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Report D3.6 "First report on harmonized and developed ontologies"

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Report D3.6 "First report on harmonized and developed ontologies"

Versioning History

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Glossary of terms

 $3¹$

Keywords

Alignment; Data; Harmonization; Ontology; Standardization

Disclaimer

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Executive Summary

To achieve interoperability, OntoCommons harmonizes domain-level ontologies (DLOs) and facilitates agreement in domain ontology development. As part of the effort of work package 3, an objective of OntoCommons is to provide alignments among existing DLOs from the stakeholders' community. This task requires completing several activities, including identifying existing DLOs and corresponding disciplines to be covered by the alignment effort, defining the level of alignment to be achieved by the DLOs, and finding gaps in the disciplines that can be filled with new DLOs. A second version of the harmonized DLO is planned to be published in the 34th month of the project. The report describes the methodology, list of disciplines and DLOs considered, and other technical details associated with the current development.

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1.Introduction

Task 3.4 (T3.4) will help build a foundation for cross-discipline domain-level interoperability as part of work package 3 of the OntoCommons project. As part of this task, several activities will need to be performed in order to achieve the broad outcome of terminological alignment among DLOs from a variety of stakeholders' communities. These include identifying existing DLOs and their corresponding disciplines, determining the level of alignment to be achieved by DLOs, and identifying gaps in disciplines that can be filled with the creation of new DLOs. A second version of the harmonized DLO is planned to be published in the $34th$ month of the project. The current development and methodology, as well as the disciplines and DLOs considered, are described in this report.

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In addition to top-reference ontology (TRO) and Middle-level ontology (MLO) development, DLO development takes into account input from focused workshops and stakeholder engagement in T2.4 and T2.5. As a result of the wide scope of TLO and MLO, top-bottom considerations will be chosen before bottom-up considerations, but the DLOs to include in the Ontology Commons EcoSystem (OCES) will be chosen by prioritizing bottom-up needs, as identified by community feedback and demonstrators' needs, aligning existing resources with ontologies, and developing new ontologies as needed. The DLOs harmonized and developed will be tested throughout the duration of the project by the domain ontology developers who are direct users of the DLOs, and the DLOs will be validated by the demonstrators. OntoCommons will standardize the documentation of the NMBP data and ontologize this.

2.Methodology

The purpose of T3.4 is to develop and harmonize DLOs that cover the domain of NMBP (Nanotechnologies, Advanced Materials, Biotechnology and Advanced Manufacturing and Processing). The sub-tasks aimed at achieving that goal include:

- Identification of domains in which DLOs exist and domains in which new development is needed.
- Definition of the expected level of alignment between the DLOs.
- Harmonization of at least ten existing DLOs by means of bridge concepts.
- Development of at least three new DLOs according to the needs.
- Establishment of terminology, taxonomies, and ontologies to be included in the OCES (Ontology Commons EcoSystem).

In order to effectively carry out the work, we followed the focus areas and focus groups from T3.3, which allows us to divide the domain into more specific subareas. The focus groups for our initial investigation include:

- Systems Engineering,
- Product and Service.

- Material Science,
- Manufacturing, and
- Maintenance.

For all the focus groups to commence to work smoothly in parallel, a robust methodology was adopted. First, we defined and followed a general workflow containing three distinctive phases as a high-level guideline. Second, to accommodate the particularities of each focus group, the general workflow was tailored according to the special needs and circumstances in each focus area. Last, a common harmonization approach called bridge concept which had been predefined by work package 2 was used. In this methodology section, we will present the general workflow and its three phases. We will show the candidate-bridge-concept terms selection through a test case in Product and Service focus group as an example and other developed bridge concepts for each focus area in the result section.

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Note that this M24 report does not yet include the identification of domains for new DLO development, also known as Phase III in the general workflow. The reason is that it will require more information on standardized domain vocabulary and DLO-related requirements to be collected and published in the second version of domain requirements (D3.5).

To summarize, the following subsections describe: the definition of DLOs in OntoCommons, the level of alignment in DLO harmonization, the general workflow for DLO harmonization, and finally, the approach of bridge concepts used in DLO harmonization.

2.1 What is a domain-level ontology (DLO)?

OCES (Ontology Commons EcoSystem) consists of a hierarchy of networked ontologies at different levels of generality (from top-level to application-level) with multiple forms of interoperability. Some recent works (ISO/IEC 21838-1:2021-Part 1, Top-level ontology survey from National Digital Twin) addressed the foundational topics and different ontological commitments of top-level ontology (TLO) development, however no similar work exists for DLO development. We present an attempt to characterize the different levels of ontologies formally in Section 2.1 of D2.5 [\[1\]](#page-105-2), especially providing both structural and logical distinction of a DLO ontology with MLO and TLO.

Concerning DLOs, the OntoCommons proposal describes them as "a specialized module of a middlelevel ontology (MLO), targeting a specific domain of applications (e.g., additive manufacturing, composite materials)". Moreover, "a DLO is characterized by an increased level of detail with respect to an MLO, a more pronounced horizontal extension and a strong dependency on the domain of application, while still maintaining some neutrality with respect to the specific problem addressed".

2.2 Alignment level

Concerning harmonization of DLOs, the OntoCommons proposal describes it as the activity addressed by the approach of ontology alignment. To be specific, "an alignment is a set of relationships aimed at drawing correspondences between different ontologies targeting the same domain of interest". Nevertheless, the maximum level of alignment depends on the ontologies being aligned. A formal ontology's alignment level may be influenced by the differences between its fundamental perspectives, so alignment levels may vary from case to case. There are four levels of

alignment: format, syntactic, terminological, and semantic (or conceptual). A format alignment is achieved when ontologies follow the same technical principle. A syntactic alignment is achieved when ontologies are expressed in the same formal language (e.g., OWL, FOL). A terminological alignment occurs when ontologies refer to the same real-world entity using the same names (for instance, an object may be called a car, an automobile, or a motor in different ontologies). A semantic alignment is achieved only when relations and axioms used in ontologies to define concepts are correlated and reasoning between them can be performed. In harmonizing DLOs, the alignment activities mainly focus on syntactic and terminological levels. Moreover, the semantic alignment is guaranteed by TRO or cascading mapping of domain level bridge concepts to mid-level bridge concepts.

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2.3 DLO harmonization workflow

This section specifies the general process of DLO harmonization. DLO harmonization involves both the harmonization of existing ontologies and the creation of new ones. Requirement analysis needs to be conducted before each bridge concept is specified in order to identify what domains could be reused but need to be harmonized and which topics would require new DLOs. Once the domains that will be harmonized are identified, each domain must be analyzed separately and the ontologies associated with that domain must be harmonized both horizontally and vertically. T3.4 adopted a three-phase process in general:

- Phase I: Domain coverage analysis,
- Phase II: Harmonization of domain ontologies, and
- Phase III: Development of new domain ontologies.

[Table 1](#page-9-1) presents the phases, purposes, activities and outputs of the general workflow.

	Phase I	Phase II	Phase III	
	Domain coverage analysis	Harmonization of existing DLOs	Development of new DLOs	
Purpos e	To determine the domains for which existing DLOs may be reused but need harmonization and the topics for which new DLO need to be developed.	To harmonize 10 identified ontologies for each area both horizontally and vertically.	To develop 3 new domain ontologies for gap areas covered by the project demonstrators.	
Activity	Identify area-specific existing ontologies, Extract similar terms based on glossary for the area, Create a list of ontologies to be harmonized with a ranking,	Identify bridge concepts, Elucidate concepts of bridge concepts, Map bridge concepts to DLO _s ,	Select the gap areas covered by the project demonstrators, Develop new domain ontologies following LOT methodology.	

Table 1 - Purposes, activities, and outputs of DLO harmonization workflow

2.3.1 Phase I. domain coverage analysis

Domain ontology engineering requires a domain coverage analysis to be performed after the requirements for the domain(s) are collected and before the harmonization or development work is started. Output of the domain coverage analysis is a list of domains(s) for which at least one existing ontology exists, i.e., a list of ontologies which are covered by domain(s), and domains for which no ontology exists, [Figure 1](#page-10-1) presents a general workflow for domain coverage analysis to be carried out. The workflow needs to conducted after a state-of-the-art of ontologies (providing Landscape analysis in [Figure 1\)](#page-10-1) [\[2\]](#page-105-3) for relevant domains is finished and also an analysis of domain or application requirement (providing Glossary and CQs in [Figure 1\)](#page-10-1) is completed. For more details, please see the methodology in Section 2 of D3.4 [\[3\]](#page-105-4).

Figure 1 - General workflow of domain coverage analysis

2.3.2 Phase II. harmonization of domain ontologies

[Figure 2](#page-12-2) presents the general workflow for DLO harmonization. The key activities include identification of candidate-bridge-concept terms, concept elucidation of bridge concepts, horizontal alignment, and vertical alignment.

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First, candidate-bridge-concept terms need to be identified from the DLOs belonging to one domain. In this methodology, the bridge concepts are selected from two sources. A list of potential concepts may be identified by running some automatic alignment algorithms over a list of domain ontologies for a particular topic. The domain coverage analysis described in Section Error! Reference source not found. may be applied to surveyed ontologies to enlist ontologies for a target domain. However, these domain ontologies may also be collected from domain experts and community practitioners. The automatic algorithm may quickly extract some terms from these ontologies as manual inspection of a large number of ontologies is time-consuming. However, not all align-able concepts can be identified by matching algorithms as such existing algorithms often employ lexical or structural matching. Therefore, manual inspection may be seriously considered, especially for small number of ontologies.

On the other end, potential concepts that are required to be modeled for the target use of the ontology need to be considered urgently. Functional requirements of ontology are normally captured as competency questions. A glossary of terms from these competency questions can be enlisted with some frequency of use in competency questions for each term. The terms with high frequency are undoubtedly deserve priority. Either the combination (union) of a list of such high priority terms and the terms extracted by automatic matcher or only the common terms to these two sets may be considered to prepare the final list of bridge concepts.

Next, each bridge concept needs to be documented using the concept elucidation template. A bridge concept template is presented in Section Error! Reference source not found. which may be used to research on domain references, definitions, and characteristics of a concept.

Next, each bridge concept is mapped to related terms from the source DLO using weak correspondence based on the conceptual similarity of the bridge concept and original concept. Also, each bridge concept is mapped to one or more suitable terms from MLOs aligned in OCES or one of the TLOs, i.e., BFO, DOLCE, EMMO, or both using strong correspondence. The last two steps are highly technical and require rigorous ontological analysis. During mapping, it is also not uncommon to adjust the conceptualization of bridge concept in the bridge concept template. Sometimes, one bridge concept may be split into multiple bridge concepts to establish mappings to existing concepts if none of the existing concept can be satisfactorily aligned to the characterization in entirely. Some of these strategies are illustrated in Section [2.4.](#page-12-1)

Figure 2 - General workflow of harmonization of domain ontologies

2.3.3 Phase III. development of new domain ontologies

This phase focuses on developing three new domain ontologies. Before developing new ontology, target domains requiring urgent attention but lacking existing ontology need to be identified. For each target domain, a new ontology needs to be developed using LOT4OntoCommons methodology. These activities are planned to be implemented in the second part of the task. Therefore, the first report does not cover the details of methodology and results for this phase.

2.4 Analysis of candidate bridge concepts

In this section, the approach for the analysis of candidate-bridge-concept terms is presented and expounded. The discussion encompasses the exposition of the rationale underlying the adoption of a common methodology, as well as an example of application of one of the strategies developed.

The analysis of the candidate-bridge-concept terms is pivotal for the success of the project, as the choice of inadequate candidates can negatively impact the workflow, and the project in general (the following list is not meant to be exhaustive; nor can it be so, as extensive field-tests have yet to be conducted):

- if a term is not properly chosen, problems are bound to emerge in the phase of bridge concept engineering. A problematic term can lead an engineering team (focus group) to resort to shifting the goalposts, or even bring about a time wasting impasse;
- a bridge concept engineered on an inappropriate candidate can prove vastly ineffective to the end of harmonizing ontologies (e.g., it might provide only a relatively limited number of connections, or uninformative links);
- sub-par choices can lead to redundancies: two candidates might be chosen in a way such that the resulting bridge concepts are (likely to be) similar or overlap. (It is appropriate to speak of redundancy whenever it is seemingly possible to establish a strong semantic relation among a couple of bridge concepts and at least one of the two does not add value to the OCES over the other);
- different groups might end up independently engineering redundant bridge concepts if no precautions (the establishment of a shared space, made possible by a shared methodology) are taken;

 an inadequate candidate might conduce towards bridge concepts which - albeit pragmatically useful (to the end of aligning ontologies and connecting the OCES) - fail to meet all the other desiderata.

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It should be noted that it is unclear whether the establishment of a unique methodology is advantageous, given the plurality of cases to be tackled. However, there are definitive advantages in standardization; even more so to improve cooperation between focus groups. A shared methodology (even if possibly pluralistic and, specifically, scenario-sensitive) guarantees transparency and the homogeneity of the results, going ways towards ensuring the accessibility of the documentation and the usability of the overall framework. Standardization is a staple in OntoCommons, and it is thus appropriate to take the possibility of a common methodology for the analysis of the candidate terms as a working hypothesis.

Different scenarios call for different approaches, as they present different challenges and allow for the adoption of different instruments and lines of action. The following variables have to be taken into account when it comes to the analysis of candidate terms:

- the number of (existing) ontologies involved;
- the mean average number of concepts/entities per ontology;
- whether tentative connections among the considered ontologies are individuated upon first recognition;
- vocabularies/standards coverage of the relevant domain.

Two strategies for the analysis of candidate-terms were developed by the Consortium before entering the testing phase, depending on the factors considered above. These strategies served as guidelines and were adapted to the specific scenarios by the focus groups, with relevant variations. It was deemed that one of the two was had passed testing phase; said strategy will be presented in what follows. An example of application, focusing on the path from the analysis of a specific candidate to the first phases of bridge concept engineering, will also be included.

This strategy targets specifically cases involving a small number of existing ontologies (indicatively, and tentatively, $n \leq 3$). The procedure is mostly manual, with a heavy reliance on alternative tools like glossaries and golden standards to fill in the gaps with respect to domain-coverage if/when needed.

The procedure is divided in 5 macro-steps:

- Step 1: Manual analysis of the involved ontologies and subsequent establishment of (extremely) tentative and rough semantic alignments;
- Step 2: Holistic comparative evaluation of the pivotal concepts underlying the tentative semantic alignments, taking into account bridge concept aptness, conductive to the establishment of a first list of potential candidates;
- Step 3: Re-analysis of the target existent ontologies' branches which would supposedly not be covered given the first potential candidates individuated, with a creative stance finalized to the individuation of concepts which might play the role of super classes;
- Step 4: Analysis of golden standards and glossaries and active involvement with domain experts, conductive to the individuation of further candidates;
- Step 5: Final selection starting from the potential candidates individuated in steps 1 to 4.

It should be noted that Step 1 involves the adoption of strategies for the establishment of tentative semantic alignments which do not diverge from the standard ones known and usually employed by

ontologists. This is made possible by the low number of ontologies involved. Their effective application should be facilitated by the presence of domain experts for the specific domain, and the possibility of making use of the alignments among TLOs produced in the context of T2.4, where applicable.

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For example, the Product and Service focus group adapted the outlined methodology to the specific domain under examination; the exercise, reported in what follows, served as a preliminary test of the approach. It also served as a demonstration of the workflow from candidate-terms analysis to the preliminary phases of bridge concept engineering. It was decided to focus on aspects related to ontology-alignment for pragmatic reasons, since it was a test, and that's a minimal precondition for the establishment of a working EcoSystem.

The Product and Service focus group had previously selected two ontologies for the relevant domain: PRONTO and PSS (the details are provided infra in §3.2), as shown in [Figure 3.](#page-14-0) The specific scenario was extremely favorable given the minimal number of domain ontologies involved (2) and since developers from both ontologies took part in the effort, despite (3) the peculiarities of the relevant domain's conceptual landscape, which is undergoing significant changes, related to services taking over the center stage (a process also connected with digitization).

It should be noted that bridge concepts are a multipurpose tool thought for implementation in scenarios involving a plurality of ontologies at different levels. The full benefits of the double huband-spoke connection structure were not displayed given contingent circumstances relative to the scenario chosen, yet -even in this case- they establish the scalability pre-conditions for an eventual implementation of other ontologies connected to the relevant domain into the OCES.

An analysis of the conceptual landscape led to the partitioning of the domain in sub-areas, to better evaluate the concepts employed by the relevant ontologies in Step 1.

Figure 3 - DLO selections within product and service focus area

Since only two ontologies were evaluated in this test case, and PSS was based on IOF-Core —in turn based on BFO— it was decided to pragmatically focus on the analysis of PRONTO, considering tentative connections mediated by resources from the ontologies already aligned with PSS.

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Various circumstantial conditions allowed for an in-depth analysis of PRONTO (as shown in [Figure](#page-15-0) [4\)](#page-15-0), starting from its intended use, to its architecture, to its classes. The relevant outcomes of the analysis (schematically reported below) were employed both in step 1 and step 3, to evaluate the needs related to ontology-coverage.

Figure 4 - Evaluating the classes for the alignment in the product and service focus area

The contained number of potential candidates can be attributed to the internal architectural organization of the ontology, favoring stratification over unification, and being targeted to direct implementation for local application. Nevertheless, anticipating the results of Step 3, it was deemed that the coverage would be satisfactory for alignment.

PSS, qua based on IOF-Core and BFO, allegedly had the expressive resources for tentative alignments. In line with step 2, 3 potential candidates were selected from the 5 highlighted above, upon recognition of glossaries, golden standards, and interactions with domain experts (namely, the ontology developers).

As per Step 4, this list was then complemented with other candidates. Given the aims of the test (alignment) said candidates were chiefly selected from PSS, both to meet the requirements outlined in Step 2, and to engineer bridge concepts connected with the selected ontologies first, in line with an iterative approach for the creation of the OCES from the support of minimal functionalities to the establishment of a complete framework/environment.

The list included the following terms (to be specified in the engineering phases as per the overall bridge concepts engineering methodology):

- 1. Product/Material Product:
- 2. Component;
- 3. Family [of products];
- 4. Service;
- 5. PSS [Product Service System];
- 6. Product Specification.

Given the demonstrative aims of the testing case, the focus then shifted immediately to the bridge concept engineering phase, in which glossaries and golden standards were given more considerations. 2 cores underlying the standard uses of 'Product' in the domain were individuated, and the relationship with ISOs (and other golden standards) properly evaluated (as shown in [Figure](#page-16-0) [5\)](#page-16-0).

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C "Output of a Process"		
	C —Figurative meaning: "output of mathematical operations (multiplication; set-intersection)"; Derivative specifications: "output of a process guided by a telos"; "output of human labour"	
	\bullet -The specifications usually have a material connotations (artifacts)	
"Object of a Transaction"		
	Many "hybrid" or non-committal meanings: certain questions simply do not arise until the mismatches cause issues Product?	
ISO 10303:	ISO 9000:	ISO 14040:
Thing or substance or ٠ information produced by a process	Output of an organization that \bullet can be produced without any transaction taking place between the organization and the customer	Any goods or service Can be either tangible or intangible

Figure 5 - Analyzing definitions in standards

The in-depth analysis of the domain and of the semantic relationships to be established between the relevant PRONTO and PSS classes led to the amelioration of PRONTO itself, and to the creation of 3 Bridge-Concepts related to the notion of 'product':

- 1. BC:Product Specification
- 2. BC:Commercial Good
- 3. BC:Product of Manufacturing

It was deemed necessary to establish a net of bridge concepts given the salience of the notion and to avoid possible ambiguities which could have compromised interoperability. In fact, it was decided to suspend judgment on two more possible bridge concepts which could serve to create a more usable OCES:

- 4. BC:Commercial Product
- 5. BC:Material Product

The demonstration case provided a detailed description of analysis and negotiation among the involved parties, focusing on possible pitfalls and difficulties and how to pragmatically deal with such

issues. It also served to provide insights on pros and cons in the choice specific bridge concepts to be engineered in the engineering phase, after the selection of candidate-terms, contributing to the establishment of shared guidelines, and a common methodology.

2.5 Bridge concept template used for DLO harmonization

The following template is adopted when documenting domain-level bridge concepts. It contains four parts, namely new concept name, general concept info, knowledge domain resources, and alignment to existing ontologies. Regarding the last part, horizontal alignment and vertical alignment are described respectively.

NEW CONCEPT NAME

(use the preferred label, or IRI name, provided in the first table as title)

General Concept Info:

Knowledge Domain Resources:

Alignments To Existing Ontologies: (1: vertical, MLOs/TLOs; 2: horizontal, DLOs)

1: Vertical Alignments

2: Horizontal Alignments

3.Result

In this section, we report the results from the first two phases, namely, domain coverage analysis and DLO harmonization through bridge concepts, by focus areas.

3.1 Domain coverage analysis

3.1.1 Systems engineering

[Table 2](#page-19-2) tabulates the identified DLOs and domain standards in the systems engineering domain. It is worth noting that a formal systems engineering domain ontology is under development by IOF Systems Engineering Working Group. Many domain standards are used to analyze the systems engineering body of knowledge and develop the IOF systems engineering ontology. [Table 2](#page-19-2) lists the knowledge sources to be considered when defining systems engineering domain ontologies.

Table 2 - DLOs in systems engineering

IOF SE ontology <https://industrialontologies.org/systems-engineering-wg/>

IOF SE ontology is proposed by the IOF working group. The Systems engineering WG is motivated by use cases including the systems engineering, system architecture, system lifecycle and modelbased systems engineering. The WG is exploring the use of systems engineering domain ontologies built to adhere to a common upper ontology that can enable reasoning across industrial domains during the entire system lifecycle.

SEBoK https://www.sebokwiki.org/wiki/Guide_to_the_Systems_Engineering_Body_of [Knowledge_\(SEBoK\)](https://www.sebokwiki.org/wiki/Guide_to_the_Systems_Engineering_Body_of_Knowledge_(SEBoK))

The SEBoK provides a guide to the [key knowledge sources and references](https://www.sebokwiki.org/wiki/Primary_References) of [systems engineering](https://www.sebokwiki.org/wiki/Systems_Engineering_(glossary)) organized and explained to assist a wide variety of individuals. It is a living product, accepting community input continuously, with regular refreshes and updates. Currently, the SEBOK provides a vocabulary of systems engineering related concepts proposed by INCOSE.

ISO/IEC/IEEE 15288:2015 <https://www.iso.org/standard/63711.html>

ISO/IEC/IEEE 15288:2015 establishes a common framework of process descriptions for describing the life cycle of systems created by humans. It defines a set of processes and associated terminology from an engineering viewpoint. These processes can be applied at any level in the hierarchy of a system's structure. Selected sets of these processes can be applied throughout the life cycle for managing and performing the stages of a system's life cycle. This is accomplished through the involvement of all stakeholders, with the ultimate goal of achieving customer satisfaction. ISO/IEC/IEEE 15288:2015 also provides processes that support the definition, control and improvement of the system life cycle processes used within an organization or a project. Organizations and projects can use these processes when acquiring and supplying systems. ISO/IEC/IEEE 15288:2015 concerns those systems that are man-made and may be configured with one or more of the following system elements: hardware, software, data, humans, processes (e.g., processes for providing service to users), procedures (e.g., operator instructions), facilities, materials and naturally occurring entities.

ISO/IEC/IEEE 42010:2011

<https://www.iso.org/standard/50508.html>

ISO/IEC/IEEE 42010:2011 addresses the creation, analysis and sustainment of architectures of systems through the use of architecture descriptions. A conceptual model of architecture description is established. The required contents of an architecture description are specified. Architecture viewpoints, architecture frameworks and architecture description languages are introduced for codifying conventions and common practices of architecture description. The required content of architecture viewpoints, architecture frameworks and architecture description languages is specified. Annexes provide the motivation and background for key concepts and terminology and examples of applying ISO/IEC/IEEE 42010:2011.

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ISO/IEC/IEEE 29148:2018

<https://www.iso.org/standard/72089.html>

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ISO/IEC/IEEE 29148 specifies the required processes implemented in the engineering activities that result in requirements for systems and software products (including services) throughout the life cycle; — provides guidelines for applying the requirements and requirements-related processes described in ISO/IEC/IEEE 15288 and ISO/IEC/IEEE 12207; — specifies the required information items produced through the implementation of the requirements processes; — specifies the required contents of the required information items; — provides guidelines for the format of the required and related information items. This document is applicable to: — those who use or plan to use ISO/IEC/IEEE 15288 and ISO/IEC/IEEE 12207 on projects dealing with man-made systems, software-intensive systems, software and hardware products, and services related to those systems and products, regardless of the project scope, product(s), methodology, size or complexity; $$ anyone performing requirements engineering activities to aid in ensuring that their application of the requirements engineering processes conforms to ISO/IEC/IEEE 15288 and/or ISO/IEC/IEEE12207; — those who use or plan to use ISO/IEC/IEEE 15289 on projects dealing with man-made systems, software-intensive systems, software and hardware products and services related to those systems and products, regardless of the project scope, product(s), methodology, size or complexity; — anyone performing requirements engineering activities to aid in ensuring that the information items developed during the application of requirements engineering processes conforms to ISO/IEC/IEEE 15289.

ISO/IEC/IEEE 24765:2017

<https://www.iso.org/standard/71952.html>

ISO/IEC/IEEE 24765:2017 provides a common vocabulary applicable to all systems and software engineering work. It was prepared to collect and standardize terminology. ISO/IEC/IEEE 24765:2017 is intended to serve as a useful reference for those in the information technology field, and to encourage the use of systems and software engineering standards prepared by ISO and liaison organizations IEEE Computer Society and Project Management Institute. ISO/IEC/IEEE 24765:2017 includes references to the active source standards for definitions so that systems and software engineering concepts and requirements can be further explored.

OML

<http://www.opencaesar.io/>

Specification

OML is inspired by the Web Ontology Language 2 (OWL2) and the Semantic Web Rule Language (SWRL) and can be considered a gentler and more disciplined way of using these standards in the context of Systems Engineering. By mapping the OML constructs to a number of patterns expressed in subsets of OWL2 and SWRL, OML inherits its expressivity, modularity, extensibility, and description logic (DL) semantics, but also provides a concise and user-friendly syntax. Moreover, OML is implemented using the Eclipse Modeling Framework (EMF), which gives it a Java API and integration with a large ecosystem of modeling frameworks that has been used to develop useful tools, many of which are provided by the openCAESAR project.

GOPPRRE ontology refers to meta-meta model concept which presents an ontology based upon graphs, objects, points, properties, roles, and relationships with extensions (GOPPRRE), providing metamodels that support the various MBSE formalisms across lifecycle stages.

3.1.2 Product and service

[Table 3](#page-22-2) tabulates the DLOs that are harmonized in Product and Service area. Note that several other ontologies were studied in the scope of the Product and Service focus group and those are presented separately in Section [3.2.2.1.](#page-38-2)

3.1.3 Materials science

[Table](#page-23-0) 4 tabulates the DLOs developed for material domains as well as the ontologies used within the materials community.

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Table 4 - DLOs in material science

The AM ontology has been developed following two major milestones. The ontology developed within the first milestone includes AMProcessOntology, ModelOntology and AMOntology files. AMProcessOntology contains the set of entities used to capture knowledge about additive manufacturing processes. ModelOntology contains the set of entities used to capture knowledge about modeling concepts that represent (possibly) multi-physics multi-scale processes. AMOntology uses AMProcessOntology and ModelOntology files to describe entities that capture knowledge about characteristics of computational models for AM processes.

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industry. More specifically, the building elements and properties covered in this ontology support applications focused on the design of building renovation projects.

This modelling is based on ISO stardards.

A lightweight ontology to describe the structure of tabluar (series) data stored in hdf5 containers. Has successfully been used to describe the time-force-displacement data recorded during a tensile test. Extension to more complex scenarios (e.g. series of DIC images) is welcome.

			manufacturing processes, materials, models and software products.
	Metrology	https://github.com/emmo- repo/EMMO/blob/1.0.0- beta4/disciplines/metrology.ttl Defines the formal language of metrology, including theoretical and practical aspects of measurements.	
	Chemistry	applied chemistry.	https://github.com/emmo- repo/EMMO/blob/1.0.0- beta4/disciplines/chemistry.ttl The chemistry module populates the physicalistic perspective with materials subclasses categorised according to modern
Domain	CHAMEO Characterisation Methodologies Ontology ¹	OYSTER projects.	https://github.com/emmo-repo/domain- characterisation-methodology The CHAMEO Ontology is built with an alignment with EMMO and some of its modules, as well as with EMMO-compliant domain-level ontologies developed for the Open Innovation Environment (OIE) from the
	Microstructure	microstructure metallurgy.	https://github.com/emmo-repo/domain- The Microstructure Domain Ontology is intended to be a domain ontology for physical
	Atomistic	atomistic	https://github.com/emmo-repo/domain- An EMMO-based domain ontology for atomistic and electronic modelling.
	CIF Cristallography	crystallography	https://github.com/emmo-repo/domain-

¹ The CHAMEO Ontology is built with an alignment with EMMO and some of its modules, as well as with EMMO-compliant domainlevel ontologies developed for the Open Innovation Environment (OIE) from the OYSTER projects.

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3.1.4 Manufacturing

In the domain landscape survey (D3.2) [\[2\]](#page-105-3) many ontologies are classified for manufacturing domain (Production Engineering in Table 14 in D3.2). Including few more ontologies that were gathered from industrial partners and domain experts during various engagements and especially in the focus group meetings during requirement gathering, an exhaustive list of domain ontologies are tabulated in [Table 5.](#page-30-1)

Language (MSDL)

Manufacturing Service Description Language (MSDL) is an OWL-based ontology developed for the formal representation of manufacturing services. The development of MSDL started at the PLM Alliance research group at the University of Michigan and its first version was released in fall 2005. It is currently maintained and extended in the INFONEER Research Group at Texas State University under the supervision of Farhad Ameri.

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DeMO is an ontology for Discrete-event Modeling (DeM) (system dynamics for Discrete-event Systems (DeS)). The models in the ontology focus on how the state evolves over time. The state is typically discrete (finite or countable), while time may be continuous (uncountable), although the number of state changes (events) must be discrete. We also focus on stochastic models, although deterministic models are considered as special cases.

GRACE ontology | <http://industryportal.enit.fr/ontologies/GRACE>

The GRACE system will act at the Distributed Control System (DCS) and Manufacturing Execution System (MES) levels, implementing the sharing of process critical information between and inside the two layers. This results in the more efficient management of resources and higher final product quality. In the GRACE project, an ontology was designed and implemented considering the particularities of home appliance domain and integration of process and quality control levels.

Semantically Integrated Manufacturing Planning Model (SIMPM), an upper-level ontology is a collection of OWL (Ontology Web Language) axioms, which may provide upper level semantics for capturing the knowledge of manufacturing process planning. It seeks to model three fundamental constraints of manufacturing process planning which are variety, time, and aggregation. This ontology is derived from a three dimensional planning model developed in a previous study. The primary goal of SIMPM foundation ontology is to link planning variables from one aggregation dimension to another by establishing logical links. In particular, every machinable feature of a part design is linked to suitable manufacturing processes, which in turn are linked to compatible machine and tool to use. The upper-level concepts of Manufacturing Process Planning (MPP) are extremely generic and the following help to demonstrate the efficacy of the set of axioms.

SAREF4INMA is an extension of SAREF for the industry and manufacturing domain. SAREF4INMA focuses on extending SAREF for the industry and manufacturing domain to solve the lack of interoperability between various types of production equipment that produce items in a factory and, once outside the factory, between different organizations in the value chain to uniquely track back the produced items to the corresponding production equipment, batches, material and precise time in which they were manufactured. SAREF4INMA is specified and published by ETSI in the TS 103 410-5 associated to this ontology file. SAREF4INMA was created to be aligned with related initiatives in the smart industry and manufacturing domain in terms of modelling and standardization, such as the Reference Architecture Model for Industry 4.0 (RAMI), which combines several standards used by the various national initiatives in Europe that support digitalization in manufacturing. The full list of use cases, standards and requirements that guided the creation of SAREF4INMA are described in the associated ETSI TR 103 507.

Z-bre4k <http://industryportal.enit.fr/ontologies/Z-BRE4K>

Z-BRE4K semantic model in the form of ontology is designed to serve as a common reference model for annotation and description of knowledge to represent manufacturing system performance. Re-use of existing ontologies will be envisaged towards the design of project's ontology. The ontology will describe the basic entities of the project and model relevant structures of manufacturing systems and processes, establishing a methodological framework for modelling not only the actors and procedures at the shop floor, but also machinery and their critical components, their failure modes and their criticality, their signatures of healthy and deteriorated conditions, etc. It will be able to meet requirements for access to different aspects of machinery and process related data and knowledge. In this context, the ontology will be appropriately implemented using standard-based languages. The Knowledge Base used for data analysis will be the central module of the system and will include context-aware ontology to support predictive maintenance and extended operating life of assets in production facilities and the relevant decision support engine.

3.1.5 Maintenance

[Table 6](#page-33-0) tabulates the DLOs in maintenance. Note that some ontologies in manufacturing related domains include some classes about maintenance such as (GRACE, MASON, CDM-Core², SCOR, WeldiGalaxy ontology³ etc.) but those ontologies are not taken into account in this table because

<u>.</u>

² <https://sourceforge.net/projects/cdm-core/>

³ <https://gitlab.lst.tfo.upm.es/weldgalaxy/wg-ontology-public>

the focus is only on specific domain ontologies of maintenance. The classes overlapping between the maintenance domain ontologies and other ontologies may be part of bridge concepts of the harmonization work in order to build the extra domain interoperability.

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Table 6 - DLOs in maintenance

ROMAIN <http://industryportal.enit.fr/ontologies/ROMAIN>

ROMAIN is domain-specific, open access, reference ontology for maintenance management domain. We use a hybrid approach, based on a top-down alignment to an open-source top-level ontology, the Basic Formal Ontology (BFO), and a bottom-up focus on classes that are grounded in maintenance practice. We constrain the scope of the ontology to the classes that are unique to the maintenance management practice, such as maintenance strategy, degradation, and work order management, rather than modelling the entire domain of maintenance. This approach reduces the scope of the development task and enables reasoning to be tested at a manageable scale. ROMAIN provides a unifying framework that can be used in conjunction with other BFO compliant sub-domain ontologies, such as planning and scheduling ontologies. The proposed ontology is validated using real-life data in the context of a use case related to evaluating the effectiveness of maintenance strategy.

IOF-

<http://industryportal.enit.fr/ontologies/IOF-MAINTENANCE>

Maintenance

The Industrial Ontology Foundry is a group working to co-create a set of open reference ontologies for the manufacturing and engineering domains. The IOF Maintenance Working Group is working on a reference ontology for industrial maintenance using a top-down ontology engineering approach. Further ongoing work within the Maintenance Working Group includes the development of domain ontologies including a failure modes and effects analysis ontology and a maintenance procedure ontology. Please note that the version of the maintenance working group reference ontology provided here represents work done in 2019 and has not yet been approved by the IOF Leadership Team.

IMAMO <http://industryportal.enit.fr/ontologies/IMAMO>

Ontology concerns most concepts of industrial maintenance when information about all technical, administrative and managerial activities and actions is required in maintenance information systems. This ontology can be used to ascertain decision making throughout the life cycle of maintenance activities from failure detection to intervention and repair.

It covers : Structure of equipment to be maintained, spare parts, monitoring activity, failure detection, events, material resources, maintenance actors, technical documents, administrative documents, intervention, maintenance reports, equipment states, equipment life cycle.

CHAMP (Coordinated Holistic Alignment of Manufacturing Processes) project is to represent the domain of the product lifecycle in a suite of ontologies that may be extended in applications to integrate data both within industrial organizations and across them. CHAMP - Maintenance ontology is one of the seven ontologies in the product lifecycle ontology suite developed under CHAMP. It contains classes and object properties relevant to the representation of maintenance, and each class has a definition conforming the genus-species form.

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3.2 Harmonization of domain ontologies through bridge concepts

This subsection presents the results of the selected candidate-bridge-concept terms and the developed bridge concepts by focus area.

3.2.1 Systems engineering

3.2.1.1 Selection of candidate-bridge-concept terms

In Systems Engineering, six candidate-bridge-concept terms are identified from domain standards. These terms include system, system function, system lifecycle, view, viewpoint, and stakeholder. They are also considered in the development of IOF Systems Engineering Ontology. However, there are ongoing debates on whether to include non-domain-specific concepts such as system in the domain-level bridge concept engineering. In addition, due to the underdevelopment status of IOF Systems Engineering Ontology, the bridge concept elucidation template does not contain all necessary information and in need of completion. We identify systems engineering DLOs as a gap to be considered in new ontology development.

3.2.1.2 Bridge concept engineering

The following bridge concept elucidation shows our attempt to define stakeholder and system as a bridge concept to enable vertical alignment to IOF core, a MLO.

Stakeholder

General Concept Info:

OntoCommons.eu | D3.6 First report on harmonized and developed ontologies

Knowledge Domain Resources:

Alignments To Existing Ontologies: (1: vertical, MLOs/TLOs; 2: horizontal, DLOs)

1: Vertical Alignments

2: Horizontal Alignments

Mapping Axioms:

System

General Concept Info:

Knowledge Domain Resources:

Alignments To Existing Ontologies: (1: vertical, MLOs/TLOs; 2: horizontal, DLOs)

1: Vertical Alignments

IOF core

2: Horizontal Alignments

3.2.2 Product and service

In Product and Service, the candidate-bridge-concept terms are identified through a standardized approach described previously in Section [2.4.](#page-12-0) The results are described in the next subsection. Furthermore, we defined product specification as a bridge concept in Product and Service focus area. The concept elucidation can be found in the end of this section.

3.2.2.1 Selection of candidate-bridge-concept terms

Several ontologies were analysed in the scope of the Product and Service focus group's activities; the results are listed in [Table 7.](#page-38-0)

Name	Description	Comment
Product Service System (PSS) ontology	The Product Service System (PSS) working group (WG) under Industrial Ontology Foundry aims to create a basis ontology for enhancing the engineering of PSS in manufacturing, by modeling all the aspects that affect, or could affect a PSS. In this group, the understanding is that a Product Service System is a system that includes products, services, supporting networks and infrastructure, designed to be competitive, and jointly satisfy the customers' needs and have a lower environmental impact than other business models. White paper with the first explained version of the PSS ontology:	Available under http://industryporta l.enit.fr/ontologies/ PSS
	https://www.researchgate.net/publication/333340358_	

Table 7 - List of possible relevant ontologies for product and service focus area

<u>.</u>

⁴ What are UNSPSC codes?

The United Nations Standard Products and Services Code® (UNSPSC®) is a global classification system of products and services. UNSPSC codes are used by UNGM to classify suppliers' products and services. Upon registration on UNGM, suppliers are required to provide information about their activity - by classifying the suppliers' products and/or services according to the UNSPSC code classification.

⁵ Published: 30 July 2016.

After analyzing the list of relevant ontologies from [Table 7,](#page-38-0) PSS and PRONTO were selected:

- PSS is based on IOF-Core which is based on BFO. As such, the architecture is rich/complex, and developed both horizontally and vertically.
- PRONTO does not align to a top level ontology. It is prominently "Horizontally"-Organized
	- It reifies relations;
	- It has two cores: 1) abstraction hierarchy; 2) structural hierarchy (including composition and decomposition when it applies, plus "higher order tools"). Where (1)'s application can, but needn't necessarily, be based on (2).

It is arguably easier to take PRONTO as the starting point, also considering links via IOF-Core/BFO classes to produce a satisfactory number of horizontal connections.

Upon preliminary investigation, the possibly relevant concepts from PRONTO are:

- PRONTO:Product
- PRONTO:Family/VariantSet
- PRONTO:ComponentOf

Upon preliminary investigation, the possibly relevant concepts from PSS are:

- PSS:PSS [product service system]
- PSS:Service
- IOFCore:MaterialProduct

The principles employed to evaluate discrepancies between Formal and Informal characterizations, and ambiguities in the latter, are the following:

- Formal triumphs over informal;
- actual use guides the resolution of ambiguities;
- explicit definitions take priority over references;
- context should always be taken into account.

We also confronted the definitions of product in PPS and PRONTO with standards and natural language [\(Table 8\)](#page-41-0).

Term	Definitions
Product	Considering Product as: • "Output of a Process" • Figurative meaning: "output of mathematical operations (multiplication; set-intersection)"; Derivative specifications: "output of a process guided by a telos"; "output of human labour"

Table 8 - Definition of product in DLOs and standards

3.2.2.2 Bridge concept engineering

Bridge-Concept engineering is an iterative process. Simple potential connections are considered first, and refined through negative feedback. To begin with, we answered to the following hypotheses:

- Is PRONTO:Product EquivalentClass IOF-Core:MaterialProduct?
- Is PRONTO:Product EquivalentClass PSS:PSSProduct?

The answer to the first hypothesis is NO, since IOF-Core:MaterialProduct makes explicit commitments on transactions, while the PRONTO ontology prima facie seems to be focused on the manufacturing side. The answer to the second hypothesis is also NO, as PSS:PSSProduct makes even stronger commitments than IOF-Core:MaterialProduct (it is a subClassOf the latter).

Therefore, tentatively PRONTO:Product and IOF-Core:MaterialProduct seem committed respectively to one of the two cores underlying the (standard usages/"meaning" of the) term 'product'; PSS:PSSProduct seems to fall under both the relevant (groups of) constraints. However, it is still unclear whether meaningful connections can be established considering only those classes.

Two tentative Bridge-Concepts are advanced, Product of Manufacturing and Commercial Good. Their (roughly outlined) elucidations are made up of an handle for domain experts and a part addressing ambiguities for ontology use:

- "A Product of Manufacturing is the outcome of a manufacturing process, i.e. an activity involving the transformation or re-arrangement of material entities. A Product of Manufacturing needn't be explicitly offered on the market for purchase or barter, though they are often produced to that end: e.g., they can be manufactured for internal usage or testing." Domain: Manufacturing
- "A Good is something which is explicitly offered on the market for purchase or barter, whose ownership is transferred to the purchaser as a condition for the completion of the transaction, and which is associated with a specific material entity which doesn't merely act as a legal placeholder or as a contingent medium to the end of completing a transaction. […]" Domain: Economics – Business – Marketing

The hypothesis at this stage is represented schematically in [Figure 6](#page-43-0) The discussion continued from there:

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- PRONTO:Product EquivalentClass a subclass of BFO:MaterialEntity such that it IOF-Core:isOutputOf IOF-Core:ManufacturingProcess?
	- (…or, to simplify the alignment by introducing a class in PSS)
- Is PSS:PSSProduct SubClassOf PRONTO:Product? NO

Figure 6 - Bridge concept and semantic relations

The alignment was refused: PRONTO does not make commitments in order to retain generality and improve re-usability. Given the feedback it appears that PRONTO:Product is superClassOf IOF-MaterialProduct and of the 2 Bridge-Concepts outlined above.

Discussion revolving around the new hypothesis, schematically represented in [Figure 7,](#page-43-1) made patent the shortcomings of an alignment mediated by the outlined Bridge-Concepts, as BC:Product of Manufacturing and BC:Commercial Good can only support "1-way" horizontal transfer of data and reasoning (as they both "flow downwards"), providing Weak horizontal links. Again, the tentative Bridge-Concepts are still useful: there is a good chance that they might provide meaningful connections when other ontologies are concerned since they are hinged on domain resources and (arguably) define interesting extensions.

Figure 7 - Updating the bridge concept and relation

The hypothetical union of the extensions of the two Bridge-Concepts, BC:Material Product (Generic), is thus considered as an alternative option, as per the updated schema in [Figure 8.](#page-44-0) Pros and cons of the new tentative Bridge-Concept are then evaluated:

- It offer weaker links to domain resources (opens the flank to criticism);
- Since there are no non-vague common characteristics, the elucidation has to be intrinsically disjunctive (and thus more complex, giving rise to issues related to accessibility);

Intuitively, more reasoning would be preserved with more specific Bridge-Concepts;

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 This Bridge-Concept supports better horizontal connections, at least in this specific case, and the extensions do overlap in a meaningful way, as per discussion on the conceptual landscape.

Figure 8 - Further update of the bridge concept and relation

Further discussion lead to the repudiation of Pronto:Product's annotation, invalidating much of the engineering work done up until this point. Following the analysis of the provided documentation, a (sort of type-token) confusion was individuated: the relevant individuals are not material/physical, and individuate specific "kinds of products" through the abstract representation of salient features.

This caused the Focus Group to return to the drawing board, with a clearer understanding of the two ontologies. Two new Bridge-Concept were considered:

- Option 1: BC:Product Specification, such that:
	- BC:Product Specification EquivalentClass PRONTO:Product;
	- BC:Product Specification SubClassOf IOF-Core:Design Specification.
- Option 2: BC:Product (label t.b.d) Hypothetical union of (at least) BC:Product Blueprint and BC:Material Product (Generic):
	- Extremely weak connections (horizontally and vertically) not much stronger than an hypothetical BC:Entity;
	- weak links with domain resources and highly disjunctive, encompassing disjuncts whose extensions have no intersections;
	- capable of acting as a sort of Terminological Handle.

Option 1 was deemed overall preferable as a line to pursue for the alignment. The outline of the tentative Bridge-Concept BC:Product Specification is reported in what follows:

Product Specification

General Concept Info:

Knowledge Domain Resources:

Alignments To Existing Ontologies: (1: vertical, MLOs/TLOs; 2: horizontal, DLOs)

1: Vertical Alignments

IOF-Core

2: Horizontal Alignments

PRONTO

3.2.3 Materials science

3.2.3.1 Selection of candidate-bridge-concept terms

3.2.3.1.1 Classification of sub-domains and sub-subjects in materials science

Materials Science is a very wide field including many disciplines and sub-domains. In the context of OntoCommons it also includes for example chemical substances and methods. Hence we have included relevant ontologies and terms in the bridge concept selection.

To get a handle on such a wide field, we started with a well respected, 'standard' Materials Science textbook: Callister's Materials Science and Engineering. It covers modern materials science and engineering and includes a glossary of some 700 terms, which was used as the basis of this task. To this glossary, the terms of the materials modelling CWA (based on the RoMM) and the materials characterization CWA as well as some key chemistry terms (atom, molecule etc) have been added. The terms that appear in the ONTOCOMMONS demonstrator cases are also taken into account where relevant to the Materials Science domain

The collection of these terms have been classified by the Materials Science experts in OntoCommons as pertaining to different subjects (which can be regarded as potential sub-domains). An allocation to a subject means this is a term that is generically used in this field.

The seven subject domains are

- 1. Materials classes
- 2. Materials structure
- 3. Materials properties
- 4. Materials behaviour
- 5. Materials technologies
- 6. Materials theories
- 7. Products/devices

Each subject domain has about 100-200 terms in the glossary. While one term may be associated with more than one subject, we generally aimed to assign terms only in a narrower sense to certain subjects. For example: Sometimes terms are used for both the (functional description of a group of) materials and its property e.g. extrinsic semiconductors. Sometimes a term Is both a device and a material: e.g. optical fibre. In that case both uses of the terms are entered. Furthermore, synonyms are identified (e.g. environment and medium).

Of course in a domain ontology that describes a specific materials technology like characterization, we expect that specific tools are linked to the materials that can be investigated by them and the measured materials structure should also appear as well as measured properties. However in this analysis all cross links between the seven classes are not appearing. This choice is made as it facilitates the investigation of the coverage of a domain ontology. When an ontology for a domain will be mapped to the 700 terms it will appear what the coverage is of a certain subject. E.g. it will become clear whether an ontology includes particular materials, but also which materials structures are documented etc.

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Each of subject domain has further been sub-divided into sub-subjects.

- 1. Materials classes
	- a. functional description
		- i. structural
		- ii. chemical
		- iii. electrical
		- iv. magnetic
		- v. optical
		- vi. thermal
		- vii. toxic
		- b. composition description
			- i. solid
				- allovs
				- biomaterials
				- compounds
				- ceramics
				- composites
				- metals
				- mineral
				- nanomaterial
				- polymer
				- steel
				- soft material
			- ii. fluid
			- iii. gas
- 2. Materials structure
	- a. generic descriptors
	- b. generic atomistic and molecular (incl polymers) structure descriptor
	- c. generic amorphous material descriptor
	- d. generic descriptor of the structure of crystalline material
	- e. generic descriptor of the structure of composites
	- f. generic descriptor of the structure of microstructure
	- g. generic descriptor of the structure of surfaces and coatings
- 3. Materials properties
- 4. Materials behaviour
	- a. chemical behaviour

- i. chemical degradation (corrosion and …)
- **b.** electric and electronic behaviour
	- c. mechanical (diffusion, deformation, impact, creep, slip)

- i. mechanical degradation, aging, failure, fracture, erosion (mechanical)
- ii. tribology
- d. thermal behaviour
	- i. thermal degradation
- e. magnetic behaviour
- f. optical behaviour
- 5. Materials technologies
	- a. Modelling
	- b. Characterization
	- c. Testing incl experimentation
	- d. Materials processes
		- i. Synthesis
	- e. Materials design (structuring, functionalisation, formulation,..)
	- f. Materials disposal (recycling)
- 6. Materials theories
	- a. Physics
		- i. Thermodynamics
		- ii. Quantum Theory
	- **•** b. Chemistry
- 7. Products/devices

There is no claim that the set of terms is complete. E.g. the theory terms are certainly not complete and relevant glossaries from textbooks on physics and chemistry should be added. However the inverse is true: if a domain ontology claims to describe a certain domain it is expected to include the identified terms.

Most of the materials appearing in Callister's textbook types of materials and thus appear as materials classes in this analysis.

3.2.3.1.2 Machine Analysis of Materials Science Ontologies regarding their (sub-) domain coverage

The glossary and the assignment of terms to subjects domains has been used as a basis for analysis of the coverage of the various (sub-) subject domains found in the ontologies. As we are dealing with a large number of ontologies (see Section 3.1.3), expert analysis of the ontologies had to be supported by computational analysis. The starting point of this analysis were the seven subject domains discussed in the previous section and they were curated and their respective list of terms.

The computational analysis explored whether such terms featured within each of the considered ontologies in order to assess the ontology relevance for a given domain.

From a technical standpoint, the domains and the terms have been placed within an Excel file, which has been given as input to a procedure meant to read it, parse it and scan each of the considered ontologies for the presence of the aforementioned terms. It must be noted that the search has been carried out in a relatively wide fashion, i.e. the presence of the terms has been checked, both verbatim and with slight syntactical variations (e.g. with their corresponding adjectival form), against all of the

elements of each ontology including classes, properties and comments/annotations. The results of this search can be found in [Table 9,](#page-50-0) where the numerical values provided for each ontology and domain correspond to the percentage of terms associated with a given domain that have been detected within a given ontology. These numbers provide insights on how a certain ontology is somehow designed to cover a given subject domain.

Table 9 - Percentage of domain term coverage for 47 ontologies

Secondly, the full list of 600 terms has been used to check which of those terms appear in which ontology, with the purpose of determining the most frequent terms that may form the basis to reason about ontological bridge concepts. The results of this process is shown in

[Table](#page-51-0) 10, where the highest-occurring terms are shown; the numerical values indicate the number of ontologies (and the percentage) in which each term appears.

The main findings of this analysis are:

In general, the coverage of terms in the glossary is not very high. That may be expected since the glossary is quite extensive and detailed. The highest percentage coverage can be found for Materials Properties where the maximum coverage is 35% of terms and 9 ontologies cover more than 10%.

The lowest coverage was for materials classes (max close to 19%). While possibly surprising given the importance of materials classes, the reason could be the wide diversity of materials types while a particular ontology typically a focuses on just some types of materials (e.g. metals and alloys vs polymers), i.e. research and application areas are typically separated by materials types.

Considering the most frequent terms, the Table below shows the terms with high occurrence down to the term "molecule" at 47%.

Table 10 - Occurrences of domain terms across the considered ontologies

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We retrieve the terms "Material" and "Atom" as most frequent. We note that the terms "Physical Matter" and "Atom" have already been elaborated as bridge concepts by the TLO/MLO efforts in OntoCommons. Also the terms "Structure" and "Property" had been proposed at the mid-level.

3.2.3.1.3 Qualitative analysis of Materials Science Ontologies using Protégé

If on the one hand a terminological analysis was carried out that sought the frequency of the terms selected by the expert, and the relative annexation to the specific domains, on the other hand an analysis was carried out by opening the .owl files with Protégé and understanding, in a general way what that ontology contained, what the concepts were, how they were grouped. Then an analysis was done to understand the content from the outside and the degree of completeness, sometimes they were also represented using OWLViz. All this to have a general picture and to understand and analyze the state of the art of ontologies in this area.

The phases of this work have been multiple and very laborious, considering the large number of ontologies involved. The work carried out on the study of ontologies was carried out in the following phases:

- 1) Searching for the ontology update, looking at the year of the last upload, and thus inferring an update level that gives the ontology value to be used. This analysis would become excellent if we add the search for the number of times the specific ontology has been mentioned, in order to understand its usability, and therefore its utility. The result of this analysis was that most of these ontologies have been updated in the last 3 years, except some, such as NPO, whose last update dates back to 2012.
- 2) An attempt was made to produce an ontology of ontologies, using simple set criteria. The ontologies considered were at different levels. There were mid-level ontologies, some domain ontologies, others more at the application level. After seeing in the state of the art how these files were grouped, there was work on opening the ontologies through Protégé. Opening ontologies, looking for the main classes from which the specific domain classes branch off. From here, considering the main classes from which all, or at least some, of the other classes branch, it was deduced which was the TOP-level reference ontology (e.g. an ontology with

OntoCommons.eu | D3.6 First report on harmonized and developed ontologies

BFO Top-level classes such as Occurrent and Continuant in its taxonomy was considered a BFO-based ontology). The same was done for the other TOP reference ontologies. This analysis led to the taxonomy shown in

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- [Table](#page-23-0) 4 in section 3.1.3.
- 3) Once the taxonomy was enlarged, the classes were opened, discovering how these were described, and the concepts they contain. The deduced result is that, in most cases, the classes are not defined. This often happens for classes that remain at the bottom of the taxonomy. For this reason, a conceptual analysis has in some cases led to a terminological analysis based on the label used to name the class. As is to be expected for lower-level ontologies, these often consist of many classes, not even linked by set or property relationships.

For this reason, going down there were fewer common concepts, precisely because of the lack of conceptualization. For this reason it was decided to raise the analysis to a higher level, the highest level of domain ontologies, combining these considerations with terminological frequency.

3.2.3.2 Bridge concept engineering

Based on further expert discussion of terms we have made the following list of 7 priority terms for bridge concept engineering. In particular we include Materials Processing which may not be found with highest frequency, but materials processes are covered in a number of ways in different ontologies and a bridging will support this important subject area.

- Atom
- Component
- Experiment
- Material
- Materials Processing
- Materials Property
- Molecule

As a first attempt at a DLO bridge concept we elaborated (Materials) Component. It is the next highest occurring term after material, atom and structure. Also, it plays an important role in one of the larger ontology efforts in materials science, namely in NanoMine/MaterialsMine which addresses composite materials. The study of MaterialsComponent also enables an elaboration of Materials Component relative to other related terms such as Constituent and Part.

Furthermore, a closer look at the ontologies that have a high degree of materials science domains coverage, we identified the following priority ontologies (or groups of ontologies)

- Enanomapper, which also already has some alignment with Nanoparticle ontology
- Chebi
- EMMO-based ontologies
- MaterialsMine and NanoMine

Also, MSEO as a BFO-based mid and domain level materials ontology will be important, but it currently does not cover the term 'Component'.

While CHEBI also does not include 'component', CHEBI is the most widely used chemistry ontology and hence it was important to discuss its mapping regarding such an important concept.

Below is the Bridge Concept elaboration for Component.

We acknowledge that this is just a starting point for the materials science domain, and further bridge concept elucidation will focus on a number of ontologies with more in depth expert analysis of their potential alignment and this is planned for the next version of this deliverable.

(MATERIAL) COMPONENT

General Concept Info:

Knowledge Domain Resources:

Related Domain Resources:	Existing domain resources (e.g. standards, books, articles, dictionaries) ⁶ that defines or are related to the concept (provide reference to the resource and quote the relevant informational content). More than one resource can be reported. These resources are aimed to support the choice of the above concept choice and elucidation.
	Component

 6 Wikipedia, Myriam-Webster dictionary, Glossary in Materials Science and Engineering textbook by Callister, Glossary in Materials Science and Engineering textbook by Raabe [https://www.dierk-raabe.com/glossary-of-materials-science/,](https://www.dierk-raabe.com/glossary-of-materials-science/) Wikidata [https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Wikidata:Main_Page,](https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Wikidata:Main_Page) IUPAC Goldbook [https://goldbook.iupac.org/,](https://goldbook.iupac.org/) Brittanica Dictionary [www.brittanica.com,](http://www.brittanica.com/) [ISO Standards]

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10. [[MatPortal]: Terms does not appear, the closest is AmountofSubstance.

11. [ISO Standards 14532:2014, 2.5.2.2.1]: Main component, major component: component whose content influences physical properties.

Constituent

1. [Wikipedia]: Word or a group of words that functions as a single unit within a hierarchical structure; see also ingredient and part.

2. [Myriam-Webster]: a) an essential part: component, element; b) a structural unit of a definable syntactic, semantic, or phonological category that consists of one or more linguistic elements (such as words, morphemes, or features) and that can occur as a component of a larger construction.

3. [Callister]: Not included in the glossary.

4. [Raabe]: One article uses this formulation: A microstructure can consist of one or several constituents, where each constituent is defined by a pair of phase and texture.

5. [Wikidata]: Same as Wikipedia. Comment: can be adapted for materials.

6. [IUPAC Goldbook]: Chemical species present in a system; often called a component, although the term component has a more restricted meaning in physical chemistry.

7. [Brittanica]: no scientific entries

8. [IndustryPortal]: An object which is a holistic spatial part of an object. A tire is a constituent of a car.

9. [MatPortal]: Comment: term does not appear

1. [Wikipedia]: Chemical compound : combination of two or more elements;

2. [Myriam-Webster]: something formed by a union of elements or parts especially a distinct substance formed by chemical union of two or more ingredients in definite proportion by weight;

3. [Callister]: not appearing;

4. [Raabe]: only papers using the term, but no definitions;

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5. [Wikidata]: Chemical compound (Q11173): pure chemical substance consisting of two or more different chemical elements intermetallic compound: solid-state compound exhibiting metallic bonding, defined stoichiometry and ordered crystal structure;

6. [IUPAC Goldbook]: no entry but the terms is used in composite terms (like carbon compound) without explanation of "compound";

7. [IndustryPortal]: seems to refer to MATPORTAL;

8. [MatPortal]: encompasses microstructures.

9. [MatOnto Ontology (MATONTO)]: A substance made up of two or more elements covalently bonded together. Comment: too specific

Part

1. [Cambridge dictionary]: A [separate](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/separate) [piece](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/piece) of something, or a [piece](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/piece) that [combines](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/combine) with othe[r pieces](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/piece) t[o form](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/form) th[e whole](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/whole) of something.

2. [Wordreference]: A separate or distinct portion of a whole.

3. [Oxford] An amount or section which, when combined with others, makes up the whole of something.

Explain the motivations behind the concept definition with reference to the domain resources, underlying similarities and differences.

See comments.

Comments:

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Alignments To ENM, ENANOMAPPER Ontology:

ONTOCOMMONS:MaterialComponent (rdfs:SuperClassOf) ENANOMAPPER:MolecularEntity

Alignments To MM, MATERIALSMINE Ontology:

Alignments to EMMO:

CHEBI

Target Ontology: <http://purl.obolibrary.org/obo/chebi.owl>

Ontology Portals listing glossaries:

- <http://industryportal.enit.fr/search>
- [http://industryportal.enit.fr/mapping](http://industryportal.enit.fr/mappings)s (this gives URLs and thus more complex to digest)
- <https://bioportal.bioontology.org/>
- <https://matportal.org/>
- <https://github.com/>

3.2.4 Manufacturing

3.2.4.1 Selection of candidate-bridge-concept terms

The candidate bridge terms for manufacturing area are selected following the methodology described in [Figure 2.](#page-12-1) We provide the intermediate results for the steps followed for manufacturing area below:

- 1. Section [3.1.4](#page-30-0) describes the process of selecting candidate ontologies for manufacturing including the list describing them.
- 2. Tentative alignments among the candidate ontologies are derived using Lexical OWL Ontology Matcher (LOOM)⁷ which is part of IndustryPortal⁸. This matcher was possible to use as the ontologies were available in the portal. Several mappings were deduced between concepts from these ontologies that provided a list of concepts which are common among these ontologies.
- 3. In parallel, the competency questions (CQs), that were collected from use cases (from industrial partners of OntoCommons) and domain experts as part of T3.3, were used to find the importance of the concepts by their frequency of appearance. The glossary of terms collected from all the competency questions is available in the appendix of D3.4 [\[3\]](#page-105-0).
- 4. By applying the priority criteria from step 3 to the common concepts derived from automatic mapping in step 4, we derive the list of the candidate bridge concepts given in Table 11 along with existing ontologies containing some alignable term.

Table 11 - Tentative mapping of potential bridge concepts in manufacturing focus area

<u>.</u>

⁷ https://www.bioontology.org/wiki/LOOM

⁸ http://industryportal.enit.fr/

1. MASON; 2. MANUSERVICE; 3. IOF-Core; 4. MSDL; 5. GRACE; 6. SAREF4INMA; 7. PSS; 8. ROMAIN; 9. RGOM+RSWO; 10. SRO; 11. VAR; 12. EXTRUONT; 13. I40KG; 14. SIMPM.

3.2.4.2 Bridge concept engineering

The candidate bridge concepts in Table 11 is currently being analyzed following the methodology given in Section Error! Reference source not found.. As discussed and agreed by the members of manufacturing focus area, the effort started with 7 bridge concepts: Product Design, Assembly (both as object and process), Feature, Part, Plan, Operator. The analysis of these concepts is given in bridge concept template below. Although, the interpretation of the template remains same as described in Section Error! Reference source not found., the focus area members agreed to follow the loosely defined steps given below to deal with the complexity of the bridge concept methodology.

- 1. Collect the domain definitions and elucidations of the concept from standard references, e.g., ISO Terms & Definition search [\(https://www.iso.org/obp/ui#search\)](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.iso.org%2Fobp%2Fui%23search&data=05%7C01%7C%7C04d7813b62e548ef213a08daf4b6f425%7C62f653bf9c21465bbdbf1b18ba164624%7C0%7C0%7C638091363875462325%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=47OilpLiGA79teknLLTfGAUSW6T09BAeGwrIV7d0teg%3D&reserved=0), Reference.com, Encyclopedia, Wikipedia, books, literature in the section Related Domain Resources:.
- 2. Write comments if any in Comments section, including a list of traits that can potentially characterise the concept.
- 3. If possible, identify the traits that are necessary conditions for the bridge concept.
- 4. Devise a definition in section Concept Elucidation comprised of the necessary conditions. Include all possible labels in Labels.
- 5. Provide horizontal alignment:
	- i. for horizontal make separate block for each domain ontology.
	- ii. provide the ontology iri and mapped term iri in Target Ontology and Related Ontology Entities respectively.
	- iii. provide mapping predicate subclass/equivalentclass/superclass etc.
	- iv. provide mapping justification comparing the mapped concept's elucidation from the target ontology to the characterisation derived in step 2 Comments section.
	- v. If required, especially for complex mapping, provide FOL in Mapping Axioms:.
- 6. Provide vertical alignment:
	- i. Similar to horizontal but map to an MRO bridge concept (list can be found in deliverable D2.5 and in the shared drive).
	- ii .If no MRO bridge concept is suitable either propose a new MRO bridge concept or directly align to TLOs.

Product Design (Specification of material product)

General Concept Info:

Knowledge Domain Resources:

Design description

ISO/IEC/IEEE 24765:2017, 3.1133: Document that describes the design of a system or component cf. product specification, requirements specification.

Industrial Design

[Britannica] industrial design, the design of mass-produced consumer products. Industrial designers, often trained as architects or other visual arts professionals, are usually part of a larger creative team. Their primary responsibility is to help produce manufactured items that not only work well but please the eye and, therefore, have a competitive advantage over similar products. The work of an industrial designer often relates to or includes graphic design, such as advertising and packaging, corporate imagery and branding, and interior design (also called interior architecture or environmental design), the arrangement of man-made spaces.

Design Specification:

Wikipedia: A design specification is a detailed document that sets out exactly what a product or a process should present.[1] For example, the design specification could include required dimensions, environmental factors, ergonomic factors, aesthetic factors, maintenance that will be needed, etc. It may also give specific examples of how the design should be executed, helping others work properly (a guideline for what the person should do).

(broader) A design is a plan or specification for the construction of an object or system or for the implementation of an activity or process or the result of that plan or specification in the form of a prototype, product, or process. The verb to design expresses the process of developing a design. In some cases, the direct construction of an object without an explicit prior plan (such as in craftwork, some engineering, coding, and graphic design) may also be considered to be a design activity. The design usually has to satisfy certain goals and constraints; may take into account aesthetic, functional, economic, or socio-political considerations; and is expected to interact with a certain environment. Typical examples of designs include architectural and engineering drawings, circuit diagrams, sewing patterns and less tangible artefacts such as business process models.

Comments: Product Design, Industrial Design and Engineering Design are overlapping but distinctive. In Wikipedia however, these X Design concepts denotes processes that produces the design and not the design as the output of these processes. Still, the characterization of these processes can be extended to characterise the design.

> "Product design is sometimes confused with (and certainly overlaps with) industrial design and has recently become a broad term inclusive of service, software, and physical product design. Industrial design is concerned with bringing artistic form and usability, usually associated with craft design and

Alignments To Existing Ontologies: (1: vertical, MLOs/TLOs; 2: horizontal, DLOs)

1: Vertical Alignments

Design

2: Horizontal Alignments

IOF-Core

Assembly

General Concept Info:

Knowledge Domain Resources:

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Alignments To Existing Ontologies: (1: vertical, MLOs/TLOs; 2: horizontal, DLOs)

1: Vertical Alignments

Ontology Name

Target Ontology:

2: Horizontal Alignments

Manufacturing Service Description Language (MSDL)

IOF Core (IOF-CORE)

Resistance Spot Welding Ontology (RSWO)

Assembly (Process)

General Concept Info:

2. Produces an assembly (not necessary and sufficient condition) 3. Fabricates parts, components, and/or composites to be physically connected

Alignments To Existing Ontologies: (1: vertical, MLOs/TLOs; 2: horizontal, DLOs)

1: Vertical Alignments

Ontology Name

2: Horizontal Alignments

Furniture Sector Ontology (FUNSTEP)

IOF Core (IOF-CORE)

MAnufacturing's Semantics Ontology (MASON)

Sharework Ontology for Human-Robot Collaboration (SOHO)

Resistance Spot Welding Ontology (RSWO)

Plan (that is produced by planning)

General Concept Info:

2) a method for achieving an end; an often-customary method of doing something; a detailed formulation of a program of action

3) an orderly arrangement of parts of an overall design or objective

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[Vocabulary.com] a series of actions required to achieve a particular goal. A plan can exist only in your head, or it can be a physical object, such as an architectural plan of a building, showing how you propose to build it. As a verb, plan means the act of thinking about how to achieve your aims. You might plan to apply to colleges soon. When you plan something, you're laying the seeds for a future result, so it's not surprising that plan comes from the early English word plante, meaning "seedling."

[Wikipedia] A plan is typically any diagram or list of steps with details of timing and resources, used to achieve an objective to do something. It is commonly understood as a temporal set of intended actions through which one expects to achieve a goal. Structured and formal plans, used by multiple people, are more likely to occur in projects, diplomacy, careers, economic development, military campaigns, combat, sports, games, or in the conduct of other business.

prov-o: A plan is an entity that represents a set of actions or steps intended by one or more agents to achieve some goals.

Industrial Definitions:

[ISO/IEC 26551:2016 Software and systems engineering — Tools and methods for product line requirements engineering, 3.17] description of how domain assets are to be used to develop member products in a product line.

Process Plan:

[ISO 10303-49:1998, 3.3.2] The sequence of processes required to realize or produce a given product.

Production plan

[ISO/IEC 26551:2016(en), 3.17] description of how domain assets are to be used to develop member products in a product line

Manufacturing Plan:

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- 15) Is an input of resource planning.
- 16) contains one or more process plan.

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Alignments To Existing Ontologies: (1: vertical, TLOs; 2: horizontal, MLOs)

1: Vertical Alignments

Design

2: Horizontal Alignments

MASON

IOF-Core

MSDL

SCOPRO

SOHO

Part (manufactured material item)

General Concept Info:

[Cambridge] Something that is [part](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/part) of a [list](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/list) or [group](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/group) of things: [Oxford] An individual article or unit, especially one that is part of a list, collection, or set.

Spare part

[ASCM former APICS]: Synonym of Service Parts.

Service part

[ASCM former APICS]: Synonym of Service Parts. Those modules, components, and elements that are planned to be used without modification to replace an original part.

Piece

[Britannica]: One of the parts that form a complete thing when they are put together [Wordnet]: A separate part of a whole. [Wordreference] A portion or quantity of something: [Cambridge] Something that is [part](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/part) of a [list](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/list) or [group](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/group) of things: [Oxford]: An individual article or unit, especially one that is part of a list, collection, or set.

Product

[ASCM former APICS]: Any good or service produced for sale, barter or internal use, [Britannica]: Something that is made or grown to be sold or used [ISO/TS 15876-7:2018], [ISO/TS 15874-7:2018]: Pipe, fitting, or valve of a clearly identified type intended to be a part of a piping system which the manufacturer puts on the market [Wordnet] 1) an artifact that has been created by someone or some process; 2) Commoditie offered for sale. [Wordreference]: All the goods or services that a company produces: [Cambridge] Something that is made to be [sold,](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/sold) usually something that is [produced](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/produce) by an [industrial](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/industrial) [process](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/process) or, less [commonly,](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/common) something that is [grown](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/grown) o[r obtained](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/obtain) throug[h farming:](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/farm) [Oxford] Anything that can be offered to a market for attention, acquisition, use, or consumption that might satisfy a need. It includes physical objects and services. Comments: *In some cases, the concepts Part and Component are considered synonymous* and used interchangeably but there is a distinctive difference. Component is broader as it can refer to either an individual part or a sub-assembly, while Part is a material item that cannot be an assembly [ASCM former APICS]. The same applies to Part and Item as an Item can refer to material, intermediate, subassembly or product. In that case Item and Component have

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Alignments To Existing Ontologies: (1: vertical, MLOs/TLOs; 2: horizontal, DLOs)

1: Vertical Alignments

Target Ontology:	Commercial Product Class - Bridge Concept IRI
Related Ontology Entities:	Commercial Product
	A Commercial Product is something which is explicitly offered on the market for purchase or barter.
Mapping Elucidation:	The context in which a part entity is used needs to be considered. The same item can be a product (i.e., resulting from a manufacturing process and offered to the market) for one manufacturer and a component of a larger assembly or product for another.
Semantic Relation Level:	The level of semantic relationship between the Concept and the Target Bridge Concept is:
	Part skos:narrower Commercial Product ⁹

⁹ Equivalence (strong mapping), e.g., owl:equivalentClass, owl:equivalentProperty. Strong Hierarchical, e.g., rdfs:subClassOf, rdfs:subPropertyOf. Weak Hierarchical, e.g., skos:narrower, skos:broader. Similarity, e.g., skos:related.

-

Mapping Axioms:

2: Horizontal Alignments

ExtruOnt

ManuService

MASON

MSDL (Manufacturing Service Description Language)

[Industry Ontology Foundry - CORE](http://industryportal.enit.fr/ontologies/MSDL) (IOF-CORE)

SAREF4INMA (SAREF-extension for the industry and manufacturing domain-)

Engineering feature

General Concept Info:

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Alignments To Existing Ontologies: (1: vertical, MLOs/TLOs; 2: horizontal, DLOs)

1: Vertical Alignments

Target Ontology:

2: Horizontal Alignments

Product Service System (PSS)

SAREF4CITY

Operator (Machine Operator)

General Concept Info:

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Alignments To Existing Ontologies: (1: vertical, MLOs/TLOs; 2: horizontal, DLOs)

1: Vertical Alignments

FOAF – Friend of a friend

EMMO – Elementary Materials Modelling Ontology

BFO – Basic Formal Ontology

2: Horizontal Alignments

MASON - MAnufacturing's Semantics ONtology

ManuService

IOF-CORE - Industry Ontology Foundry – CORE

MSDL

GRACE – inteGration of pRocess and quAlity Control using multi-agEnt technology

PSS - Product Service System

RGOM - Reference Generalized Ontological Model

CHAMEO - CHaracterisation MEthodology Ontology

3.2.5 Maintenance

3.2.5.1 Selection of candidate-bridge-concept terms

Using the approach outlined in [Figure 2,](#page-12-0) we identified the relevant ontologies for the maintenance domain. The maintenance ontologies were selected from the industry portal. Upon investigating the selected ontologies, we determined the terms listed in [Table 12](#page-101-0) as candidate-bridge-concepts for the maintenance domain.

Candidate	GRACE	IMAMO	ROMAIN	IOF- MAINTENANCE
Failure	$\sf X$		X	X
Failure type	X			
Operator	X	X		
Maintenance action	X	X	Χ	$\sf X$
Maintenance task	X	X		
Maintenance item	X		X	X
Failure mechanism	\overline{X}			X
Failure mode	X	X	X	X
State of degradation	X	$\sf X$		X
Maintenance notification	X	X	Χ	
Maintenance tool	X	$\mathsf X$		X
Maintenance strategy	X	X		$\sf X$

Table 12 - Tentative mapping of potential bridge concepts in maintenance focus area

3.2.5.2 Bridge concept engineering

Using the bridge concept template, we drafted bridge concept event in the maintenance focus area.

Event

General Concept Info:

(e.g., some of the components in a drilling machine can be replaced while the whole machine keeps being the same thing). An event can be only partially present at a given time (unless this time coincides with the event temporal extension) and cannot reoccur in time. Objects are said to participate in events: e.g., a drilling machine (an object) participates in a production process (an event). Depending on the ontological framework one relies on, different types of event can be identified, e.g., events that do not have goals (e.g., to walk, to think), events aimed at goals (sometimes called accomplishments, e.g., to walk a mile, to walk to the station), etc. In industry, event is the most general class that comprises activities in the factory (at the design level, at the shop floor level, at the maintenance level, etc.)

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Alignments To Existing Ontologies: (1: vertical, MLOs/TLOs; 2: horizontal, DLOs)

1: Vertical Alignments

DOLCE

Basic Formal Ontology

Process Specification Language (PSL, ISO 18629)

2: Horizontal Alignments

Discrete Event Modeling Ontology

IOF Core

4.Conclusion

As the first report on harmonized and developed DLOs, it has achieved the following goals. First, a harmonization workflow was designed as a general guideline to guide the harmonization process with an emphasis on adopting the bridge concept approach. Second, five focus areas in the NMBP domain was shortlisted and the existing DLOs in which were identified and analyzed. Third, preliminary harmonization of DLOs was attempted through bridge concept elucidation. Last, gaps was revealed through domain coverage analysis which pointed to the needs for new DLO development.

However, the harmonization activity exposed a number of questions in need of attentions. First, in terms of the approach to candidate-bridge-concept terms selection, it is unclear whether the establishment of a unique and standardized methodology is advantageous, given the plurality of focus areas to be tackled. Second, using the template to define the bridge concepts requires involvement, contribution, and collaboration from and between domain experts and ontologists to ensure a thorough analysis and a formal representation of the knowledge. However, the presented bridge concept elucidation sometimes lacks sufficient inputs from both sides. Thus, these predefined domain-level bridge concepts have to be reviewed and evaluated by more stakeholders to ensure its completeness and feasibility.

5.References

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- 2. Yann Le Franc, Gerhard Goldbeck, Arkopaul Sarkar, Jesper Friis, María Poveda-Villalón, Alba Fernández-Izquierdo, Hedi Karray. "D3.2 Report on existing domain ontoloiges in identified domains". OntoCommons project deliverable. 2021.
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