

Version Control System

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Discussion

A Version Control System performs [Version Control](#) for one or more [Artifacts](#).

The system records distinct Artifact revisions and preserves the relationships among them.

A Version Control System allows an authorized user or process to:

- Add an Artifact to Version Control
- Assign an identifiable revision
- Retrieve an identified revision
- Distinguish one revision from another
- Record a relationship between revisions
- Compare revisions
- Record changes to an Artifact
- Restore or reuse an identified revision

A Version Control System may manage:

- Source code
- Configuration files
- [Infrastructure Configurations](#)
- [Infrastructure Blueprints](#)
- Models
- Schemas
- Scripts
- Policy files
- Build specifications
- Documentation

A Version Control System differs from Version Control:

- [Version Control](#) is the process for managing revisions
- A Version Control System is a system that performs that process

A Version Control System may include a repository, revision identification, comparison, branching, merging, access control, and retrieval capabilities. The presence or use of any particular capability depends on the applicable requirements.

Definition

system that performs version control by recording identifiable revisions of artifacts and preserving the relationships among those revisions

Source

Dido Solutions, Inc. and Jackrabbit Consulting, Inc.

Note

A Version Control System does not by itself establish that a revision is approved, released, deployed, authoritative, or subject to a specified retention period.

A Version Control System may record information such as:

- Revision identifier
- Preceding revision
- Succeeding revision
- Change author
- Change timestamp
- Change description
- Repository location

The applicable requirements determine which information the system must preserve.

The term does not require a particular product, repository architecture, branching model, merge model, storage technology, or deployment method.

Example

A Version Control System assigns an identifiable revision to an [Infrastructure Configuration](#), records its relationship to the preceding revision, and permits an authorized deployment workflow to retrieve it.

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