**OPS-13 — Event Schema Registry & Contract Tests**

**Intent**  
Version and validate all outbound/inbound event schemas so **breaking changes are impossible** to ship accidentally.

**Preconditions**

* Event list (DecisionDelta, GateStateChanged, PartnerUpdated, BulkReceipt, etc.).

**Flow**

1. **Registry**: host JSON Schemas with semantic versions; mark fields required/optional.
2. **Producers**: validate events before publish; attach schema\_id.
3. **Consumers**: contract tests in CI using **golden cassettes**; reject incompatible changes.
4. **Deprecation**: additive changes only in minor; breaking needs major + migration plan.
5. **Observability**: dead-letter queues with schema mismatch reasons.

**Edge cases**

* Tenant custom fields → x-tenant-\* namespaced, always optional.
* Large events → chunk or store-by-reference (Evidence Pack IDs).

**Done when**

* CI blocks incompatible schema changes; DLQ rate ~0; schema docs auto-published.