

Using data in business rules – guards

Guards

Business rules can guarded by writing an expression

The screenshot shows a dialog box titled 'Options' with a close button (X) in the top right corner. The dialog contains several fields for configuring a business rule:

- Relation:** A dropdown menu set to 'Include'.
- From:** A dropdown menu set to 'Specielle Betingelser'.
- To:** A dropdown menu set to 'Betingelser'.
- Guard:** A text input field containing the expression 'NL_Conditions=1'. The text 'NL' is underlined with a red squiggly line, indicating a warning or error.
- Delay:** A text input field containing the placeholder text 'Enter Delay'.
- Level:** A text input field containing the value '0'.
- Description:** A large, empty text area for additional notes.

An example guard for an include rule

When guarding a business rule, the expression found in the guard will be evaluated and if true, the business rule will be considered part of the process.

In the above example, if the value of the event NL_Conditions is 1 then the activity Betingelser will be included in the process.

Expressions are formally described [here](#) <

<https://documentation.dcr.design/documentation/engine-expression-language/>>. Right now constraints can be integers, numbers, true or false, null or a string value.

Guards are typically used in [DCR Forms](#) <

<https://documentation.dcr.design/documentation/dcr-form/>> as forms have data

attributes associated with activities/events.

This [process < https://www.dcrgraphs.net/Tool?id=7163>](https://www.dcrgraphs.net/Tool?id=7163) holds an example DCR Form where a decision event holds a guard from the decision to an explanation field. If the decision is Yes (1), the explanation event/field is included in the form:



DCR Form with example guard

Notice the [and] around the guard.

When choosing Yes in decision the extra field is included as illustrated below:

Related Release notes

RELEASE 6.9

[< https://documentation.dcr.design/release_notes/release-6-9/>](https://documentation.dcr.design/release_notes/release-6-9/)

- Welcome to generative AI in wizard
- Welcome to improved Activity Effects
- Import DCR graphs from BPMN and Excel

Release Date: August 29, 2023

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