

CDM Concepts

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<< **TSG under review** >>

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



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CDM Concepts

- **Common Data Model folder** - A way to describe the location and shape of data records that are stored in files. An organizing document called a manifest acts as the entry point for a collection of entity schema definitions and data partition locations.
- **Entity** is an object which contains the schema
- **Manifest** describes the CDM folder eg. what entities you've in the CDM folder, references of those entities, and also the data which corresponds to this instance.
- The **metadata** includes - Logical classes of entities, with inheritance and containment. You can define CDM metadata using model.json (usually generated by PowerApp, Power BI dataflow etc.) or manifest.cdm.json (Dynamics 365)
- **Logical entities** won't have manifest files. Logical models only tells us where all our entities are defined. Logical models can inherit entities from other entities.
- **Physical Model** contains the entities (schema) and manifest file will tell us about the entities and actual data partition file. Physical models is derived from actual execution and will go with the actual data files.
- **An object model library** - Reads, manages, and creates the Common Data Model folder metadata files. Creates comprehensible logical descriptions and semantic meanings for standard or custom entities. Generates a Common Data Model folder document and concrete entity metadata by using standard or custom entity schemas as a guide.
- **The corpus** - The top-level object of the object model is called a corpus. A corpus holds the hierarchy of folders containing the related and interlinked documents referenced or created during a session of Common Data Model operations.

- **Corpus paths** - The definition of an object in Common Data Model might make references to other documents in the corpus or to other objects within other documents. These references are formed into corpus paths. A corpus path might be relative to the current document or it might be an absolute reference to another document in a specific location in the corpus.
- **Root location** - Root of the CDM folder
- **Root Manifest file** will only describe about the other manifests in the CDM folder

Related Links

- **GitHub CDM Schema**
<https://github.com/Microsoft/CDM> 
- **CDM Fundamentals**
<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/common-data-model/sdk/fundamentals> 
- **Model Metadata - model.json**
<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/common-data-model/model-json> 
- **Model Metadata - Manifest**
<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/common-data-model/cdm-manifest> 
- **Sample Manifest document**
<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/common-data-model/cdm-manifest#example-manifest-document> 

CDM contact person

CDM is like an open source standard, the ADF team might require help when the issue is with the CDM layer and not ADF layer. For this, CDM contact person is olegov@microsoft.com (PG contact, direct ICM, no CSS support on CDM)