **Architecture Building Blocks (ABBs)** typically describe what is required of SBBs at a more logical or supplier-independent level; those requirements may include services to be performed, data resources, and capabilities needed. ABBs include logical business, application, and technology components
- **Solution Building Blocks (SBBs)** represent physical or supplier-specific components that have the capability to realize part or all of a more logical ABB. There are business, application, and technology SBBs.

The relationships between deliverables, artifacts, and building blocks are shown in Figure 1-1.

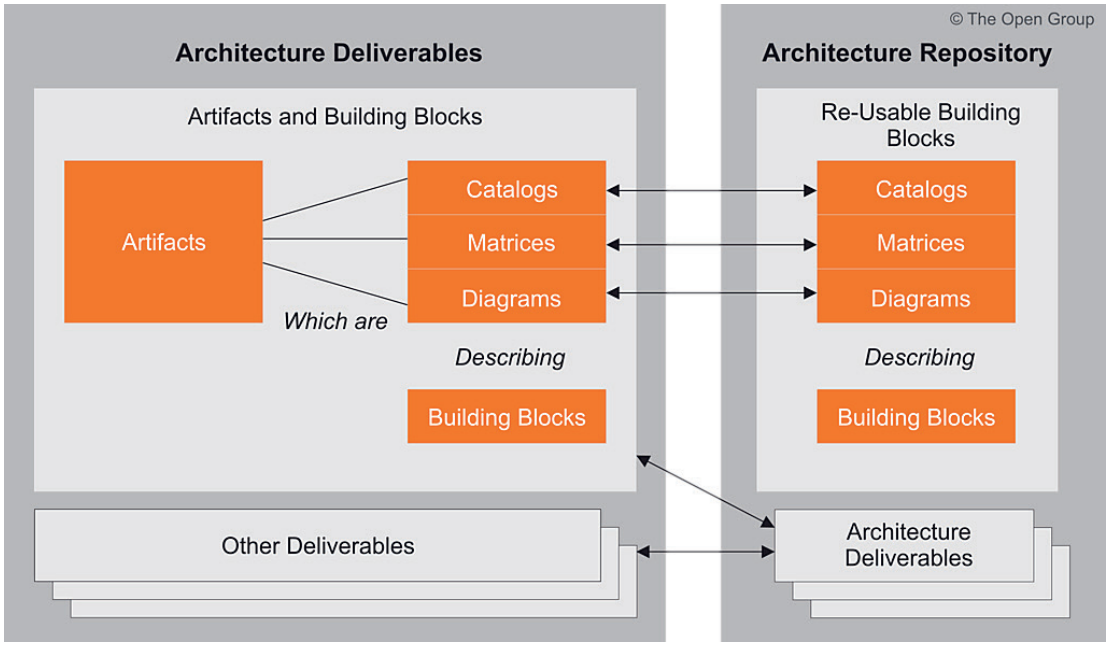

Figure 1-1: Relationships between Deliverables, Artifacts, and Building Blocks

For example, an Architecture Definition Document is a deliverable that documents an Architecture Description. This document will contain a number of complementary artifacts that are architecture views of the building blocks relevant to the architecture. For example, a process flow diagram (an artifact) may be created to describe the target call handling process (a building block). This artifact may also describe other building blocks, such as the actors involved in the process (e.g., a Customer Services Representative). An example of the relationships between deliverables, artifacts, and building blocks is illustrated in Figure 1-2.

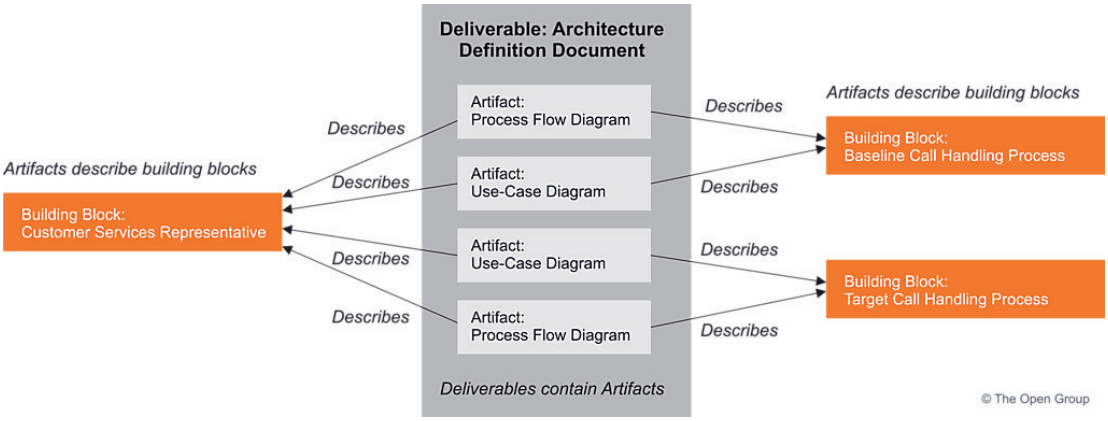

Figure 1-2: Example — Architecture Definition Document

1.2. TOGAF Content Framework and Enterprise Metamodel

1.2.1. Overview

The TOGAF ADM provides lifecycle management to create and manage architectures within an enterprise. At each phase within the ADM, a discussion of inputs, outputs, and steps describes a number of architecture work products.

An essential task when establishing the enterprise-specific Enterprise Architecture Capability in the Preliminary Phase of the ADM is to define:

- A categorization framework to be used to structure the Architecture Descriptions, the work products used to express an architecture, and the collection of models that describe the architecture; this is referred to as the **Content Framework**
- An understanding of the types of entities within the enterprise and the relationships between them that need to be captured, stored, and analyzed in order to create the Architecture Description; this **Enterprise Metamodel** depicts this information in the form of a formal model
- The specific artifacts to be developed (see Chapter 4)

The Content Framework chosen is likely to be influenced by:

- The Architecture Framework selected as the basis for the Enterprise Architecture Capability
- The chosen software tool used to support the Enterprise Architecture Capability