

6.4.1 Architectural Description

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The architectural description defines the structural organization of the proposed [Reference Architecture](#), including its elements, responsibilities, relationships, interaction constructs, attachment points, processing flows, boundary constructs, and [Governance](#) abstractions.

Requirements

Requirement	Statement
SIP-044 — Structured Architectural Description	The Submission SHALL include a structured architectural description of the proposed Reference Architecture .
SIP-045 — Architectural Visual Representations	The Submission SHALL include visual representations of the ordered processing flows and boundary constructs defined by the architectural model without requiring conforming implementations to use a specific modeling notation.

Required Coverage

The architectural description required by SIP-044 includes the architectural information governed by the following requirements:

Requirement	Required Architectural Information
SIP-003 — Reference Architecture Constituents	Architectural elements, roles, responsibilities, relationships, and interaction constructs
SIP-005 — Structured Information Flow	Architectural constructs representing the flow of structured information
SIP-006 — Ordered Modular Processing Flows	Ordered processing flows composed of modular components
SIP-007 — Structured Information Attachment Points	Attachment points through which structured information enters and exits architectural elements
SIP-008 — Information Boundary Constructs	Boundary constructs governing ingress, transformation, and egress
SIP-019 — Data Plane and Control Plane Separation	Architectural separation between the data plane and the control plane
SIP-020 — Governance Constraints and Interface Contracts	Separation of Governance constraints from Interface Contracts

Notes for Editors

The requirement identifiers and short titles link to the authoritative requirement records in Annex C.

The Statements for SIP-044 and SIP-045 are transcluded from their corresponding Annex C requirement pages and are not independently maintained copies.

Make changes to a Statement on its Annex C requirement page.

The Required Coverage table provides a nonnormative summary of the architectural information governed by the referenced requirements. The corresponding Annex C records remain authoritative.

SIP-042 requires the Submission to include a complete specification addressing all applicable requirements. SIP-044 establishes that the specification includes a structured architectural description. Together, they require the architectural description to document the applicable information governed by SIP-003, SIP-005 through SIP-008, SIP-019, and SIP-020.

SIP-045 requires visual representations as specification deliverables. It does not make the notation used to create those representations mandatory for conforming implementations.

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