

NIEM 303 Exercises

****Note:** All stories in the exercises are fictitious, and no bias was used in the selection of actors.**

Exercise 1: Main Document Exploration

The IEPD Main Document is used as a primary reference for the design of an information exchange. Several artifacts are included within an IEPD Main Document, including Use Cases, Sequence Diagrams, Business Processes, Business Requirements, Business Rules, and Exchange Content Models. During this exercise, you will open and analyze the different sections of an IEPD Main Document. Pay attention to the purpose of each section in the document and understand how the document can be used to explain the design decisions and requirements behind an information exchange.

You can access the IEPD Main Document used in this exercise in the training materials downloaded for this course. This specific IEPD is a sample IEPD that uses the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) IEPD requirements. Some organizations, such as DHS, enforce stricter IEPD requirements than those found in the NIEM.gov IEPD Specification document. Also, there are different naming conventions throughout the NIEM community. For example, DHS calls an exchange content model a domain model. This is perfectly acceptable and happens often in the NIEM community. Take note of these differences as you review the IEPD Main Document.

Take five minutes to read the document and become familiar with the structure and purpose of the document. You will discuss the document with the rest of the course participants immediately following your review.

Exercise 2: Review an IEPD

An IEPD is often reviewed for consistency of file structure and standardization of IEPD artifacts. Some organizations employ a standard approach to reviewing IEPDs which includes a checklist for IEPDs. This checklist is used by the author and reviewing authority to identify discrepancies between the reviewed IEPD and a standard IEPD in that organization. Through this approach, organizations can increase the standardization, interoperability, and reusability of IEPDs and information exchanges. A sample checklist is included within the training materials downloaded for this course. Also included in downloaded materials is a sample IEPD.

Though project managers do not typically review IEPDs, it is important for them to understand the review process as well as the IEPDs themselves. For this reason, a very simple checklist is used to review the provided IEPD.

Follow the steps below to complete the review process for this exercise:

1. Open up the Word document "IEPD Checklist" and unzip the file "Sample IEPD."
2. With the Sample IEPD package open, go through each check item and make sure that it follows the provided guidelines.

3. When you have completed this process, await further instructions.

The solution to this exercise is a completed checklist. No modification of IEPD artifacts or the IEPD package is necessary.