OBOS

Open BIM Object standard

An international standard for object developers

OCTOBER 2018 v1.0
At NATSPEC, we are dedicated to improving the construction quality and productivity of the built environment, so I am very pleased that this object standard is now available, following the extensive joint research and work carried out by the technical teams of NATSPEC and Masterspec.

The OBOS supports the standardisation of BIM Objects across the Australian construction industry, and globally, with the implementation of the buildingSMART IFC schema. The OBOS and the NATSPEC BIM Properties Generator address the major issues concerning information exchange and compatibility of BIM objects between disciplines and projects, with the latter being aligned to the information requirements of the OBOS.

The implementation of the OBOS and the free exchange of standardised BIM objects will allow different systems and applications to work together. This is crucial to driving productivity across the industry and I’m happy that NATSPEC working together with Masterspec have been able to provide such a beneficial resource to industry to allow this to occur.

The intent of this BIM Object standard is to support the sector’s drive for a more efficient and defined way of working together. It provides a framework for the consistent creation, maintenance and use of BIM Objects along the building lifecycle.

The standard is designed as an open standard and utilises the buildingSMART IFC Schema to facilitate use of various proprietary authoring tools and their exchange with downstream applications. It complements a number of other existing industry resources, such as the NZ BIM Handbook, the NZ Asset Metadata standard as well as the soon-to-be-released Masterspec Property Selector.

A big THANK YOU goes to the many industry reviewers who have supported the extensive research work jointly undertaken by the technical teams of NATSPEC (Australia) and Masterspec (New Zealand) to arrive at this internationally-based BIM Object standard.
NATSPEC (Construction Information Systems Limited) – Australia

Founded in 1975, NATSPEC, is a not-for-profit organisation owned by the design, build, construct and property industry through professional associations and government property groups. Its objective is to improve the construction quality and productivity of the built environment through leadership in the provision of information. For over forty years, NATSPEC has been delivering the national, comprehensive construction specification system endorsed by government and professional bodies.

NATSPEC believes that digital information, including 3-D Modelling and Building Information Modelling, will provide improved methods of design, construction and communication for the industry, resulting in improved efficiency and quality. Further, NATSPEC supports open global systems. NATSPEC’s primary focus is on the “i” (information) in BIM and how it is linked to digital models, and the development of BIM guidelines and standards beneficial to the construction industry.

NATSPEC is responsible for the Australian National BIM Guide and its associated documents, and the NATSPEC BIM Properties Generator. For more information visit the NATSPEC website at www.natspec.com.au and click on the BIM logo.

masterspec

Masterspec (Construction Information Limited) – New Zealand

Construction Information Limited (CIL), operating as Masterspec, is the market leader in specification systems, related information and supporting software for the New Zealand (NZ) construction industry. Formed in 1995, CIL provides Masterspec specification systems to architects, engineers, designers, utility companies, government organisations and tertiary institutions.

Masterspec is an industry-owned organisation. As such, Masterspec’s primary objective is to support the NZ construction industry to increase the quality and productivity of the built environment. This is primarily achieved through the provision of comprehensive, continuously updated and extended construction information systems and resources.

BIM has the potential to create a step change in NZ construction productivity. Masterspec is working with the NZ construction industry to develop BIM guidelines and standards that will help realise the full potential of BIM for NZ. For more information please visit www.masterspec.co.nz

Comments and Feedback

We welcome comments or suggestions for improvements to the Open BIM Object standard and encourage readers to notify us immediately of any apparent inaccuracies or ambiguities. Contact us via email at bim@natspec.com.au or bim@masterspec.co.nz.

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Introduction

The lack of standards limits the ability to share BIM content across disciplines, projects, and software.

Most jurisdictions have, or are moving to, protocols or standards for BIM processes. There are also a variety of BIM standards that address some aspects of BIM content or tools. However, many aspects of BIM have no guidance at all. Currently, it is possible for two organisations to create content about the same topic that complies with existing BIM standards but has very different implementations.

As a result, many practices develop their own internal standards and are often reluctant to use any content produced by third-parties.

A number of object libraries and BIM authoring system-based groups have developed their own standards to address this, but the proprietary nature of these standards means that it is difficult for a jurisdiction to adopt these.

The aim of this standard is to cover the primary aspects of BIM object development and provide sufficient commonality so that practitioners will accept and use the content developed in conformance with its requirements.

This standard is to be open. Local requirements, variations or additions, if desired, are to be dealt with in annexures to the standard.

The initial version of this standard was developed by NATSPEC, Australia and Masterspec, New Zealand and is available for free download from either organisation’s website. Any organisation wishing to adopt it, create a new local annexure for use in their jurisdiction, or to contribute to its future development should contact either of the initiating organisations.

Document Conventions

Requirements of this standard are expressed in sentences which include the word ‘shall’. To say that an object complies with or conforms to this standard, all the ‘shall’ requirements of this standard need to be applied to the BIM object.

Recommendations of this standard are expressed in sentences which include the word ‘should’. Whilst not a requirement of this standard, it is recommended that an object include these items.

The standard uses the word ‘can’ to nominate that a concept is a possibility, for example, an addition to the main concept. The object author can include these items, if required.

Terms are identified within the standard using bold formatted text for the first time they appear in each clause, with their definition provided in Section 8 - Definitions & Glossary.
1.0 BIM Objects

This section of the standard describes what an object is.

1.1 BIM components and assemblies

This sub-section of the standard discusses the concept of individual BIM objects and BIM object assemblies. Defining the broad requirements for each.

1.1.1 BIM objects

BIM objects shall be modelled as a component object or a system object.

- Component objects are discrete, or loadable, objects where the geometry is created by the object modeller and represents a specific physical element or component.
- System objects are objects where the geometry is provided by the BIM authoring system for the user to configure. Typically, these are layered objects such as walls, floors, roofs and ceilings, but can also include, in some BIM authoring systems, windows, doors, piping, columns, beams and similar elements.

1.1.2 BIM assemblies

BIM objects can be grouped into assemblies to allow for reuse of common groupings of physical elements.

1.2 Proprietary and generic BIM objects

This sub-section of the standard discusses the differences between proprietary (manufacturer) BIM objects and generic BIM objects.

1.2.1 Object type

The object shall be modelled as a generic object or a proprietary object.

1.2.2 Generic objects

Generic objects shall be, as a minimum, recognisable as a representation of the physical element that it is representing.

1.2.3 Proprietary objects

Proprietary objects shall be an appropriate geometric representation of the physical element with accurate critical dimensions and metadata.

1.2.4 Project objects

Project objects are unique project-specific objects created as either a generic or proprietary object for use in a project and not intended for inclusion in a shared library.
2.0 Naming Conventions

This section of the standard sets out the requirements and rules for naming object files, properties, property sets, materials, views and material image files.

2.1 General naming requirements

This sub-section of the standard defines the general naming requirements applicable to all situations covered by this standard.

2.1.1 Naming fields

Object files, materials and material image files shall be named using the naming fields from Table 2A, arranged in accordance with the relevant naming clauses below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;Type&gt;</td>
<td>Shall be used to identify the type of object or material.</td>
<td>Door</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;Subtype&gt;</td>
<td>Should be used to identify the subtype of the object or material.</td>
<td>Interior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;Source&gt;</td>
<td>The product manufacturer identification. Shall be used for proprietary objects.</td>
<td>SupaDoors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;Product/Range Identifier&gt;</td>
<td>The manufacturer’s product or product range identifier. Shall be used for proprietary objects.</td>
<td>D130ST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;Differentiator&gt;</td>
<td>Can be used to provide additional information required to identify the object or material.</td>
<td>760W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;Originator&gt;</td>
<td>A 3 to 6 character code, can be used to identify the object provider. Should be used for objects provided by an object library.</td>
<td>ABC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2A – Naming fields

2.1.2 Characters

Names and naming fields shall include only the following characters:

- Uppercase letters (A to Z) from the ISO basic Latin alphabet.
- Lowercase letters (a to z) from the ISO basic Latin alphabet.
- Numbers (0 to 9).
- Underscore (_), used only for separating fields within a name.
- A single period character (.), used only to separate the file name from the file extension.

Names and naming fields shall not include any of the following characters:

- Symbols or mathematical operators, including, but not limited to, (! " £ $ % ^ & * { ] [ ] + - = < > ? | \ @ ‘ ~ # ¬ ` ’).
- Spaces.

The use of the hyphen character should be avoided as it can cause errors when the name (or property) is used within formulae, due to the hyphen also representing the mathematical subtraction operator.

2.1.3 Naming rules

PascalCase shall be used to join separate words within naming fields and for the naming of properties.

Fields in a name shall be separated by an underscore (_).

Where required, abbreviations can be used. Recognised industry abbreviations shall be used where they exist, for example, PVC.
2.2 **Object file naming requirements**

This sub-section of the standard defines the requirements for object file naming. Including Proprietary/Generic/Project object naming, Parametric object naming and Dimensional information in file names.

2.2.1 **File naming rules**

The object file name shall be a unique human readable description of the object.

The object file name shall be in accordance with clause 2.1.

Relevant dimensional information can be included in the `<Differentiator>` field and should include the unit of measure. For example, 300x700mm, 400mmx30m, 1200mm.

2.2.2 **Parametric object file naming**

The subtype field of a parametric object file name shall be a pascal case concatenation of the variants represented by the object. For example, RectangularSquare.

2.2.3 **File name structure**

The object file name shall be structured as follows, unless specified otherwise by local requirements:

<Type>_<Subtype>_<Source>_<Product/Range identifier>_<Differentiator>_<Originator>

2.3 **Property naming requirements**

This sub-section of the standard defines the requirements for the naming of properties (also known as attributes or parameters) associated with BIM objects. BIM properties are variables that store data relating to the object. The naming of properties needs to provide a human readable description of the property requirement and also adopt the conventions and methodologies used within modern programming language techniques to allow automated use of the data contained within.

2.3.1 **Unique properties**

Each unique concept describing information about an object shall have a unique property name.

2.3.2 **Property naming rules**

Properties shall be named in accordance with clause 2.1.

Properties shall be named in a consistent and logical manner to aid clarity and usability.

Each property name shall be a unique human readable description of the property value requirement.

2.3.3 **Boolean properties**

Properties that require the value to be completed with a Yes/No or True/False enumerator, shall be named to indicate such a requirement, for example, 'IsExternal'.

2.3.4 **Suffix**

If user edited/created property sets are not supported in the BIM authoring system being used (see clause 4.10), a 3 to 6 character suffix can be added to the end of each property name, separated by an underscore(_), to identify the source of the property. For example, DoorPanelHeight_ANZRS.

Note: A suffix cannot be added to the end of property names from defined data schemas such as IFC (Industry Foundation Classes) or COBie. The property names from any defined data schema must not be changed or amended in any way.

2.4 **Property set naming requirements**

This sub-section of the standard defines requirements for the naming of property sets associated with BIM objects. This is to facilitate the metadata being in a format consistent with IFC. Not all BIM authoring systems fully support the concept of property sets for BIM objects, for example Revit only allows the user to assign object properties to hard-coded groups, however the shared parameter file does assign each property to a group, which is an equivalent concept to property sets.
2.4.1 **Property sets**
Object properties shall be grouped into logical sets, see clause 4.10.

2.4.2 **Property set naming rules**
Property sets shall be named in accordance with clause 2.1.

- **Property set** names shall provide a descriptive context for the grouping.
- Property set names shall have a prefix followed by an underscore to identify the origin of the property set, for example, `OBOS_`, `COBie_`, `ANZRS_`.
- **IFC** property sets shall be named with the corresponding IFC property set name (`Pset_`).
- For properties identified in this standard, the property set name shall be as shown in italics in the table title. For example, for the properties in 'Table 4A – OBOS_Admin properties' the property set name shall be `OBOS_Admin`.

**2.5 Material naming requirements**

*This sub-section of the standard defines the requirements for the naming of materials associated with BIM objects.*

2.5.1 **Material naming rules**
Materials shall be named in accordance with clause 2.1.

- Material names shall be unique human readable descriptions of the material.

2.5.2 **Material name structure**
The material name shall be structured as follows:

```
<Type>_<Subtype>_<Differentiator>
```

**2.6 View control naming requirements**

*This sub-section of the standard defines the requirements for the naming of view controls associated with BIM objects. BIM authoring systems control object viewing in different ways, such as layers and subcategories. Where the views can be named by the user, and are shared with objects, then it is important to name them consistently to avoid a proliferation.*

2.6.1 **View control naming rules**
Where the **BIM authoring system** allows for user defined **view control**, views shall be named as follows:

- In accordance with clause 2.1.
- In plural form.
- Be consistent and logical to aid clarity and usability.

2.6.2 **View control name structure**
The **view control** name shall be structured as follows, using the **fields** from Table 2B:

```
<UsageGroup>_<UsageSubGroup>_<Differentiator>
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>&lt;UsageGroup&gt;</code></td>
<td>Shall be used to name the group’s primary purpose or use, for example, <em>Plumbing</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>&lt;UsageSubGroup&gt;</code></td>
<td>Should be used to name the sub group’s purpose or use if the usage group covers multiple concepts, for example, <em>Plumbing_Sanitary</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>&lt;Differentiator&gt;</code></td>
<td>Can be used to further differentiate the sub group, for example, <em>Plumbing_Sanitary_Fittings</em>.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 2B – View control naming fields**
2.7 Material image file naming requirements

This sub-section of the standard defines the requirements for the naming of image files associated with materials.

2.7.1 Material image file naming rules
Image files shall be named in accordance with clause 2.1.

2.7.2 Material image file name structure
Image files shall be named identically to their corresponding material (see clause 2.5), with the addition of the file format extension of either .bmp or .jpg.
3.0 Object Classification

This section of the standard sets out the requirements for classifying the object and assigning it the correct IFC designation.

3.1 Object IFC designation

This sub-section of the standard defines the requirements for the designation of the object in IFC to aid interoperability of the BIM object between different BIM applications. See Appendix A for the available IfcElementType and PredefinedType from the IFC4 schema.

3.1.1 IFC type

The BIM object shall be designated the appropriate IfcElementType and PredefinedType, see clause 4.3.2.

3.2 Object classification

This sub-section of the standard defines the requirements for the classification of the BIM object. Due to the proliferation of systems in use, it is likely that an object may need to support multiple classifications (addressed in Section 4 of this standard).

3.2.1 Classification system

The object should be classified using a system(s) that reflects those of the jurisdiction where the object is intended for use.

The classification code should be as specific to the object type as possible, see clause 4.6.1.

3.2.2 Hard-coded classification

BIM objects can be classified using the BIM authoring system’s hard-coded assembly code (or costing code) and keynote code.
4.0 Object Properties & Property Grouping

This section of the standard defines the properties that should be assigned to a BIM object. It also discusses the grouping of properties and the assignment of properties to object types or object instances.

4.1 General object property requirements

This sub-section of the standard defines the general rules for properties associated with BIM objects including the requirements for using non-conforming hard-coded properties within BIM authoring applications.

4.1.1 Provision of properties

Properties can either be embedded within the object or linked via a unique link to an external database.

4.1.2 Extent of properties

Only properties that are deemed necessary to adequately define the object for its intended BIM use(s), and to provide for object interoperability between BIM applications, shall be provided.

4.1.3 Duplication of properties

An object shall not include duplicate occurrences of a property. Where an identical property, either in name or in description/value requirement, exists in multiple sources (for example, IFC and COBie), only include a single occurrence of that property.

IFC properties shall take precedence over properties from other sources.

4.1.4 Hard-coded properties

Hard-coded properties within the BIM authoring system shall be used. Where necessary, hard-coded properties shall be mapped to their corresponding IFC properties at export, see clause 7.2.

4.1.5 Proprietary and generic object properties

Proprietary objects shall, as a minimum, include the same properties as those provided for a generic object of the same object type and subtype.

4.1.6 Property values

Property values shall be completed where known.

Proprietary objects shall have all Type property values completed, see clause 4.2.1. Property values can be completed with:

- A fixed value, where only one value is available or a decision has been made on which value is required, for example, 6000.
- A value range, where a bounded range of values are available and a decision has not been made on which value is required. The lower and upper bound of the available range shall be separated by a hyphen, for example, 100 – 600.
- An enumerated value, where a number of values are available from a defined list of enumerators and a decision has not been made on which value is required. Each available enumerator shall be separated by a comma, for example, X, Y, Z.
- A formula, if the value is reliant on the value of another property.
- Property values shall not:
  - Finish with a full stop (.)
  - Include units, unless specifically required to do so in the property description.

4.1.7 Property units

Units shall be metric unless specified otherwise by local requirements.
4.1.8 Property data type
Properties shall have their data type defined using ANSI SQL data types, selected from the following list:

- Character (Text, String) – for fields requiring alpha numeric or text values.
- Integer – for fields requiring whole numbers.
- Decimal (Number, Currency) – for fields requiring decimal numbers.
- Date – for fields requiring a date in the format year-month-day (YYYY-MM-DD).
- Boolean (Yes/No, True/False) – for fields requiring a choice from two options.
- Hyperlink (URL) – a character field where values are links represented as www.website.domain/path.

If a data type listed above is not available, or a more specific hard-coded data type is available, within the BIM authoring system being used, use the most appropriate hard-coded data type. For example, if there is no Date data type, use a Character type and enter the date in the correct format.

4.1.9 Assembly properties
Assemblies shall not have properties assigned to the assembly itself.
All properties shall be assigned to the objects contained within the assembly.

4.2 Object type or instance properties
This sub-section of the standard discusses the concept of properties being type properties or instance properties.

Type objects represent defined specifications of physical elements. The type information contained on the object is common for all instances of the object.
An instance of an object is a unique placement of a type object in a model. An Instance object can contain unique information such as serial numbers and installation or commissioning information.

4.2.1 Type properties
A property that has a consistent value for all instances of that object type shall be treated as a Type property. Values for Type properties of library objects can be pre-completed.

4.2.2 Instance properties
A property that requires a value that is specific to the instance of that object type shall be treated as an Instance property. Values for Instance properties of library objects cannot be pre-completed.

4.3 IFC properties
This sub-section of the standard defines the IFC properties to be assigned to a BIM object.

4.3.1 IFC for interoperability
To provide for greater interoperability of objects and models between different BIM applications, all objects shall include properties from the buildingSMART IFC4 (Addendum 2) schema that directly correspond to that object type.

4.3.2 IFC object designation properties
The object shall include a property named ‘IfcExportAs’, with the value completed with the relevant IfcElementType from IFC4 (Add 2). For example, ‘IfcPile’, for a pile foundation.

The object shall include a property named ‘IfcExportType’, with the value completed with the relevant PredefindedType, selected from the enumerated list available for the nominated IfcElementType. For example, ‘DRIVEN’, for a driven pile foundation.

Note: BIM authoring applications may automatically assign the ‘IfcExportAs’ and ‘IfcExportType’ properties, based on the in-built tools or templates used for modelling the object, see clause 5.2.1.
4.3.3 IFC proxy object designation

If a relevant IfcElementType does not exist in IFC4 (Add2), for the object being modelled, then the ‘IfcExportAs’ property shall be completed with ‘IfcBuildingElementProxy’ and the ‘IfcExportType’ property shall be completed with ‘USERDEFINED’.

When the IfcBuildingElementProxy has been nominated, the object shall include an additional property of ‘ElementType’, with the value completed with a descriptive name to define the object type.

4.3.4 IFC common properties

If an IFC common property set (Pset_XXXCommon) exists for the object type, the properties from that property set shall be included.

If no IFC common property set exists for the object type, the properties from the IFC Pset_BuildingElementProxyCommon property set shall be included.

4.3.5 Additional IFC properties

Additional properties and property sets from the IFC schema can be included, such as Quantity sets (Qto_) and environmental impact properties.

If a property in the IFC4 (Add2) schema addresses the same concept to that of a property proposed for inclusion, the IFC property shall be used.

4.4 Administration properties

This sub-section of the standard defines properties to be assigned to a BIM object that relate to the administration and management of the object.

4.4.1 Object admin properties

The set of properties in Table 4A shall be included for all objects.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Data type</th>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Type / Instance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CreatedBy</td>
<td>Name of the person, organisation or library provider that created the object.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>SupaObjects</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CreatedByURL</td>
<td>URL hyperlink to the object creator’s website.</td>
<td>Hyperlink</td>
<td><a href="http://www.SupaObjects.com">www.SupaObjects.com</a></td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ModifiedIssue</td>
<td>To record the last date of issue (version or revision) of the object.</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>2018-03-16.02</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4A – OBOS_Admin properties
### 4.5 Proprietary object properties

This sub-section of the standard defines properties to be assigned to a proprietary object.

#### 4.5.1 Manufacturer/Product identification properties

The sets of properties in Tables 4B and 4C shall be included for all objects that represent a proprietary manufacturer product (or may be used to do so in the future).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Data type</th>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Type / Instance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturer</td>
<td>Organisation that manufactured and/or assembled the product.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>SupaObjects</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ModelLabel</td>
<td>Descriptive model name of the product model (or product line) as assigned by the manufacturer.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>Solid Timber Door</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ModelReference</td>
<td>Model number or designator of the product model (or product line) as assigned by the manufacturer.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>D130ST</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ArticleNumber</td>
<td>Article number or reference that is be applied to a configured product according to a standard scheme for article number definition as defined by the manufacturer. It is often used as the purchasing number.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>D130ST2100X800</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GlobalTradeItemNumber</td>
<td>Global Trade Item Number (GTIN) is an identifier for trade items developed by GS1 (<a href="http://www.gs1.org">www.gs1.org</a>).</td>
<td>Integer</td>
<td>00012345600012</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ProductionYear</td>
<td>Year of production of the manufactured product.</td>
<td>Integer</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Type or Instance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AssemblyPlace</td>
<td>Enumeration defining where the assembly is intended to take place, either in a factory or on the building site.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>FACTORY, OFFSITE, SITE, OTHER, NOT KNOWN, UNSET*</td>
<td>Type or Instance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Permissible enumerators

Table 4B – Pset_ManufacturerTypeInformation properties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Data type</th>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Type / Instance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ManufacturerURL</td>
<td>URL hyperlink to the manufacturer’s website.</td>
<td>Hyperlink</td>
<td><a href="http://www.SupaDoors.com">www.SupaDoors.com</a></td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ProductURL</td>
<td>URL hyperlink to further product information, such as technical documentation or installation guides.</td>
<td>Hyperlink</td>
<td><a href="http://www.SupaDoors.com/D130ST">www.SupaDoors.com/D130ST</a></td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4C – OBOS_Manufacturer properties
4.6 Classification properties
This sub-section of the standard defines properties to be assigned to an object to classify the object type. As there is no universally adopted classification system, this sub-section allows for the application of multiple classification systems.

4.6.1 Classification system properties
Multiple classification systems can be assigned to an object by including the set of properties in Table 4D for each classification required.

NOTE: Substitute <ClassificationSystemName> in the property name for the required classification system and table designation, if applicable. For example, OmniclassTable23. Examples in Table 4D have used Omniclass Table 23.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Data type</th>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Type / Instance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;ClassificationSystemName&gt;Code</td>
<td>Required classification code.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>23-17-11-00</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;ClassificationSystemName&gt;Title</td>
<td>Required classification title.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>Doors</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;ClassificationSystemName&gt;Version</td>
<td>Published version of the classification system.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>2012-05-16</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4D – OBOS_Classification properties

4.7 Construction specification properties
This sub-section of the standard defines properties to be assigned to an object to link an object to relevant construction specification information.

4.7.1 Specification linking properties
To provide for linking the object to construction specification information, the set of properties in Table 4E can be included.

NOTE: Substitute <SpecificationSystem> in the property name for the required specification system or project specification.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Data type</th>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Type / Instance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;SpecificationSystem&gt;Code</td>
<td>Specification clause or section code/reference.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>0453</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;SpecificationSystem&gt;Title</td>
<td>Specification clause or section title.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>Doors and access panels</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;SpecificationSystem&gt;Version</td>
<td>Published version of the classification system.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>Oct-18</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4E – OBOS_Specification properties

4.8 Asset/Facilities management properties
This sub-section of the standard defines properties to be assigned to an object for ongoing asset or facilities management purposes.

4.8.1 Asset properties
Where the recording of asset data for asset/facilities management purposes is a requirement, the sets of properties in tables 4F, 4G and 4H should be included.
### Table 4F – Pset_ManufacturerOccurrence properties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Data type</th>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Type / Instance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AcquisitionDate</td>
<td>Date that the manufactured product was purchased.</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>2018-03-16</td>
<td>Instance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BarCode</td>
<td>Bar code given to an occurrence of the product.</td>
<td>Integer</td>
<td>9781119060055</td>
<td>Instance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SerialNumber</td>
<td>Serial number assigned to an occurrence of a product.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>P345</td>
<td>Instance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BatchReference</td>
<td>Identity of the batch reference from which an occurrence of a product is taken.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>P345-20180214</td>
<td>Instance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 4G – Pset_Warranty properties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Data type</th>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Type / Instance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WarrantyIdentifier</td>
<td>Identifier assigned to a warranty.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>D130ST5135</td>
<td>Type or Instance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WarrantyStartDate</td>
<td>Date on which the warranty commences.</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>2018-03-18</td>
<td>Instance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WarrantyEndDate</td>
<td>Date on which the warranty expires.</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>2020-03-18</td>
<td>Instance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IsExtendedWarranty</td>
<td>Indication of whether this is an extended warranty whose duration is greater than that normally assigned to a product.</td>
<td>Boolean</td>
<td>TRUE or FALSE*</td>
<td>Instance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WarrantyPeriod</td>
<td>Time duration during which a manufacturer or supplier guarantees or warrants the performance of a product.</td>
<td>Integer</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WarrantyContent</td>
<td>Content of the warranty.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>Product and installation</td>
<td>Type or Instance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PointOfContact</td>
<td>Organisation that should be contacted for action under the terms of the warranty.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>SupaDoors</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exclusions</td>
<td>Items, conditions or actions that may be excluded from the warranty or that may cause the warranty to become void.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>Vandalism</td>
<td>Type or Instance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Permissible enumerators

### Table 4H – Pset_ServiceLife properties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Data type</th>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Type / Instance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ServiceLifeDuration</td>
<td>Length or duration of a service life. A lower bound indicates pessimistic service life, an upper bound indicates optimistic service life, and a single value indicates the typical service life. Suggested units = Years.</td>
<td>Integer</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Type or Instance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MeanTimeBetweenFailure</td>
<td>Average time duration between instances of failure of a product. Suggested units = Years.</td>
<td>Integer</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Type or Instance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Permissible enumerators
4.8.2 COBie properties

The COBie properties in Tables 4J and 4K can be included, if the recording of COBie data is required. Do not include any duplicate properties from Tables 4J and 4K if also using properties from Tables 4F, 4G and 4H.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Data type</th>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Type / Instance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Unique human readable name for object type.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>Door</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Unique identifier of the object within an external source (classification, document or library). It may be human readable (such as a classification code) or not (such as a GUID) depending on the context of its usage (which has to be determined by local agreement).</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>23-17-11-00</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Concise description of the object.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>Solid pine timber door</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AssetType</td>
<td>Identifies the predefined types of asset from which the type required may be set.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>FIXED or MOVABLE*</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturer</td>
<td>Email address of the organisation that manufactured and/or assembled the product.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@SupaDoors.com">info@SupaDoors.com</a></td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ModelNumber</td>
<td>Model number or designator of the product model (or product line) as assigned by the manufacturer.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>D130ST</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WarrantyGuarantorParts</td>
<td>Email address for organisation responsible for parts warranty.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@SupaDoors.com">info@SupaDoors.com</a></td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WarrantyDurationParts</td>
<td>Duration of parts warranty.</td>
<td>Integer</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WarrantyGuarantorLabor</td>
<td>Email address for organisation responsible for labour warranty.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@SupaDoors.com">info@SupaDoors.com</a></td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WarrantyDurationLabor</td>
<td>Duration of labour warranty.</td>
<td>Integer</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WarrantyDurationUnit</td>
<td>Units used to record warranty durations. Suggested units = Years.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>Years</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ReplacementCost</td>
<td>Cost to replace product.</td>
<td>Decimal</td>
<td>1000.00</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ExpectedLife</td>
<td>Expected serviceable life of product.</td>
<td>Integer</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DurationUnit</td>
<td>Units used to record expected life duration. Suggested units = Years.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>Years</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WarrantyDescription</td>
<td>Concise description of warranty content and any items, conditions or actions that are excluded from warranty or that will cause the warranty to become void.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>Product and installation</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Data type</td>
<td>Example</td>
<td>Type / Instance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NominalLength</td>
<td>Typically the primary or larger of the two perpendicular horizontal dimensions of the product.</td>
<td>Integer</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NominalWidth</td>
<td>Typically the secondary or smaller of the two perpendicular horizontal dimensions of the product.</td>
<td>Integer</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NominalHeight</td>
<td>Typically the vertical characteristic dimension of the product.</td>
<td>Integer</td>
<td>2100</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ModelReference</td>
<td>Descriptive model name of the product model (or product line) as assigned by the manufacturer.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>Solid pine timber door</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shape</td>
<td>Characteristic shape of the product.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>Rectangular</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Size</td>
<td>Characteristic size of the product.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>Large</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Color</td>
<td>Characteristic colour of the product.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finish</td>
<td>Specification of surface finish.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>Gloss paint</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade</td>
<td>Standard grading(s) to which the product corresponds.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>Internal</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Material</td>
<td>Characteristic material of which the product is manufactured.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>Pine</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constituents</td>
<td>Details of various parts of the product.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>Solid panel door</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Features</td>
<td>Primary features or important characteristics of the product.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>Single leaf</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AccessibilityPerformance</td>
<td>Accessibility issue(s) that product satisfies.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>Automated</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CodePerformance</td>
<td>Code compliance requirement(s) that product satisfies.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>Fire rated</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SustainabilityPerformance</td>
<td>Sustainability issue(s) that product satisfies.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>Recycled timber</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Permissible enumerators

Table 4J – COBie_Type properties
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Data type</th>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Type / Instance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SerialNumber</td>
<td>Serial number assigned to an occurrence of a product.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>D130ST2100X800</td>
<td>Instance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>InstallationDate</td>
<td>Date that the manufactured product was installed.</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>2018-03-18</td>
<td>Instance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WarrantyStartDate</td>
<td>Date on which the warranty commences.</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>2018-03-18</td>
<td>Instance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TagNumber</td>
<td>Tag identifier (number or label) for the instance of a product or equipment at installation.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>D456</td>
<td>Instance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BarCode</td>
<td>Bar code given to the instance of a product.</td>
<td>Integer</td>
<td>9781119060055</td>
<td>Instance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AssetIdentifier</td>
<td>Alternative identifier for specific component, used as defined by contract.</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>D456-C</td>
<td>Instance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4K – COBie_Component properties

### 4.9 Product performance properties

This sub-section of the standard provides for properties relating to product performance or compliance to assigned to the object.

#### 4.9.1 Product declaration/certification properties

Where a statutory product declaration template (PDT), product technical statement (PTS), appraisal, certification or similar exists for the physical element, the object shall include the set of properties included in Table 4L.

NOTE: Substitute `<TechnicalDocument>` in the property name for the name of the technical document, for example, CodeMark.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Data type</th>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Type / Instance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Table 4L – OBOS_Technical properties

#### 4.9.2 Technical performance properties

The object can include properties for items scheduled within the technical documents nominated in Table 4L, if required for the intended BIM use of the object.
4.10 Property grouping (Property sets)

This sub-section of the standard defines the requirements for grouping properties into property sets and the use of property sets. This is to facilitate the metadata being in a format consistent with IFC. Not all BIM authoring systems fully support the concept of property sets in their BIM objects, for example Revit only allows the user to assign object properties to hard-coded groups. However, the shared parameter file in Revit does assign a group to each property, which is an equivalent concept to property sets.

4.10.1 Property grouping requirements

Properties shall be grouped together into property sets (groups) for ease of property management, navigation and display.

Property sets shall be named in accordance with clause 2.4.

Properties shall be grouped logically and consistently, across all objects, based on their source and intended use/function.

If user edited/created property sets are not supported in the BIM authoring system being used, properties shall be assigned to the most relevant hard-coded property group within the BIM authoring system.

4.10.2 IFC property sets

IFC properties shall be grouped in their relevant IFC property sets (Pset_’s and Qto_’s).

4.10.3 Source of properties

Properties from any source other than IFC, shall be grouped in a property set, named to clearly identify the source of the properties. For example, COBie_, ANZRS_.

If user edited/created property sets are not supported in the BIM authoring system being used, a suffix can be added to each property name to identify its source, see clause 2.3.4.
5.0 Graphical/Geometric Object Modelling

This section of the standard defines the generic modelling requirements for the graphical element of the BIM object.

5.1 Object graphical detail

This sub-section of the standard discusses the graphical requirements for generic and proprietary objects.

5.1.1 Generic objects

Generic objects shall be visually recognisable as the object type they represent and dimensions shall represent the extent of the object and its connectivity.

Generic objects can include sufficient geometric detail for coordination purposes or to create a visualisation of the object and envisage its operation and use.

5.1.2 Proprietary objects

Proprietary objects shall be visually recognisable as the physical element they represent and critical dimensions shall be accurate for coordination purposes.

Proprietary objects can include sufficient geometric detail to create a visualisation of the object and envisage its operation and use.

5.2 Geometric modelling requirements

This sub-section of the standard discusses the requirements for creating the geometric BIM object, including requirements for the insertion point, units, scale, tools to be used, dimensioning and labelling.

5.2.1 Modelling tools

The object shall be modelled using the corresponding or most appropriate tool/template from within the BIM authoring system.

Consideration shall be given to the tool/template selected in regards to the IFC designation that will be assigned to the object, see clause 3.1.

5.2.2 Object origin point

The object origin point (or base point) shall be established for the BIM object, from which all object geometry will be set out.

Object origin points shall be consistent for identical or similar object types to allow for simple substitution of alternative BIM objects.

The object origin point can correspond to the insertion point of the object, see clause 5.2.3.

5.2.3 Insertion points

An insertion point shall be established for the BIM object that logically represents the placement of the object in the project model.

Insertion points shall be consistent for identical or similar object types to allow for simple substitution of alternative BIM objects.

The insertion point should be located within the extent of the object.

Particular consideration shall be given to objects with parametric geometry to allow for the geometry of the object to change in the model environment and the object’s position to remain correct. For example, the insertion point of a column should be on its centreline to allow the column size to be changed, if necessary, without changing the position of the centreline of the column.

NOTE: BIM authoring systems usually require structural items to have their insertion point in the centroid of that element to aid any analytical calculations that the model may be used for.
5.2.4 Scale
The object shall be modelled at a scale of 1:1.

5.2.5 Units
Metric geometry in millimetres shall be used unless specified otherwise by local requirements or if the scale of the object being modelled would better suit metres or kilometres.

5.2.6 Fixed geometry
Fixed geometry shall be used where it is not intended for the object to be modifiable. For example, a proprietary object that is only available in one size.

5.2.7 Dimensioning
All dimensions shall be constrained to reference items, such as planes, lines or points, rather than directly to geometry.
Dimensions shall be derived automatically using the associative dimensioning functions within the BIM authoring system.
Dimensions should be located beyond the extents of the object geometry.
Dimensions shall not overlap and shall be clear to read.

5.2.8 Labels
All labels shall be constrained to reference items, such as planes, lines or points, rather than directly to geometry.
Labels that reflect information contained within the object metadata shall match such data.

5.2.9 Object colour
The default colour of grey can be used for objects that represent physical elements available in more than one colour.
Alternatively, a representative colour for the physical element can be used.

5.2.10 Drafting conventions
Visual drafting conventions such as line types, hatching and fill shall be utilised, using the relevant tools available within the BIM authoring system, to distinguish between different parts of the object and to show variances in depth of surface in different views.
Hatching should be assigned to the relevant materials, or part description, for the object, rather than added as 2D information.
Symbolic lines should be used in plan views, rather than solid geometry.
The use of arrays, formulas and voids when modelling the object should be kept to a minimum.
2D lines and symbols can be used to indicate items that may not be modelled or to complement the 3D geometric information, such as to indicate flow direction or tap operating direction.

5.2.11 Material assignment
Proprietary objects should have appropriate materials assigned to them to represent the physical element’s constituent materials.
Generic objects can have materials assigned to them.
5.3 What to model
This sub-section of the standard defines what should and shouldn’t be included in the geometric model of the object, such as maintenance zones, hidden content and other spatial requirements.

5.3.1 Pre-planning
The geometric modelling of the object shall be planned, including any parametric relationships, so as to consider what graphical detail is required/necessary and what information will be visible in different views.

Note: Small elements or non-critical elements of the object may not require modelling as these may impact model performance.

5.3.2 Detail
The object shall represent the form of the physical element’s external boundary without providing excessive or unnecessary detail.

Detail that would not be visible (or hidden), should not be modelled, unless required for the intended BIM use. For example, the face of a chest of drawers only need show the face of each drawer, the drawer itself shall not be modelled.

5.3.3 Connection points
Objects that are required to connect to other objects, such as a fan unit to a duct, shall have the relative position of their connection points accurately modelled.

5.3.4 Spatial requirements
Objects representing physical elements that have spatial requirements, such as clearance zones, operation zones or maintenance zones, shall also have such spatial requirements modelled.

The modelled spatial requirements shall have their visibility controlled, with the default being that the spatial zones are not visible.
6.0 Object Functionality

This section of the standard discusses the requirements for improving the functionality and performance of BIM objects so as not to detrimentally affect the performance of a model into which they may be placed.

6.1 Object performance

This sub-section of the standard measures to be taken to reduce the file size of BIM objects to improve model performance and reliability.

6.1.1 Purging

All unused or temporary modelling content, such as unused line types, reference items, images, construction lines or CAD content, shall be purged or deleted from the object when modelling is complete.

6.1.2 Saving and compressing

When the object modelling is complete, the file should be saved, using the ‘Save As’ function, with a different name to that used during its creation, to remove any temporary history data attached to the original file. Where supported by the BIM authoring system, the resulting file should also be compressed to minimise its size.

6.1.3 Testing

Objects shall be tested as appropriate to the intended function of the object, to ensure that they perform as intended.

6.2 Object relationships

This sub-section of the standard discusses the requirements for assemblies, nested objects and objects that are reliant on other objects to perform as expected.

6.2.1 Reliance

Objects shall be modelled so as not to be reliant on other objects, unless it is a specific requirement of that object type that it requires a host object, such as a wall mounted light fitting that would be reliant on a wall object.

Objects with parametric behaviour can be reliant on other object types, see clause 6.4.

6.2.2 Assemblies

Assemblies should only be created where it may be necessary or beneficial to represent the group of component objects collectively within the assembly, rather than as individual component objects.

Assemblies can include multiple objects.

6.2.3 Nested objects

Nested objects (objects embedded within objects) shall only be created where it may be necessary or beneficial to represent the component objects within the nested object individually from the nested object itself.

Nested objects shall be restricted to two levels (i.e. an object within an object within an object).

6.3 Visibility/Views

This sub-section of the standard discusses the requirements for the visibility of objects and their display views.

BIM authoring systems control object viewing in different ways, such as layers and subcategories, these need to managed to avoid a proliferation of views within models.

6.3.1 Thumbnails and previews

Thumbnail previews shall be set to a clear, appropriate and consistent view orientation and an appropriate size and resolution.

All reference items and dimensions shall not be visible in these images.
6.3.2 Object resolution

Provision for varying object resolution when viewing the object at different scales shall be provided and the graphical information displayed shall be controlled.

Three scales of resolution should be sufficient and shall be provided for each object as follows:

- Coarse: Typically used for low detail, low fidelity views, generally at a scale above 1:100. The geometry visible shall only be indicative of the physical element and can include symbolic 2D linework.
- Medium: Typically used for views at scales of 1:20 to 1:100. The geometry visible shall be sufficient to serve the purpose of representing the physical element.
- Fine: Typically used for highly detailed views, usually at scales of 1:1 to 1:20. The geometry visible can reflect the detailed geometry of the physical element.

6.3.3 View control

Views shall be named in accordance with clause 2.6.

Objects shall be assigned, in a consistent and logical manner, to the appropriate view or views.

6.4 Parametric behaviour

This sub-section of the standard discusses the requirements for creating objects with parametric behaviour.

6.4.1 Functional behaviour

Parametric objects that are reliant upon host objects in/on which they are placed, shall be created with the specific functionality to manipulate the host object, or vice versa, as necessary to suit their purpose. Such as a parametric window object that shall be modelled so as to create a corresponding void in the wall object into which it would be placed or alternatively if the wall thickness changed the window dimension would adjust to suit.

6.4.2 Geometric behaviour

Parametric objects shall be created when an object can represent geometrical variants of an object type.

The parametric capability of the object shall be limited to the available variants of the physical element it represents. For example, if a physical element is available in 4 different lengths, limit the parametric length function of the object to those 4 available lengths.

6.4.3 Multiple IFC types

Objects shall not be created with parametric capability to allow the object to represent multiple IfcElementType’s. For example, do not create one object that can represent a bath and also represent a sink, as these objects are represented by different IfcElementType’s.

In this situation duplicate parametric objects shall be created and assigned the corresponding IfcElementType, one to represent each IfcElementType required. For example, one to represent a parametric bath and one to represent a parametric sink.

6.4.4 Reference items

When modelling objects with parametric geometry, the parametric behaviour shall be controlled by reference items such as planes, lines or points.

6.4.5 Use limitation

The use of parametric behaviour shall be limited to that deemed necessary, or required, to avoid over-constraining the functionality of the object.
7.0 Import, Export and Linking

This section of the standard discusses methods of importing properties and content into a BIM object and also any requirements for the preparation of a BIM object for export.

7.1 Importing information

This sub-section of the standard discusses the requirements and recommendations for the import of information (graphical or non-graphical) into the BIM object. Imported geometry can limit functionality and parametric capability, increase possibility of file corruption and cause increased object file sizes.

7.1.1 Geometric information

Where possible, native geometry within the BIM authoring system should be used.

Geometry can be imported from other authoring systems or sources, but should only be used for temporary modelling purposes and removed when no longer required, see clause 6.1.1.

7.1.2 External data sets

Data sets (properties and property sets) can be imported into objects.

Imported data sets shall be in accordance with the data requirements of this standard.

7.2 Exporting BIM objects

This sub-section of the standard discusses the requirements and recommendations for the preparation of BIM objects for export to other BIM applications, such as the requirements for mapping non-conforming hard-coded properties from the BIM authoring system to the correct IFC property.

7.2.1 IFC assignment

The properties of ‘IfcExportAs’ and ‘IfcExportType’ shall be checked and values completed before object export, see clause 4.3.2.

7.2.2 Mapping of hard-coded properties

Where a hard-coded property is identical in description/value requirement to a defined IFC property, but does not identically reflect the name of the corresponding IFC property, then that hard-coded property shall be mapped to the corresponding IFC property at export.

Note: Some BIM authoring systems will automatically map hard-coded properties to the relevant IFC properties.

7.2.3 External data sets

An object can be linked to external data sets. Any properties required by downstream BIM uses/applications shall be natively stored on the object at or prior to export, unless such downstream BIM applications can also access the corresponding data sets.

7.2.4 Test export

Objects shall be tested to ensure export results are as intended.
### 8.0 Definitions & Glossary

*This section of the standard provides definitions and terms used in the standard.*

For the purposes of this standard, the following definitions apply:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANSI SQL</td>
<td>A specification describing the official features of the SQL database language. Every variant of SQL relational databases implements a subset of ANSI SQL.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assemblies</td>
<td>A named aggregation of BIM objects that form another object or functional unit.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Associative Dimensioning</td>
<td>A function of a BIM authoring system that automatically updates the value of a dimension when changes occur to the geometry of the object.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIM Authoring System</td>
<td>An application used for generating data for multiple uses that includes 3D geometric information. EXAMPLES: Autodesk® Revit®, Bentley® AECOsim®, Graphisoft® ArchiCAD®, Nemetschek® Vectorworks® and Tekla® Structures.</td>
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<tr>
<td>COBie</td>
<td>Construction Operation Buildings information exchange. A representation of a handover view of the IFC schema, typically seen as a spreadsheet. (ISO 15686-4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field</td>
<td>A data field is a place where data is stored. Commonly used to refer to a column in a database or a field in a data entry form or web form. It is generally the smallest component under which data is captured. This standard applies the concept of fields to the components of a name (property/file/view) which stores a specific piece of information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Generic Object</td>
<td>A generic representation of the common features and properties of a physical element, intended for use in the early stages of design or when the object is not resolved into a product.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hard-coded</td>
<td>A field that is coded into a software user interface where the user has no ability to change the field name.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFC</td>
<td>Industrial Foundation Classes (ISO 16739). An open file format developed and maintained by buildingSMART for the exchange of information enhanced models.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Insertion Point</td>
<td>The point on an object used to place it into a model.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Layered Objects</td>
<td>An object typically constructed from one or more layers of materials to form a building system. Typically these are “system” objects, provided by the BIM Authoring System without fixed geometry, where the user can modify the layers and thickness but the geometry is created on placement in the model.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>A collection of reusable BIM objects stored as separate files that are used to facilitate the use of standardised designed or manufactured elements and objects over a project or series of projects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metadata</td>
<td>The term for the collection of properties, names, or data associated with an object, element or file. (Can also be known as Attributes, Parameters and Properties).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Origin Point</td>
<td>A fixed point of reference for the geometry of the surrounding space defined as X, Y, and Z. Objects have an origin point that all other points in the object reference. A model has an origin point and objects placed in the model reference this.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parametric</td>
<td>The use of pre-programmed rules or algorithms to provide the user with the ability to change or configure objects during modelling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Property</strong></td>
<td>A characteristic, feature or measurable factor associated with an object that can help define the object (or system). (Can also be known as Attribute, Parameter or Metadata).</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Property Set</strong></td>
<td>A grouping of properties that belong together based on some principle, e.g. viewpoint, lifecycle stage. (ISO 15686-4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Proprietary Object</strong></td>
<td>A representation of the common features and properties of an obtainable product.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>View Control</strong></td>
<td>A function within the BIM Authoring System that controls which objects, or parts of objects, are visible at any time in a model. BIM Authoring Systems control object viewing in different ways, such as layers or subcategories.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix A - IfcElementType and PredefinedType enumerator listing

This appendix to the OBOS provides a list of the IfcElementType’s, and their associated PredefinedType list of enumerators, from the IFC4 (Add 2) schema. The list below can be used to designate the BIM object in IFC, in accordance with clause 3.1.1 and clause 4.3.2 of the OBOS. The IfcElementType’s are listed in bold formatted text below, immediately followed by the available PredefinedType enumerators for that IfcElementType in CAPITAL letters. The IfcElementType shall be used as the value for the ‘IfcExportAs’ property and the PredefinedType shall be used for the ‘IfcExportType’ property. For the example of a Steam Boiler, the value for the ‘IfcExportAs’ property would be ‘IfcBoiler’ and the value for the ‘IfcExportType’ property would be ‘STEAM’.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IfcActuator</th>
<th>IfcAirTerminalBox</th>
<th>IfcAirTerminal</th>
<th>IfcAirToAirHeatRecovery</th>
<th>IfcBuildingElementPart</th>
<th>IfcBuildingElementProxy</th>
<th>IfcBuildingSystem</th>
<th>IfcBurner</th>
<th>IfcAudioVisualAppliance</th>
<th>IfcCableCarrierFitting</th>
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<td>FENESTRATION</td>
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IfcCommunicationsAppliance
ANTENNA
COMPUTER
FAX
GATEWAY
MODEM
NETWORKAPPLIANCE
NETWORKBRIDGE
NETWORKHUB
PRINTER
REPEATER
ROUTER
SCANNER
NOTDEFINED
USERDEFINED

IfcCompressor
BOOSTER
DYNAMIC
HERMETIC
OPENTYPE
RECIPIROCATING
ROLLINGPiston
ROTARY
ROTARYVANE
SCROLL
SEMINDERMIC
SINGLEScrew
SINGLESTAGE
TROCHOIDAL
TWINScrew
WELDEDSHELLHERMETIC
NOTDEFINED
USERDEFINED

IfcCovering
CEILING
CLADDING
FLOORING
INSULATION
MEMBRANE
MOLDING
NOTDEFINED
ROOFING
SKIRTINGBOARD
SLEEVING
WRAPPING
USERDEFINED

IfcCurtainWall
NOTDEFINED
USERDEFINED

IfcDamper
BACKDRAFTDAMPER
BALANCINGDAMPER
BLASTDAMPER
CONTROLDAMPER
FIREDAMPER
FIRESMOKEEXHAUST
FUMEOODDEXHAUST
GRAVITYDAMPER
GRAVITYRELIEFDAMPER
RELIEFDAMPER
SMOKEEXHAUST
NOTDEFINED
USERDEFINED

IfcDiscreteAccessory
ANCHORPLATE
BRACKET
SHOE
NOTDEFINED
USERDEFINED

IfcDistributionChamberElement
FORMEDDUCT
INSPECTIONCHAMBER
INSPECTIONPIT
MANHOLE
METERCHAMBER
SUMP
TRENCH
VALVECHAMBER
NOTDEFINED
USERDEFINED

IfcDistributionPort
CABLE
CABLECARRIER
DUCT
PIPE
NOTDEFINED
USERDEFINED

IfcDistributionSystem
AIRCONDITIONING
AUDIOVISUAL
CHEMICAL
CHILLEDWATER
COMMUNICATION
COMPRESSEDAIR
CONDENSERWATER
CONTROL
CONVEYING
DATA
DISPOSAL
DOMESTICCOOLWATER
DOMESTICHEATWATER
DRAINAGE
EARTHING
ELECTRICAL
ELECTROACOUSTIC
EXHAUST
FIREPROTECTION
FUEL
GAS
HAZARDOUS
HEATING
LIGHTING
LIGHTNINGPROTECTION
MUNICIPALSOLIDWASTE
OIL
OPERATIONAL
POWERGENERATION
RAINWATER
REFRIGERATION
SECURITY
SEWAGE
SIGNAL
STORMWATER
TELEPHONE
TV
VACUUM
VENT
VENTILATION
WASTEWATER
WATERSUPPLY
NOTDEFINED
USERDEFINED

IfcDoor
DOOR
GATE
TRAPDOOR
NOTDEFINED

IfcDuctFitting
BEND
MULTIPOSITION
PROGRAMMABLE
PROPORTIONAL
TWOPOSITION
NOTDEFINED
USERDEFINED

IfcDuctSegment
FLEXIBLESEGMENT
RIGIDSEGMENT
NOTDEFINED
USERDEFINED

IfcDuctSilencer
FLATVALVE
RECTANGULAR
ROUND
NOTDEFINED
USERDEFINED
IfcElectricAppliance
- DISHWASHER
- ELECTRICCOOKER
- FREESTANDINGELECTRICHEATER
- FREESTANDINGFAN
- FREESTANDINGWATERCOOLER
- FREESTANDINGWATERHEATER
- FREEZER
- FRIDGE_FREEZER
- HANDDRYER
- KITCHENMACHINE
- MICROWAVE
- PHOTOCOPIER
- REFRIGERATOR
- TUMBLEDRYER
- VENDINGMACHINE
- WASHINGMACHINE
- NOTDEFINED
- USERDEFINED

IfcElectricDistributionBoard
- CONSUMERUNIT
- DISTRIBUTIONBOARD
- MOTORCONTROLCENTRE
- SWITCHBOARD
- NOTDEFINED
- USERDEFINED

IfcElectricFlowStorageDevice
- BATTERY
- CAPACITORBANK
- HARMONICFILTER
- INDUCTORBANK
- UPS
- NOTDEFINED
- USERDEFINED

IfcElectricGenerator
- CHP
- ENGINEGENERATOR
- STANDALONE
- NOTDEFINED
- USERDEFINED

IfcElectricMotor
- DC
- INDUCTION
- POLYPHASE
- RELUCTANCESYNCHRONOUS
- SYNCHRONOUS
- NOTDEFINED
- USERDEFINED

IfcElectricTimeControl
- RELAY
- TIMECLOCK
- TIMEDELAY
- NOTDEFINED
- USERDEFINED

IfcEngine
- EXTERNALCOMBUSTION
- INTERNALCOMBUSTION
- NOTDEFINED
- USERDEFINED

IfcEvaporativeCooler
- DIRECTEVAPORATIVEPACKAGEDROTARYAIRCOOLER
- DIRECTEVAPORATIVERANDOMMEDIAAIRCOOLER
- DIRECTEVAPORATIVEVERTICALLYPACKAGEDAIRCOOLER
- INDIRECTDIRECTCOMBINATION
- INDIRECTEVAPORATIVECOOLINGTOWERORCOILCOOLER
- INDIRECTEVAPORATIVEPACKAGEAIRCOOLER
- INDIRECTEVAPORATIVEWETCOIL
- NOTDEFINED
- USERDEFINED

IfcEvaporator
- DIRECTEXPANSION
- DIRECTEXPANSIONBRAZEDPLATE
- DIRECTEXPANSIONSHELLANDTUBE
- DIRECTEXPANSIONTUBEINTUBE
- FLOODEDSHELLANDTUBE
- SHELLANDCOIL
- NOTDEFINED
- USERDEFINED

IfcFan
- CENTRIFUGALAIRFOIL
- CENTRIFUGALBACKWARDINCLINEDCURVED
- CENTRIFUGALFORWARDCURVED
- CENTRIFUGALRADIAL
- PROPELLORAXIAL
- TUBEAXIAL
- VANEXIAL
- NOTDEFINED
- USERDEFINED

IfcFastener
- GLUE
- MORTAR
- WELD
- NOTDEFINED
- USERDEFINED

IfcFilter
- AIRPARTICLEFILTER
- COMPRESSEDAIRFILTER
- ODOORFILTER
- OILFILTER
- STRAINER
- WATERFILTER
- NOTDEFINED
- USERDEFINED

IfcFireSuppressionTerminal
- BREECHINGINLET
- FIREHYDRANT
- HOSEREEL
- SPRINKLER
- SPRINKLERDEFLECTOR
- NOTDEFINED
- USERDEFINED

IfcFlowInstrument
- AMMETER
- FREQUENCYMETER
- PHASEANGLEMETER
- POWERFACTORMETER
- PRESSUREGAUGE
- THERMOMETER
- VOLTMETER_PEAK
- VOLTMETER_RMS
- NOTDEFINED

IfcFlowMeter
- ENERGYMETER
- GASMETER
- OILMETER
- WATERMETER
- NOTDEFINED
- USERDEFINED

IfcFooting
- CAISSON_FOUNDATION
- FOOTING_BEAM
- PAD_FOOTING
- PIPE_CAP
- STRIP_FOOTING
- NOTDEFINED
- USERDEFINED

IfcFurniture
- BED
- CHAIR
- DESK
- FILECABINET
- SHELF
- SOFA
- TABLE
- NOTDEFINED
- USERDEFINED

IfcGeographicElement
- TERRAIN
- NOTDEFINED
- USERDEFINED

IfcHeatExchanger
- PLATE
- SHELLANDTUBE
- NOTDEFINED
- USERDEFINED

IfcHumidifier
- ADIABATICAIR WASHER
- ADIABATICALOSMIZING
- ADIABATICCOMPRESSEDAIRNOZZLE
- ADIABATICPAN
- ADIABATICRIGIDMEDIA
- ADIABATICULTRASONIC
- ADIABATICWETTEDELEMENT
- ASSISTEDBUTANE
- ASSISTEDELECTRIC
- ASSISTEDNATURALGAS
- ASSISTEDPROPANE
- ASSISTEDSTEAM
- STEAMINJECTION
- NOTDEFINED
- USERDEFINED

IfcInterceptor
- CYCLONIC
- GREASE
- OIL
- PETROL
- NOTDEFINED
- USERDEFINED
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IfcRoof
BARREL_ROOF
BUTTERFLY_ROOF
DOME_ROOF
FLAT_ROOF
FREEFORM
GABLE_ROOF
GAMBREL_ROOF
HIP_ROOF
HIPPED_GABLE_ROOF
MANSARD_ROOF
PAVILION_ROOF
RAINBOW_ROOF
SHED_ROOF
NOTDEFINED
USERDEFINED

IfcSanitaryTerminal
BATH
BIDET
CISTERN
SANITARYFOUNTAIN
SHOWER
SINK
TOILETPAN
URINAL
WASHHANDBASIN
NOTDEFINED
USERDEFINED

IfcSensor
CO2SENSOR
CONDUCTANCESENSOR
CONTACTSENSOR
COSENSOR
FIRESENSOR
FLOWSENSOR
FROSTSENSOR
GASSENSOR
HEATSENSOR
HUMIDITYSENSOR
IDENTIFIERSSENSOR
IONCONCENTRATIONSENSOR
LEVELSENSOR
LIGHTSENSOR
MOISTURESENSOR
MOVEMENTSENSOR
PHSENSOR
PRESSURESENSOR
RADIATIONSENSOR
RADIOACTIVITYSENSOR
SMOKESENSOR
SOUNDSENSOR
TEMPERATURESENSOR
WINDSENSOR
NOTDEFINED
USERDEFINED

IfcShadingDevice
AWNING
JALOUSIE
SHUTTER
NOTDEFINED
USERDEFINED

IfcSlab
BASESLAB

IfcSpace
FLOOR
LANDING
ROOF
NOTDEFINED
USERDEFINED

IfcSpatialZone
CONSTRUCTION
FIRESAFETY
LIGHTING
OCCUPANCY
SECURITY
THERMAL
TRANSPORT
VENTILATION
NOTDEFINED
USERDEFINED

IfcStackTerminal
BIRDCAGE
COWL
RAINWATERHOPPER
NOTDEFINED
USERDEFINED

IfcStairFlight
CURVED
FREEFORM
SPIRAL
STRAIGHT
WINDER
NOTDEFINED
USERDEFINED

IfcStair
CURVED_RUN_STAIR
DOUBLE_RETURN_STAIR
HALF_TURN_STAIR
HALF_WINDING_STAIR
QUARTER_TURN_STAIR
QUARTER_WINDING_STAIR
SPIRAL_STAIR
STRAIGHT_RUN_STAIR
THREE_QUARTER_TURN_STAIR
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TWO_STRAIGHT_RUN_STAIR
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USERDEFINED

IfcSwitchingDevice
CONTACTOR
DIMMERSWITCH
EMERGENCYSTOP
KEYPAD
MOMENTARYSWITCH
SELECTORSWITCH
STARTER
SWITCHDISCONNECTOR
TOGGLESWITCH
NOTDEFINED
USERDEFINED

IfcSystemFurnitureElement
PANEL
WORKSURFACE
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IfcTank
BASEN
BREAKPRESSURE
EXPANSION
FEEDANDEXPANSION
PRESSUREVESSEL
STORAGE
VESSEL
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USERDEFINED

IfcTransformer
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FREQUENCY
INVERTER
RECTIFIER
VOLTAGE
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USERDEFINED

IfcTransportElement
CRANEWAY
ELEVATOR
ESCALATOR
LIFTINGGEAR
MOVINGWALKWAY
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USERDEFINED
IfcTubeBundle
FINNED
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USERDEFINED

IfcUnitaryControlElement
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CONTROLPANEL
GASDETECTIONPANEL
HUMIDISTAT
INDICATORPANEL
MIMICPANEL
THERMOSTAT
WEATHERSTATION
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USERDEFINED

IfcUnitaryEquipment
AIRCONDITIONINGUNIT
AIRHANDLER
DEHUMIDIFIER
ROOFTOPUNIT
SPLITSYSTEM
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IfcValve
AIRRELEASE
ANTIVACUUM
CHANGEOVER
CHECK
COMMISSIONING
DIVERGING
DOUBLECHECK
DOUBLEREGULATING
DRAWOFFCOCK
FAUCET
FLUSHING
GASCOCK
GASTAP
ISOLATING
MIXING
PRESSUREREDUCING
PRESSURERELIEF
REGULATING
SAFETYCUTOFF
STEAMTRAP
STOPCOCK
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USERDEFINED

IfcVibrationIsolator
COMPRESSION
SPRING
NOTDEFINED
USERDEFINED

IfcWall
MOVABLE
PARAPET
PARTITIONING
PLUMBINGWALL
POLYGONAL
SHEAR
SOLIDWALL
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USERDEFINED

IfcWasteTerminal
FLOORTRAP
FLOORWASTE
GULLYSUMP
GULLYTRAP
ROOFDRAIN
WASTEDISPOSALUNIT
WASTETRAP
NOTDEFINED
USERDEFINED

IfcWindow
LIGHTDOME
SKYLIGHT
WINDOW
NOTDEFINED
USERDEFINED
Open BIM Object standard

First published 2018 v1.0

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We welcome comments or suggestions for improvements to the Open BIM Object standard and encourage readers to notify us immediately of any apparent inaccuracies or ambiguities. Contact us via email at bim@natspec.com.au or bim@masterspec.co.nz.

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