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Open Agile Architecture™ Standard, Version 2.0 – A Pocket Guide

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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

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The Open Group publishes a wide range of technical documentation, most of which is focused on development of Open Group 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 is the Pocket Guide to the Open Agile Architecture™ Standard, Version 2.0, a standard of The Open Group (also known as the O-AA™ Standard). It provides a condensed reference to the Open Agile Architecture Standard, offering an overview of its contents and purpose in a portable format. As a quick reference guide, it does not cover every aspect of the standard in exhaustive detail, but presents highlights, essential concepts, and key practical guidance to support practitioners in their daily work.

This Pocket Guide is designed for busy practitioners and decision-makers who need quick, accessible reference material on Agile Architecture principles and practices, including business leaders driving transformation initiatives, Enterprise Architects working in Agile environments, product managers and owners seeking rapid guidance, and operational managers implementing Lean practices, providing them with a condensed, actionable resource that complements the comprehensive Open Agile Architecture Standard.

This document is organized as follows:

- Chapter 1, *Introduction*, provides an introduction to the Open Agile Architecture Standard, including its objective of addressing dual transformation, an overview of the standard's four-part structure, and changes since the previous version of the standard
- Chapter 2, *The Agile Way of Thinking*, covers the fundamental concepts of dual Digital and Agile Transformation, explaining why organizational agility matters and how to develop business agility through organizational agility
- Chapter 3, *The Agile Enterprise*, addresses topics related to Agile organization, Agile strategy, architecting the Agile Transformation, and Agile governance
- Chapter 4, *The Agile Architecture Capability*, examines architecture development styles and supporting techniques, including architecture development, intentional architecture, continuous architectural refactoring, and summaries of key architecture deliverables

- Chapter 5, *The Ways of Supporting*, examines capabilities required to support Agile Architecture development, including experience design, journey mapping, Lean Value Stream Mapping, event storming, domain-driven design strategic patterns, and data, information, and Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- Chapter 6, *Axioms for Agile Architecture*, presents a set of 16 axioms, which are guidelines or restrictions that Agile Architects are recommended to follow
- Chapter 7, *Practical Guidance*, provides quick-start guidance for applying the standard, common use cases and scenarios, integration with other frameworks, tailoring approaches for different organizational contexts, and success factors with common pitfalls to avoid
- Appendix A, *Glossary*, contains the glossary of terms for this document
- Appendix B, *Referenced Documents*, lists the publications referenced in this document

How to Use This Pocket Guide

This Pocket Guide serves as a portable quick reference to support practitioners in meetings, workshops, planning sessions, and daily architecture practice. It provides highlights, essential concepts, and key practical guidance without covering every aspect of the standard in exhaustive detail.

After reading this document, the reader seeking further information should refer to the Open Agile Architecture Standard documentation available online at www.opengroup.org/AgileArchitecture.

Conventions Used in this Document

The following conventions are used throughout this document in order to help identify important information and avoid confusion over the intended meaning:

- **Ellipsis (...)**

Indicates a continuation; such as an incomplete list of example items, or a continuation from preceding text.

- **Bold**

Used to highlight specific terms.

- *Italics*

Used for emphasis. May also refer to other external documents.

In addition to typographical conventions, the following conventions are used to highlight segments of text:



Note

A Note box is used to highlight useful or interesting information.



Tip

A Tip box is used to provide key information that can save you time or that may not be entirely obvious.