GDPR CONVENTIONS FOR ARIS ACCELERATORS

ARIS 10

October 2026

This document applies to ARIS Version 10 and to all subsequent releases.

Specifications contained herein are subject to change and these changes will be reported in subsequent release notes or new editions.

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1. Introduction

To simplify the creation of Data Protection Management information and functionality, as well as to facilitate their reusability, you can model objects in ARIS Architect. These objects are then used by the workflows of ARIS Risk and Compliance. However, this is only possible if you adhere to the methodological and functional rules and conventions for modeling in ARIS Architect. Only then all modeled data can be transferred to ARIS Risk and Compliance and reused there. To be able to properly maintain these objects in ARIS Architect, refer to the **Modeling Conventions** in the online help of ARIS Risk and Compliance.

2. Content of document

The sections below explain the standards for the usage of descriptive views, model types, object types, relationship and connection types, and attributes.

2.1. Objectives and scope

Objective: Specification of modeling guidelines

Not included in this guide: User documentation

2.2. Prerequisites

To be able to use the following conventions, first import the **GDPR method extension** filter into ARIS Architect. It adds derived and user-defined method constructs (model types, object types, symbols, connection types, attribute type groups, and attribute types) to the ARIS method. These method constructs are required for GDPR regulation. All other accelerators are based on this enhanced ARIS method.

To use the GDPR method extensions, use the **Entire method** filter or add the GDPR method extensions to any existing ARIS GRC filter. The GDPR method extension filter contains only additional enhancements for GDPR which are based on the GRC method. For detailed information on the GRC method, refer to the convention manuals delivered with ARIS Risk and Compliance. For more information on installing ARIS Accelerators for GDPR, refer to the **ARIS accelerators for GDPR Installation Guide**.

3. ARIS conventions

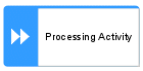
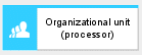
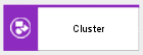
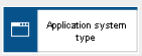
3.1. Create processing activities and relations

The core of the ARIS data privacy features relies on the identification of process functions (processing activities), defined by the European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Use the **GDPR processing activity** attribute in ARIS to specify whether a process function is a processing activity (**true**) or not (**false**).

Processing activities and associated information are modeled in a **Processing activity description diagram** model (API name: b0205e20-4aa5-11e7-43b7-08002721906d) in ARIS Architect to simplify master data maintenance. This model type is derived from the **Function allocation diagram** model type.

3.1.1. Objects and relationships

You can use the following objects in the **Processing activity description diagram** model within the framework of Data Protection Management:

Object type name	API name	Symbol type name	Symbols	ARCM name
Function	OT_FUNC	Processing activity		Process (hierarchy element)
Organizational unit	OT_ORG_UNIT	Organizational unit (processor)		Organization processor (hierarchy element)
Organizational unit	OT_ORG_UNIT	Organizational unit (controller)		Organization controller (hierarchy element)
Cluster/data model	OT_CLST	Cluster		Data (hierarchy element)
Risk	OT_RISK	Risk		Risk
Application system type	OT_APPL_SYS_TYPE	Application system type		Application system type (hierarchy element)

You can use the following connections:

Object	Connection/API name	Object
Organizational unit (controller)	**is technically responsible for (CT_IS_TECH_RESP_1)**	**Processing activity**
Organizational unit (processor)	carries out (CT_EXEC_1)	Processing activity
Risk	occurs at (CT_OCCUR)	Processing activity
Application system type	supports (CT_CAN_SUPP_1)	Processing activity
Processing activity	reads (CT_READ_1), has as output (CT_HAS_OUT)	Cluster

3.1.2. Attributes

3.1.2.1. Processing activities attributes

A processing activity is any operation which is performed on individuals' personal data, such as collection, recording, disclosure by transmission, and therefore is subject to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Processing activities and associated information are modeled in **Processing activity description diagram** models and **Record of processing activities** models in ARIS Architect. The following allocations are applicable for the **processing activity**:

ARIS attribute	API name	ARCM attribute	Notes
Name	AT_NAME	name	Mandatory field, limited to 250 characters.
Description	AT_DESC	description	Specifies the purpose of the processing activity.
GDPR processing activity	2b70adc0-4504-11e7-43b7-08002721906d	gdpr_processingActivity	User-defined - Specifies whether or not the function is a processing activity.
Data privacy score	695b1ad0-1df9-11e7-43b7-08002721906d	gdpr_process_privacyScore	User-defined - Specifies an estimated score on a predefined scale, to qualify the data privacy of the hierarchy element. Example: The score derived from the Processing Activity Qualification questionnaire.
Data sensitivity	332790f0-1dfa-11e7-43b7-08002721906d	gdpr_process_dataSensitivity	User-defined - Indicates whether the data requires special handling. Options (default values): ▪ **Public data** ▪ **Sensitive** ▪ **Very sensitive** ▪ **Highly sensitive** ▪ **Extremely sensitive**
Sign-off relevant	AT_AAM_SIGN_OFF_RELEVANT	signoff	Mark the processing activity as relevant for sign-off. If not specified, the default value in ARIS Risk and Compliance is false.

3.1.2.2. Cluster attributes

The following allocations are applicable for the **cluster**:

ARIS attribute	API name	ARCM attribute	Notes
Name	AT_NAME	name	Mandatory field, limited to 250 characters.
Description	AT_DESC	description	

ARIS attribute	API name	ARCM attribute	Notes
Restriction level	15eaceb1-096b-11e7-2959-d4bed9888991	gdpr_restrictionLevel	User-defined - Specifies the level of legal usage of the data. Options (default values): ▪ **Unrestricted data** ▪ **Personal data** ▪ **Sensitive personal data** ▪ **Confidential data**
Data privacy score	695b1ad0-1df9-11e7-43b7-08002721906d	gdpr_privacyScore	User-defined - Specifies an estimated score on a predefined scale, to qualify the data privacy of the hierarchy element. Example: The score derived from any data element qualification questionnaire.

3.1.2.3. Organizational unit attributes

The following attribute allocations apply to the **Organizational unit** object:

ARIS attribute	API name	ARCM attribute	Notes
Name	AT_NAME	name	Mandatory field, limited to 250 characters.
Description	AT_DESC	description	
Data protection officer	1c2537a1-4072-11e7-43b7-08002721906d	gdpr_protOfficer	User-defined - Displays the name and address of the data protection officer. Must be included in the record of processing activities. Must be listed in the report.
Data protection representative	8f055dc1-407e-11e7-43b7-08002721906d	gdpr_protRepresentative	User-defined - Displays the name and address of the data protection representative. Must be included in the record of processing activities. Must be listed in the report.
Sign-off relevant	AT_AAM_SIGN_OFF_RELEVANT	signoff	Marks the organizational unit as relevant for sign-off. If not specified, the default value in ARIS Risk and Compliance is false.

3.1.2.4. Application system types attributes

The following attribute allocations apply to the **application system type:**

ARIS attribute	API name	ARCM attribute	Notes
Name	AT_NAME	name	Mandatory field, limited to 250 characters.
Description	AT_DESC	description	

ARIS attribute	API name	ARCM attribute	Notes
Data sensitivity	332790f0-1dfa-11e7-43b7-08002721906d	gdpr_dataSensitivity	User-defined - Indicates whether the data requires special handling. Options (default values): ▪ **Public data** ▪ **Sensitive** ▪ **Very sensitive** ▪ **Highly sensitive** ▪ **Extremely sensitive**
GDPR qualification score	badc1630-2014-11e7-43b7-08002721906d	gdpr_qualificationScore	User-defined - Indicates an estimated score on a predefined scale to qualify the hierarchy element. Example: A score derived from any application system qualification questionnaire.
GDPR risk relevance score	da6e5cb1-2014-11e7-43b7-08002721906d	gdpr_riskRelevanceScore	User-defined - Indicates an estimated score on a predefined scale to qualify the risk relevance of the hierarchy element. Example: The score derived from the GDPR risk assessment.
Data privacy score	695b1ad0-1df9-11e7-43b7-08002721906d	gdpr_privacyScore	User-defined - Specifies an estimated score on a predefined scale, to qualify the data privacy of the hierarchy element. Example: The score derived from any application system qualification questionnaire.

3.2. Create processing activity/process hierarchy

To model a business cluster of processing activities, for example, departments or countries in which an organization is represented, use the **Record of processing activities** model (API name: c45962f1-4b87-11e7-43b7-08002721906d) derived from the **Value-added chain diagram** model. Any hierarchy between the processing activities can be represented by the **is process-oriented superior/is process-oriented subordinate** (CT_IS_PRCS_ORNT_SUPER) connection.

In ARIS Risk and Compliance, only a tree structure for hierarchies is allowed. Therefore, each processing activity can only have one superior processing activity/function.

3.3. Create cluster/data hierarchy

To model a hierarchy between clusters, use the **IE Data model** or the **eERM** model. The hierarchy between clusters is represented by the **consists of/is part of** (CT_CONS_OF_2) connection as a direct connection between two clusters in the IE Data model or as an implicit connection built by assigning an eERM model to the cluster.

In ARIS Risk and Compliance, only a tree structure for hierarchies is allowed. Therefore, each cluster can only have one superior cluster.

4. Support and legal information

This section provides you with some general information regarding product support and legal aspects.

4.1. Documentation scope

The information provided describes the settings and features as they were at the time of publishing. Since documentation and software are subject to different production cycles, the description of settings and features may differ from actual settings and features. Information about discrepancies is provided in the Release Notes that accompany the product. Please read the Release Notes and take the information into account when installing, setting up, and using the product.

If you want to install technical and/or business system functions without using the consulting services provided by SAG ARIS GmbH, you require extensive knowledge of the system to be installed, its intended purpose, the target systems, and their various dependencies. Due to the number of platforms and interdependent hardware and software configurations, we can describe only specific installations. It is not possible to document all settings and dependencies.

When you combine various technologies, please observe the manufacturers' instructions, particularly announcements concerning releases on their Internet pages. We cannot guarantee proper functioning and installation of approved third-party systems and do not support them. Always follow the instructions provided in the installation manuals of the relevant manufacturers. If you experience difficulties, please contact the relevant manufacturer.

If you need help installing third-party systems, contact your local ARIS sales organization. Please note that this type of manufacturer-specific or customer-specific customization is not covered by the standard ARIS software maintenance agreement and can be performed only on special request and agreement.

4.2. Support

Product support

We provide support for ARIS products to all customers with a valid support contract.

Information on product version availability and support, as well as sustained support dates, is available at ARIS Community.

Contact our Global Support services at ARIS Community to raise and update support incidents, or post ideas and feature requests.

Community

Register with ARIS Community to download products, updates and fixes, find expert information, and interact with other users.

Documentation

For information on how to use and activate products and for other technical support questions, visit the ARIS Documentation website.

If you want to give feedback on any documentation topic, write to documentation@aris.com.

4.3. Legal notices

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