EPC IN ARIS
CHEAT SHEET

5 software AG

GENERAL INFORMATION

The **Event-driven Process Chain** (**EPC**) is a modeling notation to describe business processes. It integrates all relevant business perspectives and is embedded in the overall process landscape.

While **Value-added Chain Diagrams** (**VACD**) provide an overview on the functional areas of an organization, EPCs are used to detail them on a procedural level. ▶

CORE ELEMENTS

The EPC core elements allow you to model the procedural sequence of functions within the scope of individual business processes.

EVENT & FUNCTIONS

An **event** describes a state that controls or influences the progression of the process. They trigger functions and are the results of functions.

A **function** is a task or activity performed to deliver process outputs and support business objectives.

CONNECTORS

Connectors are used to **split** and **join** the control flow. Split connectors have one incoming and several outgoing connections. Vice versa for join connectors.
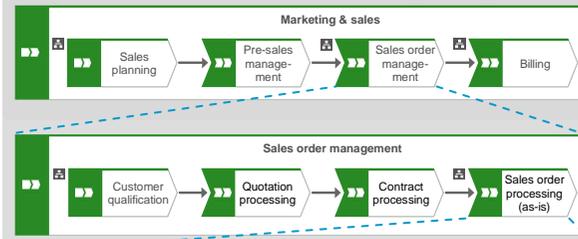
- ⊗ **XOR** (exclusive or) considers exactly one path.
- ⌃ **AND** considers all paths.
- ⌄ **OR** considers at least one path.
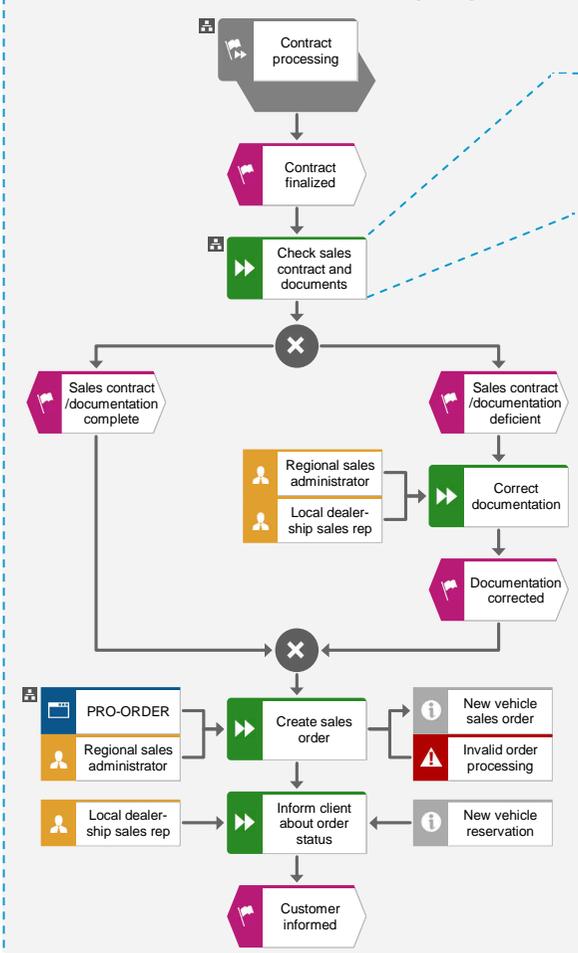
LINKING & HIERARCHY

Process interfaces link EPCs on the same process hierarchy level and navigate in a **horizontal** fashion.

Lower-level EPCs can be **assigned to functions** to describe them on a more detailed level. This provides a deeper process hierarchy level (**vertical** link).

VALUE-ADDED CHAIN DIAGRAM (VACD)

Marketing & sales
Sales planning → Pre-sales management → Sales order management → Billing

Sales order management
Customer qualification → Quotation processing → Contract processing → Sales order processing (as-is)

EVENT-DRIVEN PROCESS CHAIN (EPC)

Contract processing

Contract finalized

Check sales contract and documents

⊗ XOR

Sales contract /documentation complete → Sales contract /documentation deficient

Regional sales administrator
Local dealership sales rep
→ Correct documentation

Documentation corrected

⊗ XOR

PRO-ORDER
Regional sales administrator
→ Create sales order →
New vehicle sales order
Invalid order processing

Local dealership sales rep
→ Inform client about order status ←
New vehicle reservation

Customer informed

EXTENDED ELEMENTS / SATELLITES

The extended EPC elements allow you to detail the pure procedural description of your business process by integrating data, risks, resources, organizational elements etc. The corresponding objects are called **satellites**. There are two modeling alternatives:

1. Model the satellites directly **in the EPC** and assign them to the function to get all information at a glance.

2. Move the satellites to a **Function Allocation Diagram** (**FAD**) to reduce the visual complexity of the EPC. ▼

FUNCTION ALLOCATION DIAGRAM (FAD)

Local dealership sales rep → Check sales contract and documents ← New vehicle sales contract

ORGANIZATION

The **organizational unit** is a business department, that is involved in a task.

Positions are the smallest organizational unit in a company and are assigned to a single person.

A **role** typifies individual persons with identical properties such as privileges or responsibilities.

Group of people working together.

RACI / RASCI CONNECTIONS

The **RA(S)CI method** enables you to simply describe how organizational elements participate in completing tasks in business processes. The EPC offers different connection types to connect organizational objects and functions:

carries out	**R**ESPONSIBLE
decides on	**A**CCOUNTABLE
contributes to	**S**UPPORTIVE
has consulting role in	**C**ONSULTED
must be informed about	**I**NFORMED

DATA & RISKS

An **information carrier** stores knowledge / data.

A **cluster** is a collection of related entity types and can be used to represent business objects.

A **KPI** instance indicates the degree of goal accomplishment.

A **risk** represents the possible danger of a defined process objective not being achieved.

A **business policy** is a directive, whose purpose is to govern or guide the enterprise.

A **requirement** is a documented need of what a specific application system, product or service should be or do.

ENTERPRISE ARCHITECTURE

The **application system type** is a software system that is used to support the execution of a function.

An **application system** represents a concrete, identifiable application system within a company.

A **software robot** is an application system type that carries out a function autonomously (RPA).*

An **attended software robot** is a software robot (RPA) that requires human intervention.*

An **IoT object** represents a type of things that are elements of IoT and have similar properties.

* Available with ARIS 10 SR8 (April 2019)

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