

# Node Identity

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## Discussion

Node Identity uniquely distinguishes a [Node](#) within a defined architectural, logical, implementation, or deployment context. It provides the basis for attribution, authorization, monitoring, audit, provenance, replay, recovery, and evidence.

A Node Identity allows later parts to identify which Node produced information, consumed a Communication Endpoint, reported status, acknowledged a command, executed a Node Role, or generated evidence.

A Node Identity exists at the architectural level. A deployment profile may associate a Node Identity with a container name, pod name, process identifier, host name, network address, certificate, service account, or other runtime identifier. Those identifiers do not replace the Node Identity.

## Definition

*identifier uniquely distinguishing a [Node](#) within a defined architectural context*

## Source

Adapted from FX Demo Reference Architecture, Section 2.1.16, Node Identity; generalised from implementation-profile identity to conceptual architectural identity.

## Note

A Node Identity is not a container name, pod name, host name, process identifier, user identity, organization identity, network address, or repository path.

## Example

A Phase 0 implementation profile may assign a stable Node Identity to a health-monitoring [Node](#) so later reviewers can attribute its heartbeat records, status messages, audit entries, and evidence to the same architectural participant.

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