

Datamation/Technology Appraisals' Lifecycle Process 2003¹

London, May 2003

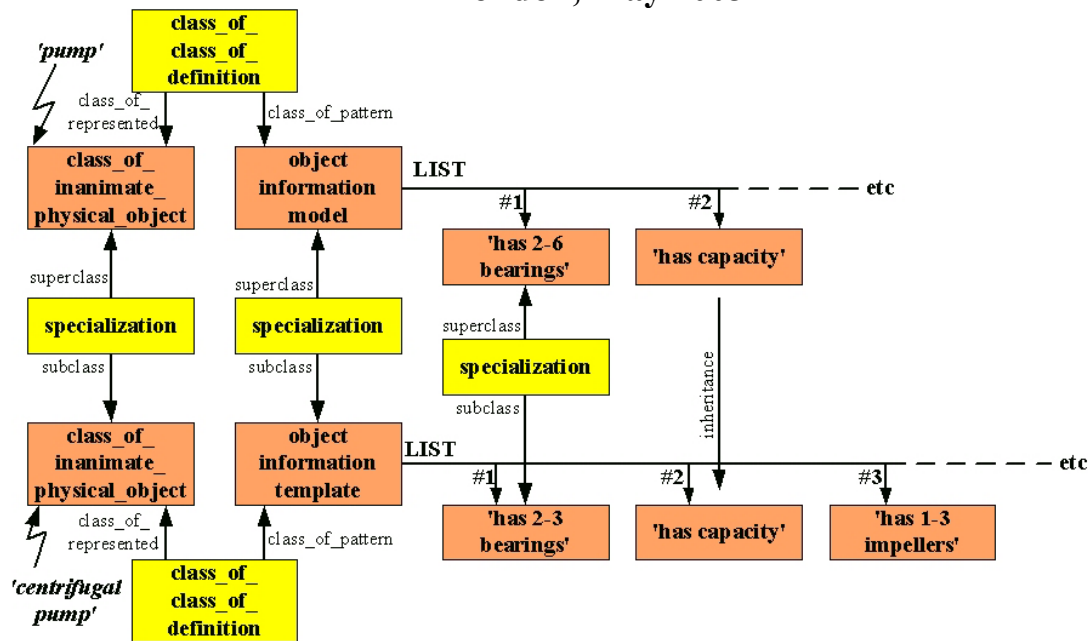


Figure 1 XML-based data modeling in ISO 15926-7².

Introduction

When an engineering prime contractor (EPC) builds a large facility, be it an offshore FPSO³ or a power station, huge data management issues arise. These are compounded when the construction company hands the project over to the Owner Operator (OO – usually the oil company). Much thought has gone into technical data models (POSC/CAESAR, EPISTLE, STEP, ISO 15926) which set out to standardize the way engineering data is recorded and served-up to the different stakeholders. These have had a limited impact, partly because the EPC industry is dominated by a few large companies who have their own internal processes and ‘standards’ and who may be reluctant to share these with competitors. Last time we reported on Plant Information Management (back in 1999) the Statoil/Oracle Synergy project – which set out to build an ‘implementable’ version of the POSC/CAESAR⁴ data model – was in full swing. Today, Synergy is no more, but Statoil’s interest in standards-based data models remains – as witnessed by papers on the [Kristin](#) and [Asgard B](#) fields. More generally, there is renewed focus on the cost-effectiveness of the data warehouse as part of the handover process. While such issues were well understood four years ago, today companies are spending large amounts on data collection and clean-up. Another trend is the increasing communications between the EPC and OO early in the project’s life. By integrating – or at least planning for integration – early in the project, the drama of a ‘big bang’ handover can be attenuated.

Highlights

- [Intergraph’s SmartPlant Foundation on the Kristin field.](#)
- [InfoWeb – ‘the web is the computer’](#)
- [Information handover on Shell’s Bonga FPSO](#)

¹ Conference proceedings available from [Datamation](#).

² Image courtesy InfoWeb and Fluor Corp.

³ Floating Production Storage and Offloading system.

⁴ Note that despite the name, [POSC/CAESAR](#) has no formal relationship with [POSC](#). The name is shared, not the data modelling technology.

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