

TOGAF® Poster Series #37

Architecture Contracts



by Roger Evernden

Architecture Contracts are agreements between developers and sponsors on the deliverables, quality, and fitness-for-purpose of an architecture. This poster examines the role of Architecture Contracts in TOGAF.

G

At the end of Phase G there may be a contract between the EA team or governance body and users who might build or deploy components in the architected environment.

Note: this contract is also used to manage changes to the enterprise architecture in Phase H.

A

The Statement of Architecture Work (Phase A) is the document against which successful execution of the architecture project is measured, and is a contract between the EA team (supplier) and sponsor (consumer).

G

At the start of Phase G there is a contract between the EA team and those responsible for developing and implementing the architecture.

Note: there could be more than one contract for a large implementation.

B, C and D

Development of any architecture domain (Phases C, C, or D) may be contracted out.

The content of the different types of Architecture Contract is described in section 49.2 of TOGAF.

The governance use of the Architecture Contract document produced in the ADM Phase G is explained in Part VII, 50. Architecture Governance.

The Architecture Requirements Specification provides quantitative statements that outline what an implementation project must do to comply with the architecture, and is typically a major part of an implementation contract, or a contract or more detailed Architecture Definition. See TOGAF 36.2.6.

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Architecture Contracts

Architecture Governance Ensures we:

Architecture Contracts are a key tool that allow the flexible evolution of a dynamic enterprise architecture in response to changing technology and business drivers – without unnecessary complexity.

Deliverables are typically the contracts for an architecture project (see TOGAF 49.2.1).

Phase G establishes the connections between implementation organizations through Architecture Contracts.

Even when EA teams don't draw up a formal Architecture Contracts, it is still implied!

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Architecture Governance ensures we:

monitor and audit the integrity, changes, and decision-making of architecture-related activities within an enterprise.

Adhere to the principles, standards, and requirements of architectures.

Implementing architectures.

Practices for effective architectural artifacts.

The governance organization responsible for each contract, including their level of authority and scope of the architecture being governed.