## **Global PD Dependency Diagram Stage Definitions (100125)**

### **Foundational — Core data, tools, and governance established**

The foundational stage establishes the bedrock infrastructure for effective data management. Organizations build essential data repositories and storage systems while implementing fundamental collection and management tools. Basic governance policies define data ownership roles and responsibilities, with initial quality controls and validation processes ensuring data integrity. This stage focuses on creating awareness across teams about the importance of reliable data and documenting standard operating procedures that will guide future growth.

**Integrated — Systems, knowledge, and processes unified across functions**

Integration transforms siloed operations into seamlessly connected ecosystems. Organizations unify disparate systems through APIs and integration platforms, creating single sources of truth for critical information. Processes harmonize across departments while unified dashboards provide enterprise-wide visibility. Real-time data sharing breaks down information barriers between teams, enabling cross-functional standards and definitions that ensure consistency and accuracy throughout the organization.

**Collaborative — Cross‑functional and customer‑embedded ways of working enabled**

The collaborative stage dissolves organizational boundaries to create dynamic partnerships. Cross-functional teams unite around shared objectives and metrics, using collaborative platforms for real-time communication and joint decision-making. Customer feedback embeds directly into product development processes, transforming customers from consumers into active partners in design and innovation. This interconnected approach builds robust networks of internal and external stakeholders working toward common goals.

**Differentiated — Validated capabilities, IP, and practices that set offerings apart**

Differentiation emerges through the development of proprietary methodologies and intellectual property that deliver measurably superior results. Organizations validate their unique capabilities through rigorous benchmarking and outcome measurement, creating value propositions that competitors cannot easily replicate. Documented and protected innovative practices establish recognized domain expertise, building brand recognition for distinctive capabilities that set the organization apart in the marketplace.

**Advantaged — Repeatable, scaled delivery that secures market leadership**

The advantaged stage represents sustained competitive dominance through operational excellence. Organizations scale successful practices across all operations while maintaining consistent quality and predictable delivery of superior outcomes. Self-reinforcing cycles of improvement and innovation create barriers to entry, while accumulated expertise generates network effects that strengthen market position. Continuous evolution ensures the organization stays ahead of market changes, securing long-term leadership through repeatable, scaled delivery of exceptional value.