

XBRL US Center for Data Quality

Data Quality Committee Guidance Public Exposure and Comment

Public review and comment is a critical part of improving the usability of XBRL filed with the SEC. The following proposed guidance addresses common XBRL input errors and is **available for comment via the public exposure process through August 31, 2016 on the web at <https://xbrl.us/public-review>**.

This document contains details for all guidance exposed during this period. To post your comments, you will need an XBRL US Web account and will need to agree to these [Terms and Conditions for Public Comments](#) as part of the comment process. Comments received can be reviewed without logging in.

When providing feedback about the guidance, please consider the following:

- What is the concern with the proposed guidance? Please be as specific as possible and include examples using data submitted to the SEC.
- How should the guidance be revised?
- How does the revision to the guidance improve the usability of the data?

Use this link for [general feedback on all rules and guidance](#).

Review and comment: <https://xbrl.us/public-review>

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Guidance on Tagging Axis and Members Using the US GAAP Taxonomy

Guidance - <https://xbrl.us/guid-tag/>

The XBRL US Data Quality Committee (DQC) has developed prescriptive guidance for issuers submitting XBRL files that contain financial statements to the Securities Exchange Commission (SEC). This guidance provides for uniform, consistent tagging of financial data using the US GAAP taxonomy to improve the usability of such data. The DQC has also developed rules that test XBRL files for conformity with the guidance. The guidance in this document provides links and references, where applicable, to the associated rules developed by the DQC. It is expected that issuers will comply with the guidance presented in this document when tagging their financial statements for submission to the SEC.

Appropriate Modeling of Axis and Members

In its Staff Observations¹, the SEC suggested filers utilize the pre-defined table structures included in the US GAAP taxonomy. Certain axes in the US GAAP taxonomy should only have certain members, otherwise consumption of the data is adversely impacted because the resulting axis and member combinations are nonsensical, e.g., reporting a type of currency as a member on a debt instrument axis. The following guidance provides limitations on the use of certain axis and member combinations that should be adhered to when tagging financial information using the US GAAP Taxonomy.

¹ SEC Staff Observations November 1, 2010 stated that “the SEC noted circumstances where filers have not used the modeling of elements currently published in the US GAAP Taxonomy. The SEC suggested filers utilize the pre-defined table structures included in the taxonomy, and use the related line item elements and domain members to the extent they are applicable for their specific circumstances. (FAQ E.16)”

Default Dimension

The default dimension should not be changed from that defined in the US GAAP taxonomy. Users of XBRL data expect that the default member of an axis will be the same across filings. For example, if a company reports a value of Revenues with no dimensions it is assumed that this represents revenues of the consolidated entity. However, if the company changed the default member of the Legal Entity axis to the parent company member then every value without a dimension would represent the parent company and not the revenue of the consolidated entity. (DQC_0041.73).

Fair Value, Hierarchy [Axis] *(FairValueByFairValueHierarchyLevelAxis)*

This axis is used to categorize the valuation techniques used to measure the fair value of an asset or liability. It is expected that only three members from the US GAAP taxonomy will be used on this axis representing the three separate levels defined by the FASB (i.e., level 1, level 2 and level 3 members defined on this axis). Extensions on this axis are limited to those cases where the company combines multiple hierarchical levels together such as, combinations of level 1 and level 2 and combinations of level 2 and level 3. The element names to be used for these extension members are:

Fair Value Inputs Level 1 And Level 2 [Member]

Fair Value Inputs Level 2 And Level 3 [Member]

Do not use the Estimate of Fair Value Measurement [Member] element on this axis. This member is often used incorrectly to represent a total for this axis. The total does not need a member associated with it on this axis. (DQC_0001.51)

Reclassification out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income [Axis]

(ReclassificationOutOfAccumulatedOtherComprehensiveIncomeAxis)

This axis is used to indicate that an item was reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income into income. The element Reclassification out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income [Member] is the only member permitted on this axis. Do not create extensions members on this axis. (DQC_0001.52)

Other Ownership Interests Name [Axis] *(OtherOwnershipInterestsByNameAxis)*

This axis is used to define the specific ownership interests of the company by specific name. Given that these are specific to the reporting company, the members on this axis must be defined as extension elements. The company extension element name should match the legal name of the legal entity if it is available and should remain consistent across filing periods and should be consistent within a single filing. The label of the member can be a short name or full name. (DQC_0001.53)

Legal Entity [Axis] *(LegalEntityAxis)*

This axis is used to define the details of specific legal entities. Only extension members representing specific legal entities should be used on this axis in addition to members that represent classes of legal entities defined in the US GAAP taxonomy. The members in the US GAAP taxonomy that can be used on this axis include the members on the Legal Entity [Axis] and the members on the Federal Home Loan Bank Advances Branch Of FHLB Bank [Axis]. The following members are also permitted: Predecessor [Member], CoVenturer [Member], SpinOff [Member], Partnership [Member], Limited Liability Company [Member], and Trust For Benefit Of Employees [Member]. (DQC_0001.54)

Unique Name [Axis] *(NoncashOrPartNoncashDivestituresByUniqueNameAxis)*

This axis is used to provide divestiture information by unique name of asset or business. Given that these are specific to the reporting company, the members on this axis must be defined as extension elements. (DQC_0001.56)

Investment, Name [Axis] *(ScheduleOfEquityMethodInvestmentEquityMethodInvesteeNameAxis)*

This axis is used to provide the name of each investee accounted for under the equity method of accounting. Given that these are specific to the reporting company, the members on this axis must be defined as extension elements. In many cases, companies have incorrectly used the element Equity Method Investments[Member] in conjunction with a financial statement line item like revenues to represent summary financial information for equity method investments. This member should not be used

as specific equity method line items are defined for financial statement line items.
(DQC_0001.57)

Counterparty Name [Axis] *(CounterpartyNameAxis)*

This axis is used to provide the name of the counterparty. Given that these are specific to the reporting entity, the members on this axis should be extensions. There are a number of members defined in the US GAAP taxonomy that can also be used on this axis. The table below lists the allowable members. Some companies have used generic members defined in the taxonomy like Subsidiary Issuer [Member] or Director [Member]. These should only be used where these members are synonymous with a single entity. The Parent Company [Member] should not be used as the consolidated entity is comprised of the parent. If a subsidiary had a transaction with the parent, the subsidiary would be the counterparty. (DCQ_0001.58)

Element Name	Label	Namespace	Documentation
AffiliatedEntityMember	Affiliated Entity [Member]	us-gaap	An affiliate is a party that, directly or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with the entity.
InvestorMember	Investor [Member]	us-gaap	Business entity or individual that puts money, by purchase or expenditure, in something offering potential profitable returns, such as interest income or appreciation in value.
VariableInterestEntityNotPrimaryBeneficiaryMember	Variable Interest Entity, Not Primary Beneficiary [Member]	us-gaap	Variable Interest Entities (VIE) in which the entity does not have a controlling financial interest (as defined) and of which it is therefore not the primary beneficiary. VIEs of which the entity is not the primary beneficiary because it does not have the power to direct the activities of the VIE that most significantly impact the VIE's economic performance and for which it does not have the obligation to absorb losses of the VIE that could potentially be significant to the VIE or the right to receive benefits from the VIE that could potentially be significant to the VIE are not included in the consolidated financial statements of the entity.

ChiefFinancialOfficerMember	Chief Financial Officer [Member]	us-gaap	Senior executive officer responsible for overseeing the financial activities of the entity.
IndividualMember	Individual Counterparty [Member]	us-gaap	Individual person that is legally permitted to enter into a contract and be sued if that person fails to meet the obligations imposed by a contract.
GovernmentMember	Government [Member]	us-gaap	Organization that is the governing authority of a community.
GuarantorSubsidiariesMember	Guarantor Subsidiaries [Member]	us-gaap	Entity owned or controlled by another entity which has guaranteed the issue of securities by another subsidiary of the parent or has guaranteed the issue of securities by the parent.
SubsidiaryIssuerMember	Subsidiary Issuer [Member]	us-gaap	A company controlled, directly or indirectly, by its parent, which has issued securities and those securities are guaranteed by its parent and another subsidiary of the parent.
DirectorMember	Director [Member]	us-gaap	Person serving on the board of directors (who collectively have responsibility for governing the entity).
ChiefExecutiveOfficerMember	Chief Executive Officer [Member]	us-gaap	Highest ranking executive officer, who has ultimate managerial responsibility for the entity and who reports to the board of directors. In addition, the chief executive officer (CEO) may also be the chairman of the board or president.
ChiefOperatingOfficerMember	Chief Operating Officer [Member]	us-gaap	Senior executive officer responsible for management of day-to-day activities of the entity.
GeneralPartnerMember	General Partner [Member]	us-gaap	Party to a partnership business who has unlimited liability.
CorporateJointVentureMember	Corporate Joint Venture [Member]	us-gaap	Corporation owned and operated by a small group of ventures to accomplish a mutually beneficial venture or project.
SubsidiaryOfCommonParentMember	Subsidiary of Common Parent [Member]	us-gaap	Refers to an entity under the control of the same parent as another entity (that is, a sister company).

Plan Name [Axis] *(PlanNameAxis)*

This axis is used to distinguish information by the name of an equity-based compensation arrangement plan. Given that these are specific to the reporting company, the members on this axis must be defined as extension elements. Members on this axis should represent discrete plans of the company such as Stock Option Plan 2016. (DCQ_0001.59)

Defined Contribution Plan Name [Axis] *(DefinedContributionPlanNameAxis)*

This axis is used to distinguish information by the name of the defined contribution plan. Given that these are specific to the reporting company, the members on this axis must be defined as extension elements. (DCQ_0001.60)

Currency [Axis] *(CurrencyAxis)*

This axis is used to indicate the currency that an instrument is denominated in and members are restricted to only valid currencies listed in the current taxonomy. The members on this axis should match the currency designators defined by ISO. Extension members are only permitted in those cases where the currency has not been incorporated into the taxonomy. When creating an extension for these items, they should match the element name defined for the allowable extensions below. (DCQ_0001.62)

Element Name	Label	Namespace	Documentation
SICAD1Member	SICA D1 [Member]	extension	Venezuelan complementary currency exchange system, Sistema Complementario de Administracion de Divisas 1
SICAD2Member	SICA D2 [Member]	extension	Venezuelan complementary currency exchange system, Sistema Complementario de Administracion de Divisas 2
OtherCurrencyMember	Other [Member]	extension	Represents all other currencies not specifically defined.
NonUSDollarMember	Non-U.S. Dollar	extension	Represents all other currencies that are not USD.

	[Member]		
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Position [Axis] *(PositionAxis)*

This axis is used to indicate the long or short position taken on a security. The US GAAP taxonomy includes a Long [Member] and Short [Member] that can be used on this axis. The rule also permits two extensions Net Long Positions [Member] and Net Short Positions [Member]. These two extension elements can be used on this axis to represent the notional amounts when long and short positions are netted. The Long [Member] and Short [Member] represent positions before any netting occurs.

For example, in the diagram below the company reports the notional amounts for purchases and sales and a third column of notional amounts that represent the net purchases and sales. All of the values in this table are reported using the notional line item with the various axes shown. In the final three columns, in red, are the notion values of the Long, Short and Net positions. In order to tag the column of Net Purchases and Sales, the extension members Net Long Positions [Member] and Net Short Positions [Member] are required. (DCQ_0001.63)

Derivative Instrument [Axis]	Hedging Designation [Axis]	Notional Line Items	Position [Axis]	Net Long [Member]
Commodity	Accounting Treatment	Unit	Long [Member]	Short [Member]
FTRs	Mark to Market	MWh	Purchases (in thousands)	Sales (in thousands)
Heating Oil Futures	Mark to Market	Gallons	6.9	-
Forward Power Contracts	Cash Flow Hedge	MWh	1,764.0	-
Forward Power Contracts	Mark to Market	MWh	1,021.0	(2,197.9)
Interest Rate Swaps	Cash Flow Hedge	USD	2,510.7	(4,760.4)
			\$ 160,000.0	\$ -
				Net Purchases/ (Sales) (in thousands)
				6.9
				1,764.0
				(1,176.9)
				(2,249.7)
				\$ 160,000.0

Measurement Frequency [Axis] *(FairValueByMeasurementFrequencyAxis)*

This axis is used to indicate if a measurement is on a recurring or non recurring basis. This axis can only have these two members defined in the US GAAP taxonomy associated with it. Extensions on this axis are not permitted. (DCQ_0001.64)

Measurement Basis [Axis] *(FairValueByMeasurementBasisAxis)*

This axis is used to indicate the measurement basis for a given asset or liability. This axis can only have five members that are defined in the US GAAP taxonomy associated with it. Extensions on this axis are not permitted. (DCQ_0001.65)

Hedging Designation [Axis] *(HedgingDesignationAxis)*

This axis is used to indicate if a derivative is designated as a hedging instrument or if a derivative is not designated as a derivative instrument. This axis can have these two members that are defined in the US GAAP taxonomy associated with it. This axis can also have two extension members (DCQ_0001.66):

- *NotDesignatedAsHedgingInstrumentEconomicHedgesMember*
- *NotDesignatedAsHedgingInstrumentTradingMember*

Products and Services [Axis] *(ProductOrServiceAxis)*

This axis is used to distinguish the details of products or services of the reporting entity. Given that products and services are generally specific to the reporting company, the members on this axis would be predominantly defined using extension elements. In the US GAAP taxonomy, a number of generic product and service members are defined for industries where the products are highly standardized such as, insurance or where the products are commodities such as, oil. In these cases, members from the US GAAP taxonomy can be used. The list of product and service members that can be used from the US GAAP taxonomy are those included on the following axis:

- *ProductOrServiceAxis*
- *ReinsurancePremiumsForInsuranceCompaniesByProductSegmentAxis*,
ScheduleOfMalpracticeInsuranceTypeAndTierIdentifierAxis
- *AircraftTypeAxis*

In addition the members defined below can also be used. (DCQ_0001.69)

Element Name	Label	Namespace	Documentation
AuctionRateSecuritiesMember	Auction Rate Securities	us-gaap	Debt instrument securities (for example, but not limited to, corporate or municipal bonds) that typically have long-term nominal maturities for which the interest rate is reset through an

	[Member]		auction process.
AutomobileLoanMember	Automobile Loan [Member]	us-gaap	Loan to finance the purchase of a vehicle.
CommercialLoanMember	Commercial Loan [Member]	us-gaap	A loan, whether secured or unsecured, to a company for purposes such as seasonal working capital needs, inventory financing, equipment purchases and acquisitions.
CommercialRealEstateMember	Commercial Real Estate [Member]	us-gaap	Property that is solely used for business purposes.
ConstructionLoansMember	Construction Loans [Member]	us-gaap	A borrowing arrangement which provides the entity constructing a facility (such as a building and a landfill) with funds to effect construction, generally on a draw down, or as needed, basis.
ConsumerLoanMember	Consumer Loan [Member]	us-gaap	Loan or extension of credit for personal, family, or household use excluding real estate.
CrudeOilMember	Crude Oil [Member]	us-gaap	Unrefined, unprocessed oil, which may be used in a variety of applications, and from which, petroleum-based products are produced.
FuelMember	Fuel [Member]	us-gaap	Represents material used for the production of energy in the form of heat or power. Examples may include, but not be limited to heating, transpiration, etc.
GeneralLiabilityMember	General Liability [Member]	us-gaap	Type of business insurance which provides insurance coverage for a wide variety of liability exposures including, but not limited to, contractual liability, product liability and personal injury liability.
HeatingOilMember	Heating Oil [Member]	us-gaap	Fuel oil used to produce heat in an office, plant, or any other location where temperature is controlled or managed.
HomeEquityLoanMember	Home Equity Loan [Member]	us-gaap	Loan based on the equity of the borrower's residential property in which the borrower receives the loan amount upfront. Excludes home equity lines of credit.
HomeEquityMember	Home Equity Line of Credit [Member]	us-gaap	Revolving, open-end loan extended under a line of credit and secured by the borrower's residential property.

LetterOfCreditMember	Letter of Credit [Member]	us-gaap	A document typically issued by a financial institution which acts as a guarantee of payment to a beneficiary, or as the source of payment for a specific transaction (for example, wiring funds to a foreign exporter if and when specified merchandise is accepted pursuant to the terms of the letter of credit).
LineOfCreditMember	Line of Credit [Member]	us-gaap	A contractual arrangement with a lender under which borrowings can be made up to a specific amount at any point in time, and under which borrowings outstanding may be either short-term or long-term, depending upon the particulars.
LoansMember	Loans [Member]	us-gaap	When a lender gives money or property over other debt securities sold by the issuer. In the event the issuer goes bankrupt, senior debt holders receive priority for [must receive] repayment [prior] relative to junior and unsecured (general) creditors.
MortgageLoansOnRealEstateMember	Mortgage Loans on Real Estate [Member] (Deprecated 2015-01-31)	us-gaap	A loan to finance the purchase of real estate where the lender has a lien on the property as collateral for the loan.
NaturalGasLiquidsReservesMember	Natural Gas Liquids [Member]	us-gaap	Natural gas liquids that include, but are not limited to, ethane, propane, natural gasoline, butane and isobutane.
NaturalGasReservesMember	Natural Gas [Member]	us-gaap	Natural gas composed primarily of methane gas, excluding liquid or condensate natural gas.
OilReservesMember	Oil [Member]	us-gaap	Crude oil, which may also include condensate and natural gas liquids.
ProfessionalMalpracticeLiabilityMember	Professional Malpractice Liability Insurance [Member]	us-gaap	Business insurance coverage for professionals, such as doctors, lawyers, insurance agents, accountants, real estate agents, veterinarians, and others. This liability coverage insures losses for claims arising from mistakes and errors or omissions in the course of professional activities.
RealEstateLoanMember	Real Estate Loan [Member]	us-gaap	Loan to finance the purchase of real estate, including but not limited to, land or building.
ResidentialMortgageMember	Residential Mortgage	us-gaap	Loan to purchase or refinance residential real estate for example, but not limited to, a home, in which the real estate itself serves as

	[Member]		collateral for the loan.
SyntheticOilMember	Synthetic Oil [Member]	us-gaap	Lubricant consisting of chemical compounds that are synthetically made.

Consolidation Items [Axis] *(ConsolidationItemsAxis)*

This axis is used to reconcile the values reported for the operating segments and the totals reported for the consolidated entity. The values used on this axis are restricted to the members that appear on this axis in the US GAAP taxonomy. Generally, extension members should not be used on this axis except in cases where the company aggregates eliminations, material reconciling items and corporate items in various combinations. If these combinations are reported by the company, then use the extension members defined below. The use of this axis is discussed in detail in [FASB Segment Reporting guide](#). (DQC_0001.70)

Extension Element	Element Name	Documentation
Eliminations, Corporate and Reconciling items	CorporateReconcilingItemsAndEliminationsMember	Represents the aggregate total of adjustments for non operating corporate items, reconciling items and eliminations.
Corporate and Reconciling Items	CorporateAndReconcilingItemsMember	Represents the aggregate total of non operating corporate items and reconciling items
Corporate and Eliminations	CorporateAndEliminationsMember	Represents the aggregate total of non operating corporate items and elimination items
Eliminations and Reconciling Items	EliminationsAndReconcilingItemsMember	Represents the aggregate total of reconciling items and elimination items

Defined Benefit Plan, Asset Categories [Axis]

(DefinedBenefitPlanByPlanAssetCategoriesAxis)

This axis is used to define the various categories of plan assets held by a defined benefit pension plan. This axis should only have members that represent assets of the plan. The members that appear on this axis can be extensions or members from within the US GAAP taxonomy that represent assets. Many companies have incorrectly used

members on this axis to define the actual pension plan type such as, US Pension Plans. Do not use members that represent various types of pension plans as types of plan assets. (DQC_0001.71)

Award Date [Axis] (*AwardDateAxis*)

This axis is used to distinguish equity-based compensation arrangements by the date or year of grant. Given that these are specific to the reporting company, the members on this axis must be defined as extension elements. (DQC_0001.72)

Subsequent Event Type [Axis] (*SubsequentEventTypeAxis*)

This axis is used to indicate that a value is reported subsequent to the balance sheet. The member element Subsequent Event [Member] is the only member permitted on this axis. The FASB Taxonomy Implementation Guide on subsequent events states: *"Subsequent Event [Member]", the member already included in the Taxonomy, is intended to be used to qualify the reported facts so as to "flag" the information being reported as a subsequent event. There are no other member elements that are appropriate for use with "Subsequent Event Type [Axis]".* (DQC_0001.74)

Comments: <https://xbrl.us/data-rule/guid-tag/#comments>