
**Building information models —
Information delivery manual —**

**Part 3:
Data schema**

*Modèles des informations de la construction — Protocole d'échange
d'informations —*

Partie 3: Schéma de données

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 59, *Buildings and civil engineering works*, Subcommittee SC 13, *Organization and digitization of information about buildings and civil engineering works, including building information modelling (BIM)*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 442, *Building Information Modelling (BIM)*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

A list of all parts in the ISO 29481 series can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

This document specifies a machine applicable, readable and transferable (SMART) data schema for the efficient development, management and reuse of information delivery manual (IDM) specifications based on ISO 29481-1. ISO 29481-1 sets out a methodology for describing the processes and information requirements for a defined purpose within the development or management of an asset. In the absence of a standard data schema for exchanging and sharing the contents of IDMs in an electronic format, IDM specifications have historically been developed as either a static document file or as a data file specified in a proprietary data format. Consequently, their contents cannot be efficiently exchanged, shared and reused. The goal of this document is to define a standard data schema in order to expedite the development and sharing of the IDM specifications to meet the rapidly increasing demand for various building information modelling (BIM) use cases (UCs).

Using extensible markup language (XML), this document specifies a data schema for authoring, exchanging and sharing an IDM specification defined by ISO 29481-1. The data schema is referred to as the idmXML schema definition (idmXSD). idmXSD aims to allow users to electronically store, search, share, exchange and reuse IDM specifications and their contents, including metadata such as authors, dates, languages, revision history and supported project phases, as well as detailed descriptions of each information requirement. In addition, this document specifies the IDM code generation rules based on their key properties.

Use of this document will improve the interoperability of IDM specifications and their contents, providing tight digital links between the components of an IDM specification and to external data definitions such as ISO 16739-1 (industry foundation classes, IFC), ISO 12006-3, ISO 19650-1, ISO 23386, ISO 23387, EN 17412-1 (level of information need) and ISO 21597-1 (information container for linked document delivery), as well as model view definitions (MVDs) of standard data schemas.

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Building information models — Information delivery manual —

Part 3: Data schema

1 Scope

This document is the technical addition to the methodology set out in ISO 29481-1. It defines a specification to store, exchange and read information delivery manual (IDM) specifications in a standardized and machine-readable way.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 639-1, *Codes for the representation of names of languages — Part 1: Alpha-2 code*

ISO 3166-1, *Codes for the representation of names of countries and their subdivisions — Part 1: Country code*

ISO 8601-1, *Date and time — Representations for information interchange — Part 1: Basic rules*

ISO 22263, *Organization of information about construction works — Framework for management of project information*

ISO 29481-1:2016, *Building information models — Information delivery manual — Part 1: Methodology and format*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 29481-1 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1

attribute

XML construct that modifies or provides descriptive metadata about an element's content

[SOURCE: ISO 20616-1:2021, 3.7, modified — The term “XML attribute” has been deleted. The phrase “included within the start tag of an XML element” has been removed and “that element's content” has been replaced with “an element's content”.]

3.2

information delivery manual code

IDM code

code for an *IDM specification* (3.3) created based on the key identifying features of an IDM specification

3.3
information delivery manual specification
IDM specification

instance of an IDM and its components

3.4
use case
UC

description of an information use for a specific purpose by one or more actors and/or systems

3.5
business context map

description of the information flow in a business context represented in the form of a process map or interaction map

4 Overview of the IDM schema

4.1 Naming convention

The naming convention shown below is used for the IDM schema elements.

- a) The camel case convention shall be used for the naming of IDM schema elements.
- b) Except for the terms below, all the terms shall be spelled out:
 - 1) idm: information delivery manual;
 - 2) uc: use case;
 - 3) er: exchange requirement;
 - 4) pm: process map;
 - 5) im: interaction map;
 - 6) tm: transaction map;
 - 7) id: identifier.
- c) Elements that represent descriptions, a group or a set shall be specified using a plural form.

EXAMPLE benefits, limitations, requiredResources, requiredCompetencies.

4.2 Restriction notation

The following XSD restriction notation is used for the IDM data schema.

- PK: primary key.
- Required: mandatory.
- Optional: not mandatory.
- The 1:1 restriction depicts that both the minimum and maximum occurrence of an element is 1. This means there shall be one element.
- The 0:1 restriction depicts that the minimum occurrence of an element is 0 and the maximum occurrence is 1.
- The 0:* restriction depicts the zero to many relationship, which is represented as minOccurs = "0" to maxOccurs = "unbounded" in the XML schema.

4.3 Overall structure of the IDM schema

The idmXSD consists of the idm element, its three core components (i.e. UC, business context map and ER), and the relations and properties related to them.

- An IDM specification consists of a UC, business context maps and an ER.
- A UC shall include the header information specified in ISO 29481-1 and other metadata sufficient to provide the context and the scope of an IDM.
- A business context map visually and formally represents the information delivery processes for a UC. ISO 29481-1 requires the exchange method and process to be specified in one or more PM and/or IM.
- An ER defines the information required by a specific UC at an individual information-unit level; possibly with references to the elements of standard data schemas, such as CityGML^[19], ISO 16739-1 (IFC), gbXML^[17] or ISO 12006-3.

[Clauses 5](#) to [11](#) define the entities, relationships, attributes and restrictions of the IDM schema. [Figure 1](#) illustrates a conceptual view of the IDM schema. A downloadable link to the full idmXSD is provided in [Annex A](#).

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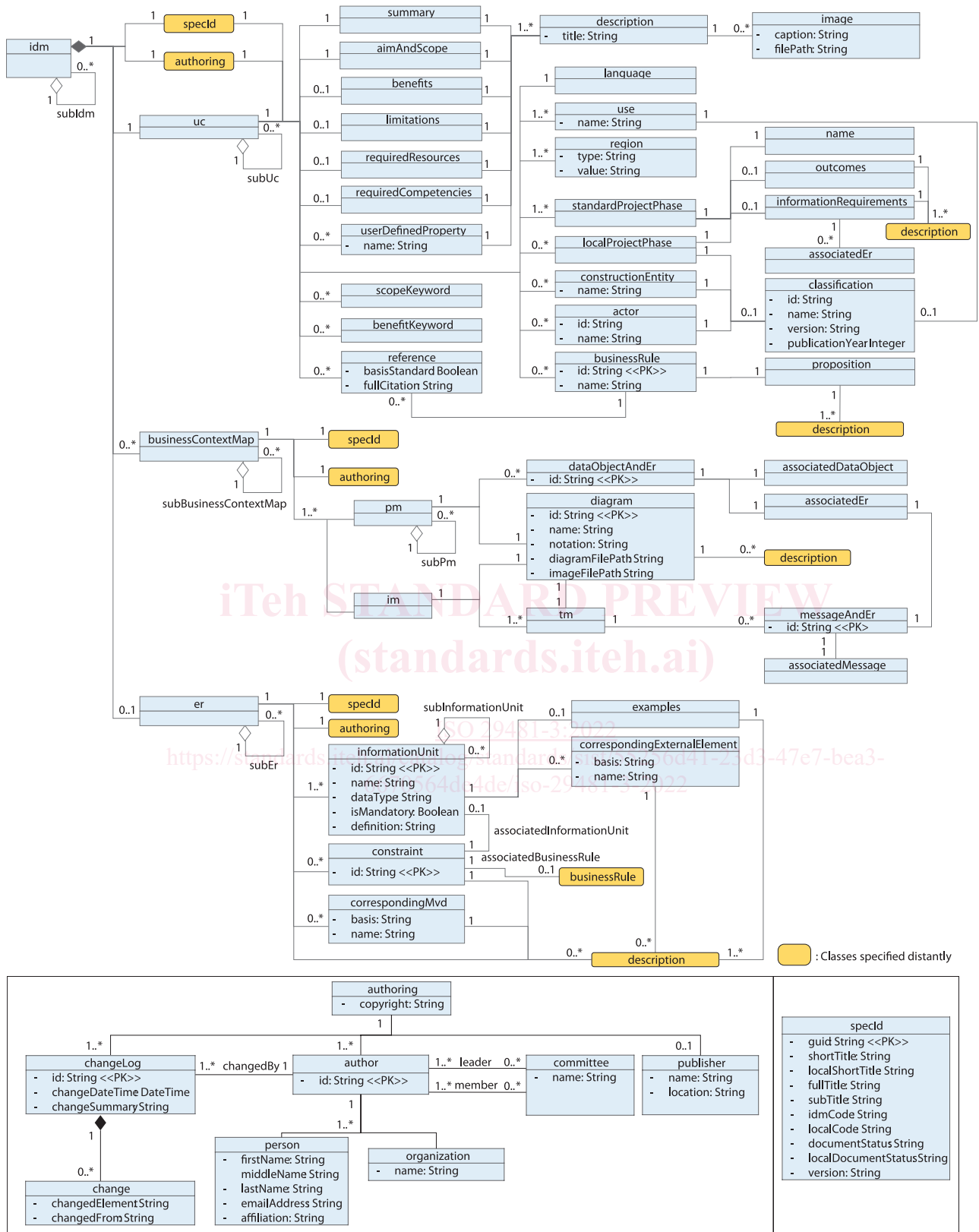


Figure 1 — Conceptual view of the IDM schema in the unified modelling language (UML) class diagram

5 Information delivery manual

The `idm` element is a wrapper of core IDM components – namely UCs, business context maps and ERs (see [Figure 2](#)). The constraints between them are as follows.

- The `idm` element shall be the single root element in the `idmXSD`.
- An `idm` element shall be associated with a single `uc` element and a single `er` element.
- An `idm` element may contain zero to many `businessContextMap` elements.
- The `businessContextMap` element and the `er` element may be left unspecified during the initial development phase, to be detailed in a later version of the IDM specification as it is developed.
- An `idm` element may include zero to many `subIdm` elements. The other IDM components (i.e. the UC element, the `businessContextMap` element and the `er` element) may also include zero to many sub-elements.

This structure allows all the IDM components to be associated with multiple IDMs, UCs, business context maps and ERs, which can be specified by external groups.

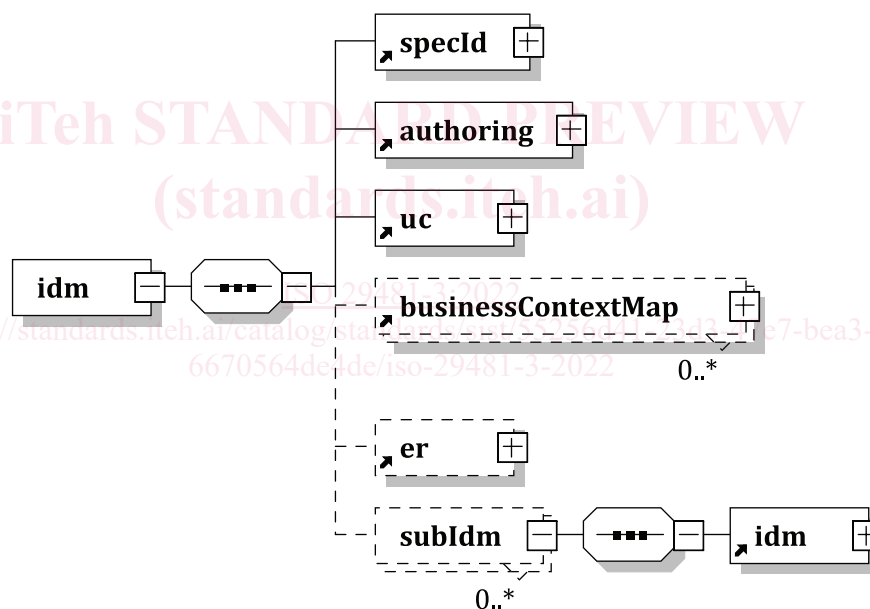


Figure 2 — XSD diagram of the IDM element

[Table 1](#) lists the elements, types and restrictions of the IDM element.

Table 1 — IDM’s elements

Name	Type	Restriction	Description
<code>specId</code>	element	1:1	The specification identification information (see Clause 6 for details).
<code>authoring</code>	element	1:1	The author and change log information (see Clause 7 for details).
<code>subIdm</code>	element	0:*	A subset of an IDM.
<code>uc</code>	element	1:1	An associated UC.
<code>businessContextMap</code>	element	0:*	Associated business context maps.

NOTE The XML elements are shaded in grey. XML elements with sub-elements are depicted separately.

Table 1 (continued)

Name	Type	Restriction	Description
er	element	0:1	An associated ER.
NOTE The XML elements are shaded in grey. XML elements with sub-elements are depicted separately.			

6 Specification identifier (specId)

Each IDM component shall have a set of identifiers. An IDM specification and its sub-UC, business context map and ER shall use four types of identifiers: a globally unique identifier (GUID), an IDM code, and user-defined full and short titles (guid, idmCode, fullTitle and shortTitle, respectively). Since an IDM specification can be specified in any language, the short title shall be provided in English. These are referred to as the “specId attribute group”. The specId attribute group shall include the attributes specified in [Figure 3](#) and [Table 2](#).

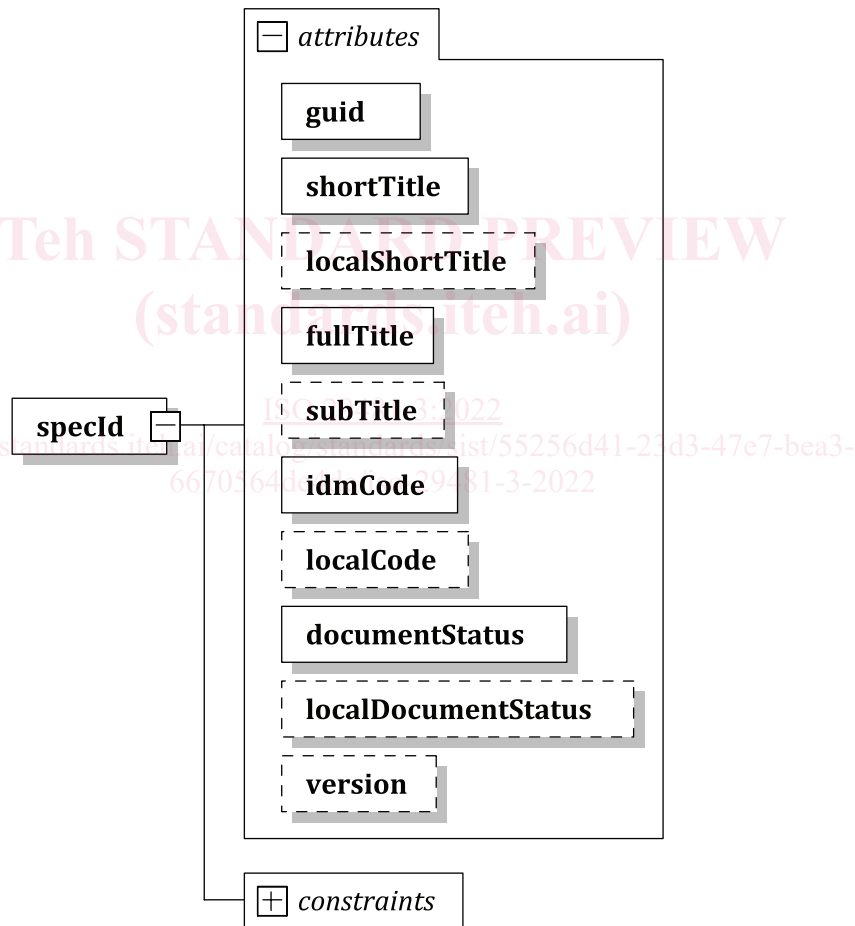


Figure 3 — XSD diagram of the specId