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Preface

About the Object Management Group

The Object Management Group, Inc. (OMG) is an international organization supported by over 600 members, including information system vendors, software developers and users. Founded in 1989, the OMG promotes the theory and practice of object-oriented technology in software development. The organization's charter includes the establishment of industry guidelines and object management specifications to provide a common framework for application development. Primary goals are the reusability, portability, and interoperability of object-based software in distributed, heterogeneous environments. Conformance to these specifications will make it possible to develop a heterogeneous applications environment across all major hardware platforms and operating systems.

OMG’s objectives are to foster the growth of object technology and influence its direction by establishing the Object Management Architecture (OMA). The OMA provides the conceptual infrastructure upon which all OMG specifications are based. More information is available at http://www.omg.org/.

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OMG Middleware Specifications
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Courier bold - Programming language elements.

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Terms that appear in italics are defined in the glossary. Italic text also represents the name of a document, specification, or other publication.

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• Unisys
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The following people contributed directly or indirectly to the writing of this specification:

Introduction

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1.1 Overview

This document presents the Software Process Engineering Metamodel (SPEM). This metamodel is used to describe a concrete software development process or a family of related software development processes. Process enactment is outside the scope of SPEM, although some examples of enactment are included for explanatory purposes.

1.2 Modeling Approach

We take an object-oriented approach to modeling a family of related software processes and we use the UML as a notation. Figure 1-1 shows the four-layered architecture of modeling as defined by the OMG. A performing process—that is, the real-world production process—as it is enacted, is at level M0. The definition of the corresponding process is at level M1. For example, the Rational Unified Process 2001
(RUP2001), DMR Macroscope, the IBM Global Services Method and Fujitsu SDEM are defined at level M1. Both a generic process like RUP and a specific customization of this process used by a given project, are at level M1. We focus here on the metamodel, which stands at level M2 and serves as a template for level M1.

The SPEM specification is structured as a UML profile, and provides a complete MOF-based metamodel. This approach facilitates exchange with both UML tools and MOF-based tools/repositories.

### 1.3 Scope

The SPEM is a metamodel for defining processes and their components. A tool based on SPEM would be a tool for process authoring and customizing. The actual enactment of processes—that is, planning and executing a project using a process described with SPEM, is not in the scope of this model.

In this specification, we are limiting ourselves to defining the minimal set of process modeling elements necessary to describe any software development process, without adding specific models or constraints for any specific area or discipline, such as project management or analysis.

We believe this is the appropriate approach for the software-process engineering domain, and any attempt to standardize a more complex and detailed model at this time would be both unwise and ineffective. The standard wants to accommodate a large range of existing and described software development processes, and not exclude them by having too many features or constraints.

### 1.4 Terminology

There are a large number of process models and standards. Each one uses slightly different terminology, sometimes with different meaning for the same English word or phrase. For example, a ‘phase’ in Fusion [13] is called a ‘core workflow’ in the...
1.5 Relationships to Other OMG Specifications

The Unified Modeling Language (UML) is a graphical language for modeling discrete systems. Although the UML is not necessarily tied to any particular application area or modeling process, its greatest applicability is in the area of object-oriented software design. Version 1.1 of the UML was submitted to the Object Management Group in September 1997 in response to an OMG RFP requesting a standard approach to object-oriented modeling. The proposal was ratified by the OMG in November 1997. Version 1.3 of the UML was finalized in June 1999. UML 1.4 (January 2001) is the version referred to throughout this document.

The UML is defined by a metamodel, which is itself defined as an instance of the MOF (Meta-Object Facility) metametamodel. A subset of the UML graphical notation is used to depict this metamodel. The SPEM metamodel is defined similarly, and is formally defined as an extension of a subset of UML called SPEM_Foundation. Chapter 2 describes SPEM_Foundation in detail.

The purpose of the Software Process Engineering Metamodel (SPEM) is to support the definition of software development processes specifically including those processes that involve or mandate the use of UML, such as the Rational Unified Process®.

1.5.1 UML Profile

A UML profile is a kind of variant of UML that uses the extension mechanisms of UML in a standardized way, for a particular purpose.

The UML 1.4 semantics (OMG document ad/01-02-13)) provides the following definition in the section 2.14.4 “Semantics;”

A profile stereotype of Package contains one or more related extensions of standard UML semantics (refer to Section 2.6, “Extension Mechanisms”). These are normally intended to customize UML for a particular domain or purpose. Profiles can contain stereotypes, tag definitions, and constraints. They can also contain data types that are used by tag definitions for informally declaring the types of the values that can be associated with tag definitions.

In addition, a profile package can specify a related model library and identify a subset of the UML metamodel that is applicable for the profile. In principle, profiles merely refine the standard semantics of UML by adding further constraints and interpretations that capture domain-specific semantics and modeling patterns. They do not add any new fundamental concepts.
The SPEM is defined both as a metamodel and as a UML profile, which allows SPEM modelers to use the UML as a concrete notation. Chapter 11 of this specification discusses the profile.

1.5.2 MOF 1.3 and XMI

The Meta-Object Facility (MOF) is the OMG’s adopted technology for defining metadata and representing it as CORBA objects. The MOF 1.3 specification was finalized in September 1999 (OMG document ad/99-09-05). A MOF metamodel defines the abstract syntax of the metadata in the MOF representation of a model. The MOF model itself describes the abstract syntax for representing MOF metamodels. MOF metamodels can be represented using a subset of UML syntax.

In addition to defining SPEM as a UML profile, it is defined as a MOF metamodel, based on a subset of UML. This gives a more restricted version of SPEM, in which the basic SPE elements can be described, without some of the diagramming and structuring facilities, which are added by the profile version of SPEM. Chapter 11 describes the additional facilities gained when SPEM is treated as a UML profile.

XMI (XML Metadata Interchange) is the OMG’s adopted technology for interchanging models in a serialized form (OMG document ad/98-10-05). XMI version 1.1 was formally adopted by the OMG in February 2000 (OMG document ad/99-10-04). XMI focuses on the interchange of MOF metadata; that is, metadata conforming to a MOF metamodel.

XMI is based on the W3C’s eXtensible Markup Language (XML) and has two major components:

- The XML DTD Production Rules for producing XML Document Type Definitions (DTDs) for XMI encoded metadata. XMI DTDs serve as syntax specifications for XML documents, and allow generic XML tools to be used to compose and validate XMI documents.

- The XML Document Production Rules for encoding metadata into an XML compatible format. The production rules can be applied in reverse to decode XMI documents and reconstruct the metadata.

XMI can be used to manipulate the SPEM metamodel as follows:

- To create a SPEM Document Type Definition.

- To transfer process models based on SPEM as XML documents, either by describing the model as a direct SPEM instance (usage of the SPEM DTD) or by describing it as a UML model conforming to the UML profile for SPEM (usage of the UML DTD).

- To transform the SPEM metamodel itself into an XML document, based on the MOF DTD, for interchange between MOF-compliant repositories.

OMG documents ptc/2002-05-05 and ptc/2002-05-06 contain the normative DTD and MOF XMI for the SPEM.
1.5.3 Workflow

Within the OMG there are three initiatives that come under this heading.

The first is the Joint Workflow Management Facility (OMG document bom/99-03-01). The scope of this facility is workflow enactment and it supports Workflow Client Applications, Interoperability, and Process Monitoring as described in the Workflow Reference Model. None of these areas overlaps the SPEM specification, which addresses the domain of process description, not process enactment.

The second is the Workflow Resource Assignment Interfaces RFP (OMG document bom/2000-01-03), which asks for submissions to extend the capabilities of the adopted workflow management specification in the areas of the assignment and selection of resources. The scope of this facility is also process enactment and so does not overlap the SPEM specification.

The third area of interest is Process Definition. At this time no request for proposals has been issued. The matter is still under consideration, pending discussions within the UML RTF and the UML 2.0 working group about how UML Activity Diagrams will be supported and/or extended. This discussion somewhat overlaps the scope of the current specification.

1.5.4 Proof of Concept

The (meta)model and the UML Profile presented here supports at least the Rational Unified Process, DMR Macroscope, IBM’s Global Services Method and the Unisys QuadCycle method. Examples throughout the text show how particular elements in the model are used in these and other processes. The SPEM is supported by the Rational Process Workbench (RPW), which is a process authoring tool based on UML. The SPEM profile has been implemented using the “Objecteering/UML Profile Builder” tool of SOFTTEAM, and then applied to the “Objecteering/UML Modeler” tool, which has been used as a “SPEM modeler” to represent various processes. All the SPEM extensions have been implemented with most of the SPEM well-formedness rules. The SPEM metamodel server has been generated in the Unisys XMI/MOF tools. Finally see Appendix C for an example based on the DMR Macroscope.

1.6 Compliance Points

When specifying their compliance to SPEM, vendors should refer to the compliance points defined in this section, and not loosely say they are “SPEM compliant.” Being compliant to one point means that all elements belonging to this point are implemented. As a general rule, all elements defined in the SPEM metamodel (chapters 5 to 10) shall be supported except for the following optional elements:

- Kinds of Guidance (see Section 5.2, “Guidance,” on page 5-2)
- Steps (see Section 7.3, “Activity and Step,” on page 7-4)
- Discipline (see Section 8.4, “Discipline,” on page 8-3)
Also it is not mandated that a SPEM implementation use the same terminology. Other terminologies, and natural languages other than English, can be used. In this case, a correspondence list must present a mapping of this terminology with the SPEM terminology.

The compliance points are as follow:

- **UML Profile for SPEM**: the compliant implementation shall implement all the UML parts extended by SPEM, and shall define all the SPEM extensions. The compliant specification should specify whether it implements the SPEM constraints by an automated check or not. A SPEM Profile compliant implementation shall provide the UML XMI exchange mechanism that supports all UML features extended by SPEM, and the UML extension mechanism (UML Profiles).

- **Metamodel**: the compliant implementation shall support the SPEM Metamodel, except possibly some of the optional elements as noted above.

- **MOF/XMI DTD**: the compliant specification should implement all the MOF based metamodel provided by the SPEM specification. It shall implement the XMI DTD specified by the SPEM standard.

- **Notation**: the compliant implementation shall recognizably support all the notation defined by the SPEM specification.

Any combination of the four compliance points can be used.

### 1.6.1 Examples

Implementers declare their SPEM compliance in the following form:

- The XXX tool is SPEM compliant (UML Profile for SPEM without constraint checks implementation, Notation).
- The XXX tool is SPEM compliant (Metamodel, MOF/XMI DTD, Notation).
- The XXX tool is SPEM compliant (Notation).

This list is not exhaustive.
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<td>“SPEM_Foundation::Actions”</td>
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<td>“SPEM_Foundation::State_Machines”</td>
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<td>“SPEM_Foundation::Activity_Graphs”</td>
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<tr>
<td>“SPEM_Foundation::Model_Management”</td>
<td>2-10</td>
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</table>

The SPEM stand-alone metamodel is built by extending a subset of the UML 1.4 physical metamodel. This UML subset is called SPEM_Foundation, as shown in Figure 2-1 on page 2-2. This chapter describes the content of the SPEM_Foundation package.
2.1 **SPEM_Foundation::Data_Types**

The SPEM_Foundation::Data_Types package is a subset of the UML 1.4 Data_Types package, and contains definitions of the following data types as shown in Figure 2-2 on page 2-3: Integer, UnlimitedInteger, String, AggregationKind, Boolean, ParameterDirectionKind, PseudoStateKind, Name, Multiplicity and MultiplicityRange.

The Data_Types package also contains definitions of Expression and BooleanExpression as shown in Figure 2-3 on page 2-3. The SPEM Foundation data types and expressions are defined exactly as in UML 1.4 section 2.4.
Figure 2-2  Foundation Data Types Package — Data Types

Figure 2-3  Foundation Data Types Package — Expressions
2.2 **SPEM_Foundation::Core**

The SPEM_Foundation::Core package is structured similarly to the UML 1.4 Core packages and is shown diagrammatically in the following figures. Figure 2-4 on page 2-5 shows the model elements that form the structural backbone of the metamodel.

Figure 2-5 on page 2-6 shows the model elements that define relationships. Figure 2-6 on page 2-6 shows the model elements that define dependencies. Figure 2-7 on page 2-7 shows the model elements that define auxiliary elements.

In each case, classes and associations have been omitted from the UML 1.4 metamodel, and in many cases attributes have been omitted from included classes. What remains are the parts of the UML1.4 definition that are required to define SPEM models. These parts are defined exactly as in UML 1.4 section 2.5, except that some of the classes have been made abstract. There are also three small variations as follows:

- In Relationships (Figure 2-5 on page 2-6) the connection end of the association between Association and AssociationEnd has multiplicity 2, instead of the 2..* specified by UML 1.4. This is because only binary associations are supported by SPEM.

- In Dependencies (Figure 2-6 on page 2-6) the supplier and client associations between Dependency and ModelElement have multiplicity 1, instead of the 1..* specified by UML 1.4. This is because only binary dependencies are supported by SPEM.

- SPEM Associations are not Generalizable.
Figure 2-4  Foundation Core Package — Backbone
Figure 2-5  Foundation Core Package — Relationships

Figure 2-6  Foundation Core Package — Dependencies
2.3 \texttt{SPEM\_Foundation::Actions}

The \texttt{SPEM\_Foundation::Actions} package is a subset of the UML 1.4 Common\_Behavior package, and is shown in Figure 2-8. The elements in this package are defined as in UML 1.4 section 2.9.

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=0.5\textwidth]{figure2-8.png}
\caption{Foundation Actions Package.}
\end{figure}
2.4 SPEM_Foundation::State_Machines

The SPEM_Foundation::State_Machines package is a subset of the UML 1.4 State_Machines package, and is shown in Figure 2-9. The elements in this package are defined as in UML 1.4 section 2.12, with the exception that the context of a StateMachine is a composition, rather than a shared aggregation.

![Foundation State Machines Package](image-url)
2.5 SPEM_Foundation::Activity_Graphs

The SPEM_Foundation::Activity_Graphs package is a subset of the UML 1.4 Activity_Graphs package, and is shown in Figure 2-10. The elements in this package are defined as in UML 1.4 section 2.13.

Figure 2-10 Foundation Activity Graphs Package
2.6 SPEM_Foundation::Model_Management

The SPEM_Foundation::Model_Management package is a subset of the UML 1.4 Model_Management package, and is shown in Figure 2-11. The elements in this package are defined exactly as in UML 1.4 section 2.14. Note that there is no ElementImport metaclass, used in UML to reify the concepts of aliasing and visibility; in SPEM there is no concept of visibility - all elements have public visibility - and elements imported into packages cannot be renamed.

![Figure 2-11  Foundation Model Management Package](image)

2.7 SPEM_Foundation Well-Formedness Rules

The following well-formedness rules from the UML 1.4 specification apply to the SPEM_Foundation package. Numberings such as [2.5.3.26.1] are cross-references to the numbering of the well-formedness rules under the corresponding class in the UML 1.4 specification. OCL for these rules is found in the UML 1.4 specification.

2.7.1 Namespace

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rule</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[C1][2.5.3.26.1]</td>
<td>If a contained element that is not an Association or Generalization has a name, then the name must be unique in the Namespace.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[C2][2.5.3.26.2]</td>
<td>All Associations must have a unique combination of name and associated Classifiers in the Namespace.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.7.2 GeneralizableElement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rule</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[C3][2.5.3.20.3]</td>
<td>Circular inheritance is not allowed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[C4][2.5.3.20.4]</td>
<td>The parent must be included in the Namespace of the GeneralizableElement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[C5][2.5.3.20.5]</td>
<td>A GeneralizableElement may only be a child of GeneralizableElement of the same kind.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.7.3 Constraint

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rule</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[C6][2.5.3.11.1]</td>
<td>A Constraint cannot be applied to itself.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.7.4 Classifier

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rule</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[C7][2.5.3.8.3]</td>
<td>No opposite AssociationEnds may have the same name in a Classifier.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.7.5 BehavioralFeature

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rule</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[C8][2.5.3.5.1]</td>
<td>All Parameters should have a unique name.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[C9][2.5.3.5.2]</td>
<td>The type of the Parameters should be included in the namespace of the Classifier.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.7.6 AssociationEnd

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rule</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[C10][2.5.3.3.2]</td>
<td>An Instance may not belong by composition to more than one composite Instance.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.7.7 Association

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rule</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[C11][2.5.3.1.1]</td>
<td>The AssociationEnds must have a unique name within the Association.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[C12][2.5.3.1.2]</td>
<td>At most one AssociationEnd may be an aggregation or composition.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 2.7.8 CompositeState

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rule</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[C13][2.12.3.11]</td>
<td>A composite state can have at most one initial vertex.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[C14][2.12.3.1.6]</td>
<td>The substates of a composite state are part of only that composite state.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2.7.9 FinalState

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rule</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[C15][2.12.3.21]</td>
<td>A final state cannot have any outgoing transitions.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2.7.10 PseudoState

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rule</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[C16][2.12.3.4.1]</td>
<td>An initial vertex can have at most one outgoing transition and no incoming transitions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[C17][2.12.3.4.3]</td>
<td>A join vertex must have at least two incoming transitions and exactly one outgoing transition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[C18][2.12.3.4.5]</td>
<td>A fork vertex must have at least two outgoing transitions and exactly one incoming transition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[C19][2.12.3.4.7]</td>
<td>A junction vertex must have at least one incoming and one outgoing transition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[C20][2.13.3.6.2]</td>
<td>All of the paths leaving a fork must eventually merge in a subsequent join. Furthermore, multiple layers of forks and joins must be well nested.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2.7.11 StateMachine

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rule</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[C21][2.12.3.5.2]</td>
<td>A top state is always a composite.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[C22][2.12.3.5.3]</td>
<td>A top state cannot have any containing states.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[C23][2.12.3.5.4]</td>
<td>A top state cannot be the source of a transition.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2.7.12 ActivityGraph

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rule</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[C24][2.13.3.1.1]</td>
<td>An ActivityGraph specifies the dynamics of (i) a Package, or (ii) a Classifier, or (iii) a BehavioralFeature.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.7.13 ActionState

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>[C25][2.13.3.2.1]</th>
<th>An ActionState has a non-empty entry action.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[C26]</td>
<td>The entry action of an ActionState is a call action. Note: this is a modified version of the UML 1.4 constraint on CallState.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

```
context ActionState inv:
    self.entry.oclIsKindOf(CallAction)
```

2.7.14 ClassifierInState

| [C27][2.13.3.4.1] | Classifiers-in-state have no namespace contents. |

2.7.15 ObjectFlowState

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>[C28][2.13.3.5.1]</th>
<th>Parameters of an ObjectFlowState must have a type and direction compatible with the associated classifier.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[C29][2.13.3.5.2]</td>
<td>Downstream states must have entry actions that match.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[C30][2.13.3.5.3]</td>
<td>Upstream states must have entry actions that match.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
At the core of the Software Process Engineering Metamodel (SPEM) is the idea that a software development process is a collaboration between abstract active entities called *process roles* that perform operations called *activities* on concrete, tangible entities called *work products* [20].

Figure 3-1 depicts this fundamental conceptual model using the UML notation for a class. Figure 3-1 and Figure 3-2 are not part of the specification and are given solely for explanatory reasons. They are intentionally very incomplete.

| Role      | activity1(WorkProduct1) | activity2(WorkProduct2) |

*Figure 3-1  Conceptual Model*

Multiple roles interact or collaborate by exchanging work products and triggering the execution, or enactment, of certain activities. The overall goal of a process is to bring a set of work products to a well-defined state.

From this model, a first step consists of “reifying” role, activity, and work product. This leads to the simple model shown in Figure 3-2.
Figure 3.2  Reifying the Conceptual Model: Roles, Work Products, and Activities
Chapter 2 explained how SPEM is built from the SPEM_Foundation package, which is a subset of UML 1.4, and the SPEM_Extensions package, which adds the constructs and semantics required for software process engineering.

Figure 4-1 shows the internal structure of the SPEM_Extensions package, in terms of its sub-packages, and shows the dependencies among these packages and the SPEM_Foundations packages. We address each of the SPEM_Extensions subpackages in turn in the next five chapters: Basic Elements, Dependencies, Process Structure, Process Components, and Process Lifecycle.
Figure 4-1  SPEM Package Structure
Basic Elements

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<tr>
<td>“Guidance”</td>
<td>5-2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This package, detailed in Figure 5-1 on page 5-2, defines the basic elements used for process description.

5.1 ExternalDescription

With every ModelElement is associated one or more ExternalDescriptions, which contain a description of the ModelElement suitable for a reader of the process description. ExternalDescriptions comprise the user-visible surface of the Software Process Description.

An ExternalDescription has four attributes of type String:

- content: A natural language description of the ModelElement.
- name: The name of the ModelElement in a natural language.
- language: The name of the natural language used for the value of content and name.
- medium: A description of the medium and format of the ExternalDescription.
5.2 Guidance

Guidance elements may be associated with ModelElements, to provide more detailed information to practitioners about the associated ModelElement.

Possible types of Guidance depend on the process family and can be for example: Guidelines, Techniques, Metrics, Examples, UML Profiles, Tool mentors, Checklist, Templates.

SPEM is designed to be flexible about the kinds of Guidance used in a process model, by reifying GuidanceKind as a separate class in the metamodel. Every Guidance is associated with a GuidanceKind, and the name of the GuidanceKind indicates what kind of Guidance it is. The following kinds of Guidance list provides a basic repertoire; processes based on SPEM may add new kinds if required.

5.2.1 Kinds of Guidance

*Technique* is a kind of Guidance. A Technique is a detailed, precise “algorithm” used to create a work product. Techniques help to define the skills required to perform specific types of activities. The OPEN process uses the term ‘technique.’ Other processes use ‘procedure’ or ‘directive.’

*UMLProfile* is a kind of Guidance. A UML profile provides mechanisms that specialize UML for a specific target such as C++, Java, and CORBA or for a specific purpose such as analysis, design, and so on. Every development activity using UML can be ruled by a profile that dictates those UML consistency rules that need to be applied or which UML model element is relevant for the current context and focus of the activity.

For example, “UML for EJB,” “UML for Analysis,” “UML for CORBA.”
Figure 5-2 presents a diagram example of such an approach, where activities are connected to UML profiles. In this example, we see connections from ProcessRole occurrences such as “Analyst” as performers, to Activity occurrences such as “Elaborate Analysis,” and from Activity occurrences to a UMLProfile occurrence such as “UML analysis.”

*Checklist* is a kind of Guidance. A checklist is a document representing a list of elements that need to be completed.

*ToolMentor* is a kind of Guidance. A ToolMentor shows how to use a specific tool to accomplish an activity. Each ToolMentor is associated with a single Tool and inherits the association with the Activity it supports from Guidance. For example, “Using Rational ClearCase to Check Out and Check In Configuration Items” is a tool mentor in the RUP.

*Guideline* is a kind of Guidance. A Guideline is a set of rules and recommendations on how a given work product must look or must be organized.

For example, in the Rational Unified Process, the *Java Programming Guidelines* are guidance used in the implementation of a design class, as well as input for the activity of code review.

*Template* is a kind of Guidance. A Template is a predefined document that provides a standardized format for a particular kind of WorkProduct; for example, “Microsoft Word template for Business Use Case Modeling.”

*Estimate* is a kind of Guidance. An Estimate describes an effort associated with a particular element. The description associated with an Estimate gives a context and interpretation for the effort.
QuadCycle defines also *Technology Roadmaps*: an explicit directive for technology use in the implementation of architectural styles, patterns, and frameworks within the Global Industries Technology Architecture (GITA), and *Tacit Knowledge*: the experience and expertise of senior architects represented as a knowledge map in the Unisys Knowledge Management Initiative.
Dependencies

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</table>

6.1 SPEM Dependencies

Figure 6-1 shows the Dependencies defined in SPEM. They are defined as subclasses of the SPEM_Foundation Dependency classes Abstraction, Usage, and Permission, which have the semantics defined for UML 1.4.\(^1\)

\(^1\) In UML, specific types of Dependency are defined using stereotypes. In stand-alone SPEM, stereotypes are not available, so they are defined using subclasses.
The following dependencies are supported by SPEM for process engineering:

- **Categorizes.** A *Categorizes* dependency acts from a Package to an individual process element in another package, and provides a means to associate process elements with multiple categories. This feature is both generally useful, and in particular acts in conjunction with Discipline (see Section 8.4, “Discipline,” on page 8-3) to provide a top-level categorization of all elements.

- **Impacts.** An *Impacts* dependency acts from one WorkProduct to another WorkProduct to indicate that the modification of a WorkProduct could invalidate another.

For example, an important document in IBM’s Global Services Method is the Work Product Dependency diagram, represented in Figure 6-2. The icons in this diagram indicate Work Product Descriptions—in SPEM terms, instances of WorkProduct as described in Section 7.1, “WorkProduct and WorkProductKind,” on page 7-2. The arrows represent instances of the *Impacts* Dependency in the IBM Global Services Method.
**Figure 6-2** Work Product Dependency Diagram from IBM’s Global Services Method

- **Import.** An Import dependency denotes that the contents of the target Package are added to the namespace of the source Package. This has the same semantics as UML Import except that in SPEM all elements have public visibility.

- **Precedes.** A Precedes dependency acts from one Activity to another, or one WorkDefinition to another, to indicate finish-start or finish-finish dependencies between the work described, depending on the value of the kind attribute.

- **RefersTo.** A RefersTo dependency acts from one process element to another, to ensure that they are included in the same ProcessComponent, see Section 9.2, “Lifecycle,” on page 9-3. The normal situation where this applies is where the text of one process element refers, by name or content, to another element. In order to ensure consistency of meaning of the text, a RefersTo dependency should be established to give an explicit structural representation of such a dependency, so that when the referring element is included in a ProcessComponent, the referred-to element must also be included.

- **Trace.** A Trace dependency acts between two model elements of any type and is mainly used to trace requirements and changes across models. It has the same semantics as UML Trace.
6.2 Well-formedness Rules

**Categorizes:**

[C31] The client must be a kind of Package.

context Categorizes inv:
self.client.oclIsKindOf(Package)

**Impacts:**

[C32] The supplier and client must be kinds of WorkProduct.

context Impacts inv:
self.supplier.oclIsKindOf(WorkProduct) and
self.client.oclIsKindOf(WorkProduct)

**Import:**

[C33] The supplier and client must be kinds of Package.

context Import inv:
self.supplier.oclIsKindOf(Package) and
self.client.oclIsKindOf(Package)

**Precedes:**

[C34] The supplier and client must be kinds of WorkDefinition.

context Precedes inv:
self.supplier.oclIsKindOf(WorkDefinition) and
self.client.oclIsKindOf(WorkDefinition)

**RefersTo:**

No additional rules.

**Trace:**

No additional rules.
Process Structure

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>“ProcessPerformer and ProcessRole”</td>
<td>7-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Well-formedness Rules”</td>
<td>7-6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This package, shown in Figure 7-1, defines the main structural elements from which a process description is constructed.
7.1 WorkProduct and WorkProductKind

A work product or artifact is anything produced, consumed, or modified by a process. It may be a piece of information, a document, a model, source code, and so on. A WorkProduct describes one class of work product produced in a process.

A WorkProductKind describes a category of work product, such as Text Document, UML Model, Executable, Code Library, and so on. The range of work product kinds is dependent on the process being modeled.

Associations

- WorkProduct is a specialization of Classifier. Thus they can participate in associations and contain nested definitions. They do not possess Features.

- A work product description can describe WorkProducts that are aggregates of other WorkProducts. For example a software development plan (à la MIL-STD-498) consists of several other plans: Staffing plan, Configuration management plan, etc. This can be represented using normal UML aggregation.
A WorkProduct may be associated with a responsibleRole, representing the role that is formally responsible for the production of this WorkProduct.

• A WorkProduct must be associated with a WorkProductKind.

• A WorkProduct may be associated (via the behavior association inherited from SPEM_Foundation::State_Machines) with a state machine that describes the states that the work product may be in, and the transitions allowed between those states.

Attributes

The isDeliverable attribute on WorkProduct is true if that WorkProduct is defined as a formal deliverable of the process.

Note

Deliverable is not a major model element in SPEM because not all WorkProducts are deliverable, and whether a WorkProduct is delivered or not may change during the enactment.

Examples

"Design Model" is a WorkProduct that describes design models, which are workproducts. “Software development plan” is a WorkProduct that is an aggregate of several other WorkProducts, such as documents and plans, designated by name; for example, “Risk Plan.”

Synonyms

‘Artifact’ is the term used in the RUP and QuadCycle for the description of the WorkProduct; the IBM process uses the term ‘Work Product Description.’ Other processes use the terms ‘deliverable’ or ‘product.’

7.2 WorkDefinition and ActivityParameter

WorkDefinition is a kind of Operation that describes the work performed in the process. Its main subclass is Activity, but Phase, Iteration, and Lifecycle (in the Process Lifecycle package) are also subclasses of WorkDefinition. WorkDefinition is not an abstract class, and instances of WorkDefinition itself can be created to represent composite pieces of work that are further decomposed. It has explicit inputs and outputs referred to via ActivityParameter.

Associations

• A WorkDefinition can be composed of other WorkDefinitions using the association called subWork. The decomposition may also be modeled using an activity graph, in which case the subWork association is derived from the activity graph structure as shown in well-formedness rule C43.
• A WorkDefinition is related to the WorkProducts it uses through the ActivityParameter class, which specifies whether they are used as input or output. The work described in the WorkDefinition uses the input workproducts, and creates or updates the output workproducts.

• A WorkDefinition has an owning ProcessPerformer, representing the primary role that performs that WorkDefinition in the process. In the case of Activities carried out by an individual or small group, this will be a ProcessRole. In the case of higher-level WorkDefinitions this will often be a single instance of ProcessPerformer that corresponds to the complete Process.

• A WorkDefinition may be referred to by an ActionState in an ActivityGraph.

Attributes
The attribute kind on Parameter is used to indicate whether the associated work product is an input, output, a modifiable input, or a returned value to the WorkDefinition.

The attribute hasWorkPerArtifact indicates that multiple instances of the WorkDefinition are needed, one per instance of the corresponding WorkProduct. For example, Write the code of a class may have Coding standards and Class as inputs, but it is replicated once per class (not per coding standard). This attribute can be true for at most one ActivityParameter per WorkDefinition.

Note
The familiar concept of Work-Breakdown Structure (WBS) can be described using several SPEM constructs:

• Decomposition using subWork provides the means to describe that one WorkDefinition is composed of another and, therefore, the hierarchical nature of the WBS.

• Decomposition of WorkDefinitions may be represented in detail by activity graphs, limited to one level of nesting.

• The Precedes dependency provides the ability to sequence between elements of the WBS at the same level, see the Dependencies chapter.

Example
In the Fujitsu SDEM21 development process, there are 3 levels of WorkDefinition layers, the last of which corresponds to activities.

7.3 Activity and Step

Activity is the main subclass of WorkDefinition. It describes a piece of work performed by one ProcessRole: the tasks, operations, and actions that are performed by a role or with which the role may assist. An Activity may consist of atomic elements called Steps.
Associations

- Activity inherits from WorkDefinition the fact that it has input and output parameters, of type WorkProduct.
- An Activity is owned by a ProcessRole that is the performer of the described activity. It may refer to additional ProcessRoles that are the assistants in the activity.
- Although this is not explicitly prohibited, an Activity does not normally use the subWork structure inherited from WorkDefinition; instead decomposition within Activity is done using Steps. A Step is described in the context of the enclosing Activity in terms of the ProcessRoles and WorkProducts it uses.
- Step inherits from ActionState, so that the flow of Steps within an Activity can be represented by activity graphs.

Examples

In the RUP, *Find use case and actors* is an example of Activity. It is decomposed in half a dozen “steps” in the RUP: *Find actors, …, Check the results.*

In IBM’s Global Services Method, *Specify Solution Requirements* is an example of a WorkDefinition. It is decomposed into several “tasks,” modeled by SPEM’s Activity, such as *Detail Usability Requirements.*

Synonyms

The Rational Unified Process and QuadCycle use ‘activity’ composed of a partially ordered set of ‘steps.’ The IBM process defines ‘activities’ that corresponds to SPEM WorkDefinition, consisting of ‘tasks’ and ‘subtasks’ that corresponds to SPEM Activities. OPEN uses ‘task.’

7.4 ProcessPerformer and ProcessRole

A *ProcessPerformer* defines a performer for a set of WorkDefinitions in a process. ProcessPerformer has a subclass, ProcessRole. ProcessPerformer represents abstractly the “whole process” or one of its components, and is used to own WorkDefinitions that do not have a more specific owner. ProcessRole defines responsibilities over specific WorkProducts, and defines the roles that perform and assist in specific activities.

Associations

- ProcessPerformer is a specialization of Classifier, and thus may participate in inheritance relationships and associations within the process definition.
- A ProcessRole is responsible for a set of WorkProducts.
- A ProcessRole is the performer of Activities.
- A ProcessPerformer is the performer of higher level aggregate WorkDefinitions that cannot be associated with individual ProcessRoles.
Synonyms

ProcessRole is called ‘role’ in the IBM Global Services Method, DMR Macroscope and in OPEN [4], and it was called ‘worker’ in the Rational Unified Process [1, 3], prior to RUP 2001. We have also encountered ‘agent.’

Examples

In the Rational Unified Process, examples of ProcessRole are Architect, Analyst, Technical Writer, and Project Manager to name a few.

Note

A ProcessRole is not a person. A given person may be acting in several roles and several persons may act as a single given role.

7.5 Well-formedness Rules

Activity

[C35] Each Activity is imported by exactly one Discipline.

context Activity inv:
    self.supplierDependency.select (d | d.oclIsKindOf(Import)).client.select (c | c.oclIsKindOf(Discipline))->size = 1

[C36] Every Activity is owned by a ProcessRole.

context Activity inv:
    self.performer.oclIsKindOf(ProcessRole)

ActivityParameter

No additional rules.

ProcessRole

[C37] Every work must be a kind of Activity.

context ProcessRole inv:
    self.work->forall(f | f.oclIsKindOf(Activity))

Step

[C38] A Step has no associated Action.

context Step inv:
    self.entry->isEmpty()
WorkProduct

No additional rules.

StateMachine

[C39] Every StateMachine (but not ActivityGraph) has a WorkProduct as its context.

context StateMachine inv:  
selfoclIsTypeOf(StateMachine) implies  
self.context->nonEmpty() and self.context.oclIsKindOf(WorkProduct)

[C40] Nesting for state machines and activity graphs is limited to one level.

context StateMachine inv:  
self.top.subvertex->forall(sv | not sv.oclIsKindOf(CompositeState))

ActionState

[C41] The operation of an ActionState must be a kind of WorkDefinition.

context ActionState inv:  
self.entry.operation.oclIsKindOf(WorkDefinition)

ObjectFlowState

[C42] The type of an ObjectFlowState must be a kind of WorkProduct.

context ObjectFlowState inv:  
self.type.oclIsKindOf(WorkProduct)

WorkDefinition

[C43] Where there is an activity graph, subWork is derived.

context WorkDefinition inv:  
self.behavior->notEmpty() implies  
self.behavior.top.subvertex->select(v | v.oclIsKindOf(ActionState))->collect(v | v.entry.operation) = self.subWork
Process Components

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Figure 8-1 on page 8-3 details the Process Components package. The classes in this package are concerned with dividing one or more process descriptions into self-contained parts that can be placed under configuration management and version control.

8.1 Package

Just as in UML, a Package is a container that can both own and import process definition elements. Activities and WorkDefinitions are owned, respectively, by ProcessRoles and ProcessPerformers; StateMachines are owned by WorkProducts and own their internal states and transitions; ActivityGraphs can be owned by Packages, Classifiers, or BehavioralFeatures; other SPEM ModelElements can be owned by Packages.

Packages and the Categorizes dependency can be used to implement general categorization of process description elements. A Package is created to represent each category, and all of the elements linked via a Categorizes dependency into that
Package to represent membership of the category. A package represents a category when it is the source of at least one Categorizes dependency. The name of the category is the name of the package. Multiple overlapping categories can be created to serve various purposes in process engineering. A more specific kind of categorization of Activities is implemented by Discipline, see Section 8.4, “Discipline,” on page 8-3.

8.2 ProcessComponent

A ProcessComponent is a chunk of process description that is internally consistent and may be reused with other ProcessComponents to assemble a complete process.

A ProcessComponent imports a non-arbitrary set of process definition elements, modeled in SPEM by ModelElements. Such a set must be self-contained; this means that there are no RefersTo dependencies from within the component to elements not within the component. It must be internally consistent in the sense that the multiplicities and constraints defined for the metamodel as a whole must be satisfied within the scope of the component.

**Example**

Composition of ProcessComponents is done by a process of unification. For example, consider both of these:

- A ProcessComponent P1 containing WorkDefinitions that take a set of high-level use cases and non-functional requirements as input and delivers an architecture as output.
- A ProcessComponent P2 containing WorkDefinitions that take an architecture and a set of detailed use cases as input, and delivers an executable, unit-tested body of code as output.

To combine these two components, at least the output WorkProducts from P1 must be unified (that is, made identical) with the inputs to P2. Other elements may possibly be unified in addition, such as Templates, ProcessRoles, and so on. Composition of ProcessComponents can only be fully automated if they originate from a common family so that the unification is obviously capable of being automated. If the components originate from different sources, the unification would involve human intervention that normally would consist of some re-writing of the elements, and possibly associated elements, to be unified. Note that SPEM permits both of these kinds of composition but provides no explicit support for either.
8.3 Process

A Process is a ProcessComponent intended to stand alone as a complete, end-to-end process. It is distinguished from normal process components by the fact that it is not intended to be composed with other components. In a tooling context, the instance of Process is the “root” of the process model, from which a tool can start to compute the transitive closure of an entire process.

A Lifecycle, as defined in Section 9.2, “Lifecycle,” on page 9-3 is associated with a Process.

The class Process can also represent a family of processes, which is a process component out of which multiple overlapping processes can be defined.

8.4 Discipline

A Discipline is a particular specialization of Package that partitions the Activities within a process according to a common “theme.” Partitioning the Activities in this way implies that the associated Guidance and output WorkProducts are similarly categorized under the theme. The inclusion of an Activity in a Discipline is represented by the Categorizes dependency, with the additional constraint that every Activity is categorized by exactly one Discipline.
Example


Synonyms

- The IBM processes use the term ‘domain.’
- The Rational Unified Process uses ‘core workflow.’
- The Fujitsu SDEM21 uses ‘category.’
- Objectory used ‘process component.’
- Fusion uses the term ‘phase.’
- OPEN uses the work ‘activity.’

8.5 Well-formedness Rules

**ProcessComponent**

A process component must be self-contained; that is, there are no links (associations or dependencies) to anything outside the component.

[C44] No dependencies outside the component.

```plaintext
context ProcessComponent inv:
let includedElements : Set(ModelElement) =
    self.clientDependency->select
    (d | d.oclIsKindOf(Import)).supplier in
    includedElements->forall ( e |
        e.clientDependency.supplier->forall ( m |
            includedElements->includes(m))) and
    includedElements->forall ( e |
        e.supplierDependency.client->forall ( m |
            includedElements->includes(m)))
```

[C45] No associations outside the component.

```plaintext
context ProcessComponent inv:
let includedElements : Set(ModelElement) =
    self.clientDependency->select
    (d | d.oclIsKindOf(Import)).supplier in
    includedElements->forall ( e |
        e.allAssociatedInstances->forall ( i |
            includedElements -> includes(i)))
```
where allAssociatedInstances cannot easily be defined in OCL, but could be defined by slightly extending OCL as follows:

\[
\text{i.allAssociatedInstances} = \\
i.\text{type.associationEnds->collect} (ae | \\
i.\text{navigate}(ae))
\]

**Process**

No additional rules.
Process Lifecycle

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In this package, shown in Figure 9-1, we introduce process definition elements that help define how the process will be run. They describe or constrain the overall behavior of the performing process, and are used to assist with planning, executing, and monitoring the process. As we stated earlier, a process can be seen as a collaboration between roles to achieve a certain goal or an objective. To guide its enactment, we can constrain the order in which activities must be, or can be, executed. Also there is a need to define the “shape” of the process over time, and its lifecycle structure in terms of phases and iterations.

Note that these elements do not describe the enactment itself: they are elements of the process description that are used to help plan and execute enactments of that description.
9.1 Phase

A Phase is a specialization of WorkDefinition such that its precondition defines the phase entry criteria and its goal (often called a "milestone") defines the phase exit criteria. Phases are defined with the additional constraint of sequentiality; that is, their enactments are executed with a series of milestone dates spread over time and often assume minimal (or no) overlap of their activities in time.

Examples

The Rational Unified Process (RUP) defines four sequential phases: Inception, Elaboration, Construction, and Transition. The RUP defines a phase as consisting of a certain number of iterations, which are workflows with minor milestones. The DMR Macroscope system delivery process describes five phases: Opportunity Evaluation,
9.2 Lifecycle

A process Lifecycle is defined as a sequence of Phases that achieve a specific goal. It defines the behavior of a complete process to be enacted in a given project or program.

Associations

A Lifecycle is associated with a sequence of Phases by the use of the subWork association, see Section 7.2, “WorkDefinition and ActivityParameter,” on page 7-3.

A Lifecycle is associated with one or more Processes via the governedProcesses association that associates a Lifecycle (describing the behavior of the process) with a Process (that packages up all of the descriptive material contained in the process).

Example

The DMR Macroscope describes 3 system delivery lifecycles: a Generic Development path, an Accelerated Development path, and a Package Solution Delivery path. The Fujitsu SDEM21 provides a specific lifecycle for component-based development called ComponentAA.

9.3 Iteration

An Iteration is a composite WorkDefinition with a minor milestone.

Example

The following example work breakdown structure showing Iterations is from the DMR Macroscope:

Phase

Iteration

Activity

Step

Preliminary Analysis

First Joint Requirements Planning (JRP) Workshop

Define Owner Requirements

Define objectives based on stated needs

Define key issues

Determine relevant enterprise principles

Draft Owner Models

Determine System context

Model structural and dynamic aspects of the enterprise

Define work resources

Explore with prototypes

Define User Requirements

Consider user interface aspects

Consider distribution aspects

Explore with prototypes
Draft User Models
  - Determine System context
  - Model structural and dynamic aspects of the system
  - Define work resources
  - Explore with prototypes
Define Developer Requirements
  - Revise work process and class definitions
  - Revise user interface models
Second Joint Requirements Planning (JRP) Workshop
  - Refine Owner Requirements
    - Define objectives based on stated needs
    - Define key issues
    - Determine relevant enterprise principles
Review Owner Models
  - Determine System context
  - Model structural and dynamic aspects of the enterprise
  - Define work resources
  - Explore with prototypes
Refine User Requirements
  - Consider user interface aspects
  - Consider distribution aspects
  - Explore with prototypes
Review User Models
  - Determine System context
  - Model structural and dynamic aspects of the system
  - Define work resources
  - Explore with prototypes
Refine Developer Requirements
  - Revise work process and class definitions
  - Revise user interface models
Draft Developer Models
  - Define process and data aspects of the system
  - Consider user interface aspects
  - Consider distribution aspects
  - Explore with prototypes

9.4 Precondition and Goal

With each WorkDefinition can be associated a Precondition and a Goal. Preconditions and Goals are Constraints, where the constraint is expressed in the form of a BooleanExpression (which is a string) following syntax similar to that of a guard condition in UML. The condition is expressed in terms of the states of the WorkProducts that are the parameters of the WorkDefinition or of an enclosing WorkDefinition.

Example

If a WorkDefinition called DesignReview has input parameters DesignModel and DesignStandards and output parameter ReviewActions, then a Precondition can have the form

  (DesignModel in state Ready) and (DesignStandards in state Approved)

and a Goal

  (ReviewActions in state Drafted).
9.5 Well-formedness Rules

Goal
No additional rules.

Iteration
No additional rules.

Lifecycle
[C47] Lifecycles only contain Phases.

context Lifecycle inv:
    self.subWork->forall(ph | ph.oclIsKindOf(Phase))

Phase
No additional rules.

Precondition
No additional rules.

WorkDefinition
[C48] A WorkDefinition can have no more than 1 goal.

context WorkDefinition inv:
    not (constraint->select(c |
        c.oclIsKindOf(Goal)))->size() > 1

[C49] A WorkDefinition can have no more than 1 precondition.

context WorkDefinition inv:
    not constraint->select(c |
        c.oclIsKindOf(Precondition))->size() > 1
The management of multiple processes, variants, derivatives, or versions is beyond the scope of this metamodel. As all techniques and tools used in the area of configuration management and change management for software can be applied literally to a software process product, it does not make sense to replicate these aspects in the SPEM. See standards IEEE 610.12-1990 or ISO 12207.

All SPEM Elements (modeled as ModelElements) are configuration items. As such, they can have multiple versions. The versions of a given configuration item are linked to each other to form histories. Variants can be introduced by creating parallel histories. A specific process configuration is formed by selecting one version, at the most, for each SPEM Element. If a process definition element is required in two forms within a single process configuration, it must be cloned and given a specific identity; for example, “simple design review” versus a “complex and critical review.” Process variants are defined similarly by selecting Process Definition Elements from a consistent set of version histories all belonging to the same variant.


SPEM as a UML Profile

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In the chapters so far, SPEM has been directly defined as a metamodel. SPEM can be used by directly instantiating this stand-alone metamodel. But SPEM is also defined as a UML Profile.

SPEM is dedicated to software processes modeling. Many features of the UML provide the necessary basis for modeling processes, and many other UML features provide useful additional modeling capacities. Being a UML profile, SPEM both defines modeling capacities dedicated to the software process domain, and gains the benefit of the expressiveness of UML. For example, Use Case modeling, which is sometimes used for modeling processes, is not defined as a specific SPEM facility, but can be inherited from UML.

Also, a wide community of software developers is familiar with UML and uses a UML case tool environment. Defining a UML profile allows this important community to reuse its modeling knowledge and tools in the software-process modeling domain.
The UML 1.4 definition of profile is given in section 1.5 of this document, and is repeated here:

A profile stereotype of Package contains one or more related extensions of standard UML semantics (refer to Section 2.6, “Extension Mechanisms”). These are normally intended to customize UML for a particular domain or purpose. Profiles can contain stereotypes, tag definitions, and constraints. They can also contain data types that are used by tag definitions for informally declaring the types of the values that can be associated with tag definitions.

In addition, a profile package can specify a related model library and identify a subset of the UML metamodel that is applicable for the profile. In principle, profiles merely refine the standard semantics of UML by adding further constraints and interpretations that capture domain-specific semantics and modeling patterns. They do not add any new fundamental concepts.

In order to define a UML profile for SPEM, the following must be done.

1. Identify that subset of the UML metamodel classes to be included in the profile.

2. For most classes in the SPEM metamodel, identify a “base class” in the UML metamodel subset that will, when stereotyped appropriately, act in place of the SPEM class. The technique used here is specified in section 3.35.2 of the UML 1.4 specification. The fact that SPEM is itself defined as an extension of a subset of UML makes this very straightforward. For the one class (GuidanceKind) in the SPEM metamodel to which the base class technique does not apply, the semantics of instances of that class are emulated using UML stereotypes.

3. For each attribute and association in the SPEM metamodel, define a way to emulate that attribute or association. In the SPEM profile, attributes are emulated by means of TaggedValues. Most associations have close analogues in the UML metamodel. Those that don’t get special treatment, as detailed below.

4. For those parts of the UML subset that have a plausible mapping into SPEM concepts, but are not used directly to emulate the SPEM metamodel, show how they are mapped into SPEM-related concepts. For SPEM, this applies particularly to the use of Use Case diagrams.

5. Give additional constraints over the UML metamodel that are implied by the use of the profile.

6. Define notational icons for SPEM concepts that are represented by UML stereotypes.

The remaining parts of this chapter deal with each of these topics.

11.1 Identified subset of the UML Metamodel

The SPEM profile retains the following packages from the UML Metamodel:

- Core
  
  except Method (from Backbone)
except Binding (from Dependencies)
except Node, Interface, Artifact and Component (from Classifiers)
except TemplateParameter and TemplateArgument (from AuxiliaryElements)

- ExtensionMechanisms
- DataTypes
- CommonBehavior
  except ComponentInstance, NodeInstance
- Collaboration
- UseCases
  except Extend, ExtensionPoint
- StateMachines
- ActivityGraphs
- ModelManagement
  except Subsystem

All of the classes in the SPEM_Foundation package (see Chapter 2) together with their
attributes and associations, are directly represented by the equivalent UML classes,
attributes, and associations.

11.2 Mapping to UML Base Classes

Most mappings are very simple, see Figure 11-2 as they follow the pattern shown in
Figure 11-1.

![Pattern for most classes, from a SPEMClass to the UML Base Class it maps to.](image)

*Figure 11-1* Pattern for most classes, from a SPEMClass to the UML Base Class it maps to.
Instances of GuidanceKind, such as Technique, UMLProfile, ToolMentor, etc. (see Section 5.2.1, “Kinds of Guidance,” on page 5-2) are represented in the profile as stereotypes of Guidance.

Instances of WorkProductKind, such as UMLModel, Document, etc. are represented in the profile as stereotypes of WorkProduct.

WorkProduct is a stereotype of UML Class. Aggregation and association of WorkProduct descriptions can use the normal UML aggregation and association.

Attributes

Attributes in the SPEM_Extensions package are represented by TaggedValues, as shown in the following table.

All tag definitions have the multiplicity 1.
### Associations

Associations in the SPEM Extensions package are represented in a variety of ways, as follows.

- **Guidance::kind.** This is not required, because instances of GuidanceKind are represented as stereotypes of Guidance.

- **Guidance::annotatedElement.** This is represented by the UML association Comment::annotatedElement.

- **ActivityParameter::type.** This is represented by the UML association Parameter::type.

- **WorkDefinition::performer.** This is represented by the UML association Feature::owner.

- **WorkDefinition::subWork.** This is not represented directly. Instead it is represented using ActivityGraphs, as shown in Figure 11-3 on page 11-6. This shows the UML base classes that together correspond to the subWork association: ActivityGraph, CompositeState, ActionState, CallAction.

- **Activity::step.** This is also represented by ActivityGraphs, as shown in Figure 11-3 on page 11-6.

- **Activity::assistant.** This is not represented directly in the profile. Instead, those ProcessRoles that represent assistants to the activity are included as additional input parameters to the Activity.

### TagDefinition Table

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<th>TagDefinition</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>on stereotype</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>hasWorkPerArtifact</td>
<td>Boolean</td>
<td>ActivityParameter</td>
<td>When true, the WorkDefinition will be enacted once for every instance of the corresponding WorkProduct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>content</td>
<td>String</td>
<td>ExternalDescription</td>
<td>Description of the annotated model element</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>name</td>
<td>String</td>
<td>ExternalDescription</td>
<td>Name of the external description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>medium</td>
<td>String</td>
<td>ExternalDescription</td>
<td>Medium of the external description (e.g., textual, audio, graphics, etc.).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>language</td>
<td>String</td>
<td>ExternalDescription</td>
<td>Language, such as English, French, Japanese, in which the description is provided</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kind</td>
<td>{s_s, f_s}</td>
<td>Precedes</td>
<td>Which kind of precedence dependency is being described</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>isDeliverable</td>
<td>Boolean</td>
<td>WorkProduct</td>
<td>True when the work product is defined as a formal deliverable of the process</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WorkProduct::responsibleRole. This is not represented directly in the profile. Instead, in an application of the profile, this would be modeled by creating M1-level associations between the ProcessRole and the relevant WorkProducts.

WorkProduct::kind. This is not required, because instances of WorkProductKind are represented as stereotypes of WorkProduct.

ProcessPerformer::work. This is represented by the UML association Classifier::feature.

WorkDefinition::goal and WorkDefinition::precondition. These are represented by the UML association ModelElement::constraint.

Process::governingLifecycle. This is represented by a new stereotype of Abstraction called «governs», which acts between a Lifecycle and the processes that it is related to.

Figure 11-3 Decomposition of WorkDefinition

11.3 Use of Activity Diagrams and Use Case Diagrams

In the Notation chapter this document defines a set of icons for use in process definitions. In particular, there are particular icons used to represent the classes WorkProduct, Activity, and WorkDefinition.
In SPEM, these icons may appear uniformly on all UML diagrams in which these concepts are referred to. However, in the case of Activity diagrams, these elements are not referred to directly. Instead, instances of ActionState appear, which may be thought of as “notational proxies” for corresponding instances of WorkDefinition and Activity. Similarly, instances of ObjectFlowState act as proxies for corresponding instances of WorkProduct.

To resolve this issue, the SPEM profile allows ActionState to appear as an alternative base class for the stereotypes Activity and WorkDefinition. In both cases, the idea is that the notational element is a proxy for the stereotyped Operation associated with the CallAction of the ActionState. Similarly, the profile allows ObjectFlowState to appear as an alternative base class for WorkProduct, with the interpretation that the notational element is a proxy for the stereotyped Classifier associated with the ObjectFlowState.

A similar issue arises because SPEM uses Use Case diagrams to illustrate the relationships between ProcessRole/ProcessPerformer and Activity/WorkDefinition. To enable this the profile allows UseCase to be a further alternative base class for WorkDefinition and Activity. To complete this interpretation, a UML «realize» dependency should be created between the WorkDefinition or Activity and the Use Case that it represents. When two work definitions are represented as Use Cases, and those two work definitions are related by the subWork association, a UML Include relationship may be shown referring from the containing to the contained work definition. Stereotypes «perform» and «assist» of UML Association can be used to represent the performer and assistant relationships between an Actor and a Use Case. The UML Extends relationship is not used.

### 11.4 Stereotypes of the SPEM Profile

The following table gives a complete summary of all of the SPEM profile stereotypes, based on the discussion above.

Note that the following stereotypes are added for notational convenience: ProcessPackage (special notation for packages in a SPEM context), Document and UMLModel (special notation for different kinds of WorkProduct). Apart from the icons and their implied connotations, these stereotypes have no additional semantics above those of their base classes.

<table>
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<th>Base Class</th>
<th>Stereotype Parent</th>
<th>Comment</th>
<th>Constraints (see below)</th>
<th>Notation (chapter 12)</th>
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</thead>
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<td>Core::Class</td>
<td></td>
<td>See “WorkProduct and WorkProductKind” on page 7-2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ActivityGraphs::ObjectFlowState</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ActivityParameter</td>
<td>Core::Parameter</td>
<td></td>
<td>See “WorkDefinition and ActivityParameter” on page 7-3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type</td>
<td>Core::Class</td>
<td>Operation/Parameter</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goal</td>
<td>Core::Constraint</td>
<td>postcondition</td>
<td>See “Precondition and Goal” on page 9-4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precondition</td>
<td>Core::Constraint</td>
<td>precondition</td>
<td>See “Precondition and Goal” on page 9-4</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
11.5 Well-formedness Rules

In translating the stand-alone model to a UML profile, there are various sources of additional or changed well-formedness rules.

11.5.1 Restricted Multiplicities

As pointed out in the SPEM Foundation chapter, the stand-alone SPEM metamodel is based on a subset of UML with some restrictions on the multiplicities. These restrictions also apply to the UML profile.

11.5.2 Use of Context and oclIsKindOf

In the presence of stereotypes, the use of `oclIsKindOf` needs in principle to be modified. We assume that the meaning of `oclIsKindOf` can be extended in the presence of stereotypes, so that if `oclIsKindOf` refers to a stereotype name, it delivers true if the tested element has that stereotype or a sub-stereotype.

Similarly, constraints on stereotypes are written under the assumption that it is valid to use a stereotype name in the context part of the constraint. Strictly-speaking this is a shorthand, for example:

```
context ProcessComponent inv: X
```

can be considered as a shorthand for

```
context Package inv:
    (self.stereotype.name = “ProcessComponent” or
     self.stereotype.name = “Process” or
     self.stereotype.name = “Discipline”) implies X
```

With these provisos, all of the well-formedness rules in earlier chapters apply to the profile.

11.5.3 Profile-specific rules

The following rules apply to the construction of the profile itself.
11.5.3.1 governs

[P1] A governs dependency acts between a Lifecycle and a ProcessPerformer

<context> Dependency inv:
  self.stereotype.name = "governs" implies
  self.supplier->exists(stereotype.name="Lifecycle")
  and
  self.client >exists(stereotype.name="ProcessPerformer")

11.5.3.2 WorkDefinition

[P2] A WorkDefinition behavior is defined using no more than a single Activity Graph and in no other way.

<context> WorkDefinition inv:
  self.behavior->size <= 1
  and
  self.behavior->forall( b | b.oclIsTypeOf(ActivityGraph))

11.5.3.3 ActionState

[P3] An ActionState is either a Step or refers to a CallAction for another WorkDefinition:

<context> ActionState inv:
  self.stereotype.name = "Step" or
  (self.entry->size = 1 and
   self.entry.oclIsKindOf(CallAction) and
   self.entry.operation.oclIsKindOf(WorkDefinition))
12.1 Diagrams

Basic UML diagrams can be used to present different perspectives of a software process model. In particular, the following UML notations are useful:

- Class diagram
- Package diagram
- Activity diagram
- Use case diagram
- Sequence diagram
12

- Statechart diagram

Because some semantic elements of UML have been excluded from SPEM, the following notations should not be used:
- implementation diagrams
- component or node diagrams.

There are some notation and diagrams that are not excluded, but for which we have not specified any mapping nor meaning.

12.2 Suggested Icons

Column “Notation” in table “Stereotypes” in Section 11.4, “Stereotypes of the SPEM Profile,” on page 11-7 suggests alternate representations for most frequently used concrete classes of the metamodel. These icons can be used in modeling a software development process to represent activities, work products, process roles, etc. It is suggested to replace the regular symbol with these icons as shown in the examples below.

OMG document ptc/2002-05-08 contains source versions of the SPEM icons in various formats.

OMG document ptc/2002-05-10 contains the example diagrams from this chapter together with a corresponding human-readable textual notation that shows how the examples map into the metamodel.

12.3 Class Diagrams

Class diagrams allow the representation of the following aspects of a software process:
- Inheritance
- Dependencies
- Simple associations
- Comments to point to the guidance (for example URL link)
- Relations between ProcessPerformer or ProcessRole and WorkProduct
- Structure, decomposition, and dependencies of WorkProducts (see example in Figure 12-1).

However, some restrictions apply when using class diagrams in conjunction with SPEM. More specifically, the following notational elements should not be used:
- Interface
- Template
- White diamond
- Qualified associations
- N-ary associations
Figure 12-1 Example of Class Diagram
12.4 Package Diagrams

Package diagrams allow the representation of Process, ProcessComponents, ProcessPackages, and Disciplines. Nested and non-nested forms can be used, but subsystems should not appear in such diagrams.

**Figure 12-2** Example of Package Diagram

12.5 Use case Diagrams

Use case diagrams show the relationship between process roles and the main work definitions. No particular restrictions apply. See example in Figure 12-4 on page 12-6.
12.6 Sequence Diagrams

Sequence diagrams can be used to illustrate interaction patterns among SPEM model element instances. Only stick arrowheads should be used.

12.7 Statechart Diagrams

Statechart diagrams can be used to illustrate the behavior of SPEM model elements. Nesting and parallelism are allowed, but signal declaration and history indicators are not.

12.8 Activity Diagrams

Activity diagrams allow presenting the sequencing of activities with their input and output work products as well as object flow states. Swimlanes can be used to separate the responsibilities of different process roles.
Figure 12-4 Example of Activity diagram
This chapter is not by any means intended to cover the whole literature on process and process modeling (see the extensive bibliography given in [6]), but to give the principal sources we have used in elaborating this specification.


**Translation Table**

This appendix maps the terminology from different sources.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPEM</th>
<th>ProcessRole</th>
<th>Activity Step</th>
<th>WorkProduct Information-Element</th>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Lifecycle</th>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Iteration</th>
<th>Guidance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rational Unified Process</td>
<td>Role</td>
<td>Activity</td>
<td>Artifact</td>
<td>Discipline</td>
<td>Process</td>
<td>Phase</td>
<td>Iteration</td>
<td>Guidelines ToolMentors Templates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IBM Global Services Method</td>
<td>Role</td>
<td>Task</td>
<td>Work Product Description</td>
<td>Domain</td>
<td>Engagement Model</td>
<td>Phase</td>
<td>Iteration</td>
<td>Technique</td>
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<tr>
<td>DMR Macroscope</td>
<td>Role</td>
<td>Activity</td>
<td>Deliverable Product</td>
<td>Domain</td>
<td>Path</td>
<td>Phase</td>
<td>Iteration</td>
<td>Guideline Technique</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unisys QuadCycle</td>
<td>Role</td>
<td>Activity</td>
<td>Artifact</td>
<td>Discipline</td>
<td>Process</td>
<td>Phase</td>
<td>Iteration</td>
<td>Guideline Technique Technology Roadmap Tacit Knowledge</td>
</tr>
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<td>OPEN</td>
<td>Rôle</td>
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<td>Activity</td>
<td>Lifecycle process</td>
<td>Phase</td>
<td>Technique</td>
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<td>Fujitsu SDEM21</td>
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<td>Activity</td>
<td>Phase</td>
<td>Technique</td>
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</table>


Following is a Software Process Engineering Model instantiation example. This example only represents a portion of a typical information system delivery process. Process metamodel (M2) classes, associations and attributes are represented in courier while the corresponding M1 instances appear in **bold times** font.

**Phase** : **Preliminary Analysis**  
**Process** : **Information System Delivery Process**

**Subactivities**  
**Iteration** : **First Joint Requirements Planning (JRP) Workshop**

**Subactivities**

**Activity** : **Define Owner Requirements**  
**ProcessRole** : **System Architect**

**ActivityParameters** {kind : input}

**WorkProduct** : **EnterpriseArchitecture**

**ActivityParameters** {kind : output}

**WorkProduct** : **Assessment of Current System**

{state: initial draft}

**WorkProduct** : **Owner Requirements** {state: initial draft }

**Steps**

**Step** : Define objectives based on stated needs

**Step** : Define the key issues

**Step** : Determine the relevant enterprise principles

**Activity** : **Draft Owner Models**

**ProcessRole** : **System Architect**

**ActivityParameters** {kind : input}

**WorkProduct** : **Assessment of Current System**
(state: initial draft )
WorkProduct : Owner Requirements {state: initial draft }
ActivityParameters {kind : output}
WorkProduct : Business Structure {state: initial draft }
WorkProduct : Business Dynamics {state: initial draft }
Steps
Step : Determine System context
Step : Model structural and dynamic aspects of the enterprise
Step : Define work resources
Step : Explore with prototypes

Activity : Define User Requirements
ProcessRole : System Architect
ActivityParameters {kind : input}
WorkProduct : Assessment of Current System
{state: initial draft }
WorkProduct : Owner Requirements {state: initial draft }
ActivityParameters {kind : output}
WorkProduct : User Alternatives {state: initial draft }
WorkProduct : User Principles {state: initial draft }
Steps
Step : Consider user interface aspects
Step : Consider distribution aspects
Step : Explore with prototypes

Activity : Draft User Models
ProcessRole : System Architect
ActivityParameters {kind : input}
WorkProduct : User Alternatives {state: initial draft }
WorkProduct : User Principles {state: initial draft }
WorkProduct : Business Structure {state: initial draft }
WorkProduct : Business Dynamics {state: initial draft }
ActivityParameters {kind : output}
WorkProduct : System Structure {state: initial draft }
WorkProduct : System Dynamics {state: initial draft }
Steps
Step : Determine System context
Step : Model structural and dynamic aspects of the system
Step : Define work resources
Step : Explore with prototypes

Activity : Define Developer Requirements
ProcessRole : Technical Architect
ActivityParameters {kind : input}
**WorkProduct**: User Alternatives \{state: initial draft \}

**WorkProduct**: User Principles \{state: initial draft \}

**ActivityParameters**: (kind: output)

**WorkProduct**: Developer Alternatives \{state: initial draft \}

**WorkProduct**: Developer Principles \{state: initial draft \}

**WorkProduct**: Technology Infrastructure

\{state: initial draft \}

**Steps**

- **Step**: Revise work process and class definitions
- **Step**: Revise user interface models

**Activity**: Draft Developer Models

**ProcessRole**: Technical Architect

**ActivityParameters**: (kind: input)

- **WorkProduct**: Developer Alternatives \{state: initial draft \}
- **WorkProduct**: Developer Principles \{state: initial draft \}
- **WorkProduct**: Technology Infrastructure

\{state: initial draft \}

- **WorkProduct**: System Structure \{state: initial draft \}
- **WorkProduct**: System Dynamics \{state: initial draft \}

**ActivityParameters**: (kind: output)

- **WorkProduct**: Software Architecture \{state: initial draft \}
- **WorkProduct**: Persistent Information \{state: initial draft \}

**Steps**

- **Step**: Define process and data aspects of the system
- **Step**: Consider user interface aspects
- **Step**: Consider distribution aspects
- **Step**: Explore with prototypes

**Subactivities**

**Iteration**: Second Joint Requirements Planning (JRP) Workshop

**Subactivities**

Similar to **First Joint Requirements Planning (JRP) Workshop iteration**:

- reuse and cumulate existing WorkProduct assets as input to activities
- change «initial draft » output WorkProduct states with «revised draft »

**Phase**: System Architecture

**Process**: Information System Delivery Process

**Subactivities**

**Iteration**: First Joint Application Design (JAD) Workshop

**Subactivities**

**Activity**: Revise User Models

**ProcessRole**: System Architect

**ActivityParameters**: (kind: input)

- **WorkProduct**: System Structure \{state: revised draft \}
WorkProduct: System Dynamics {state: revised draft }
ActivityParameters {kind : output}
WorkProduct: System Structure {state: revised }
WorkProduct: System Dynamics {state: revised }

Steps
Step: Revise work process and class definitions
Step: Revise user interface models
Step: Realize/improve prototype
etc.

Phase: System Architecture
Process: Information System Delivery Process
Subactivities
Iteration: Second Joint Application Design (JAD) Workshop
etc.
# Glossary

**Activity**  
A Work Definition describing what a Process Role performs. Activities are the main element of work.

**Component**  
*(see Process Component)*

**Dependency**  
A Dependency is a process-specific relationship between process Model Elements.

**Discipline**  
A Discipline is a process package organized from the perspective of one of the software engineering disciplines: Configuration Management, Analysis & Design, and so forth.

**Element**  
*(see Model Element)*

**Guidance**  
Guidance is a Model Element associated with the major process definition elements, which contains additional descriptions such as techniques, guidelines and UML profiles, procedures, standards, templates of work products, examples of work products, definitions, and so on.

**Iteration**  
An Iteration is a large-grained Work Definition that represents a set of Activities focusing on a portion of the system development that results in a release (internal or external) of the software product.

**Model Element**  
An element describing one aspect of a software engineering process.

**Process Role**  
A Model Element describing the roles, responsibilities and competencies of an individual carrying out Activities within a Process, and responsible for certain Work Products.

**Phase**  
A high-level Work Definition, bounded by a Milestone.

**Process**  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Process Component</strong></th>
<th>A Process Component is a coherent grouping of process Model Elements organized from a given vantage point such as a discipline, for example, testing, or the production of some specific work product, for example, requirements management.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Process Performer</strong></td>
<td>A Process Performer is a Model Element describing the owner of Work Definitions. Process Performer is used for Work Definitions that cannot be associated with individual Process Roles, such as a Life Cycle or a Phase.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Step</strong></td>
<td>An atomic and fine-grained Model Element used to decompose Activities. Activities are partially ordered sets of Steps.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Work Definition</strong></td>
<td>A Model Element of a process describing the execution, the operations performed, and the transformations enacted on the Work Products by the roles. Activity, Iteration, Phase, and Lifecycle are kinds of work definition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Work Product</strong></td>
<td>A Work Product is a description of a piece of information or physical entity produced or used by the activities of the software engineering process. Examples of work products include models, plans, code, executables, documents, databases, and so on.</td>
</tr>
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Reference Sheet

This is an updated formal version of the SPEM specification.

OMG documents used to create this version:
• FTF Convenience document: ptc/04-03-12