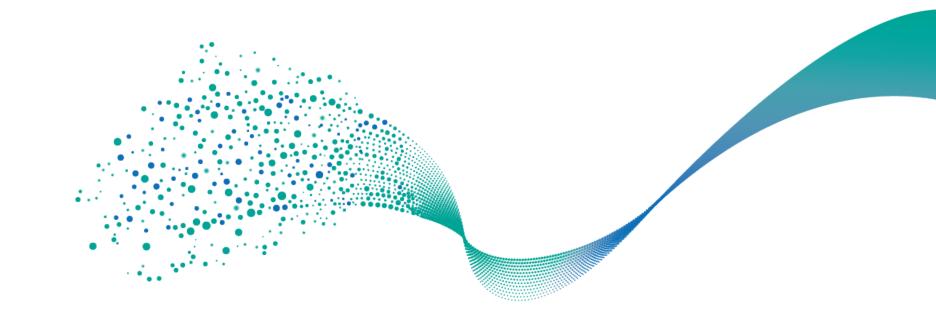


Extending the Digital Thread with Model-Based Characteristics (MBC) and QIF

DMSC Webinar 10/16/2026



Evan Kessick – Bio:



Evan KessickDirector of Model-Based Initiatives

- 18+ years working in engineering and design, 8+ GD&T Training/Mentoring
- Led and advised on MBD and MBE Implementations for 7 years
- Industry Standards Involvement:
 - ASME MBE Committee Chair
 - ASME MBE & Y14 Harmonization Committee Co-Chair
 - ASME Y14.41 Member
 - ASME Y14.5-2009 GDTP Senior Certified
 - Involved with the DMSC, and DEDMWG

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Daniel Campbell | Rubypoint



Daniel Campbell

President, Rubypoint Chair, QIF Working Group Member, DMSC Board of Directors Member, Technical Advisory Committee, MxD Member, ASME Y14 MBD Harmonization Committee

Previously: VP MBD, Capvidia; Director of Software, Metrosage



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器 Strategic MBE Consulting

Helping end users understand the landscape of MBD technology and unlock the roadmap to a successful MBD implementation.



CAD/MBE Software Services

Providing expert software development services in CAD, MBD, QIF, Characteristic Management, and beyond.

Agenda

Digital Gap Between Design and Downstream Domains

Extending the Digital
Thread with ModelBased Characteristics
(MBC) and QIF

Enabling Technology to Bridge Gap (MBD, MBC, QIF)

Types of Model-Based Characteristic

Bill of Characteristics (BoC)

Consumption Workflow Example

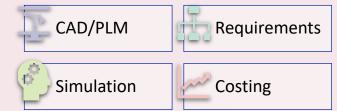




Digital Gap Between Design & Ops



Product Engineering



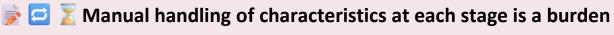




Metrology

CAM & Other

Process



Death

i Inconsistent processing of characteristics by personnel

🔌 🚫 🗆 No visibility of characteristics across enterprise



Digital Thread, MBD, and Characteristics

What is the Digital Thread?

- We have amazing, expert point technologies in narrow domains
- The Digital Thread is connecting these technologies to allow interactions

Enabling Technology

MBD is the data language for product data

> Characteristics: the atomic unit of data in an MBD

> > Semantic characteristics are the core building block for the digital thread

How To

- Don't think of the enabling technology in the abstract
- Identify use cases in detail – then we can understand the application of the technology





Model-Based Characteristics DMSC 2024

How should we track characteristics?

Besides the characteristic ID, what additional metadata should we track?

Model-Based Characteristics provides guidelines for thinking of characteristics as business objects.

Even though it addresses the model-based case directly, its principles can be applied broadly, even to drawing-based products.

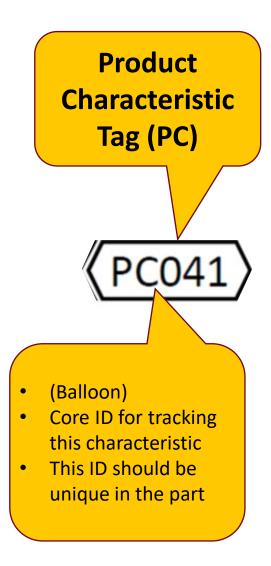




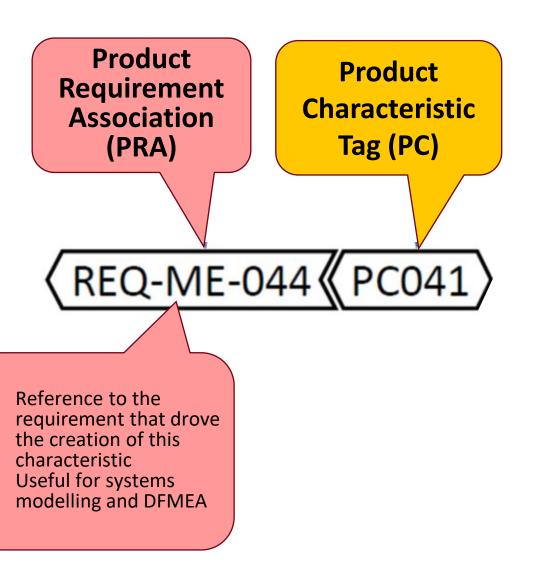
MBC Standard Overview

- Characteristics IDs (Balloons)
- Augmentations:
 - Criticality Classifications
 - Product Requirements Associations
 - Verification Plan Requirements

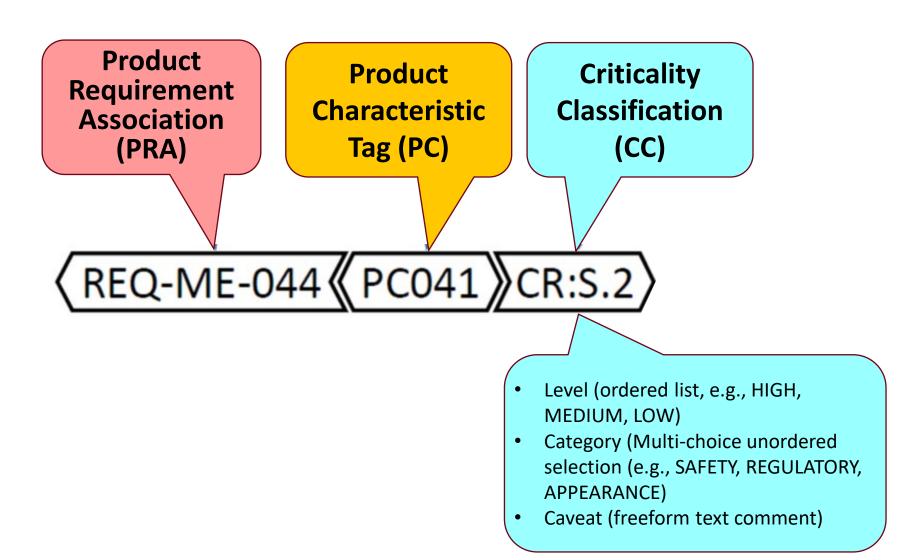




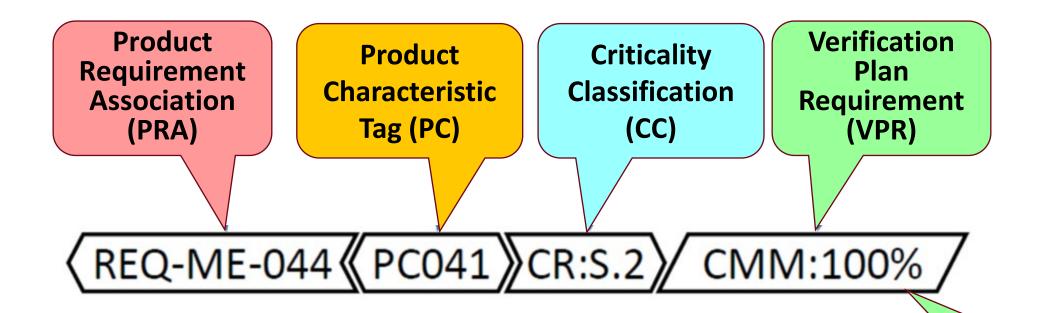












- Method (e.g., CMM, Caliper)
 - Alternative, too
- Context (e.g., FAI, Production)
- Sampling plan



Product
Requirement
Association
(PRA)

Product
Characteristic
Tag (PC)

Criticality
Classification
(CC)

Verification Plan Requirement (VPR)

REQ-ME-044 (PC041) CR:S.2 /

CMM:100%

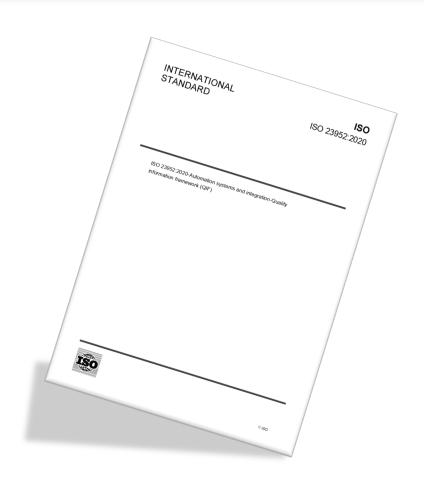
- Reference to the requirement that drove the creation of this characteristic
- Useful for systems modelling and DFMEA

- (Balloon)
- Core ID for tracking this characteristic
- This ID should be unique in the part
- Level (ordered list, e.g., HIGH, MEDIUM, LOW)
- Category (Multi-choice unordered selection (e.g., SAFETY, REGULATORY, APPEARANCE)
- Caveat (freeform text comment)

- Method (e.g., CMM, Caliper)
 - Alternative, too
- Context (e.g., FAI, Production)
- Sampling plan

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ISO 23952: QIF





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Features in QIF

An abstraction for referencing a portion of a part.

In MBD, this means:

A container for referencing one or more geometrical entities on the model

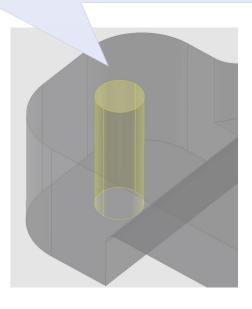
There are lots of feature types! Some examples:

- Cylinder
- Plane
- Cone
- Opposite Parallel Planes (slot)
- Freeform (generic)
- Circles

- Lines
- Ellipse
- Compound Features
- Pattern Features
- Etc.

This Cylinder feature is made up of 2 CAD surfaces. (Pretty typical.)

But the CAD's mathematical representation of this geometry is irrelevant – this is a functional hole and needs to be treated as such!

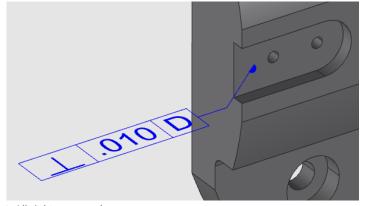


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Characteristics in QIF

A control or specification placed on a Feature.

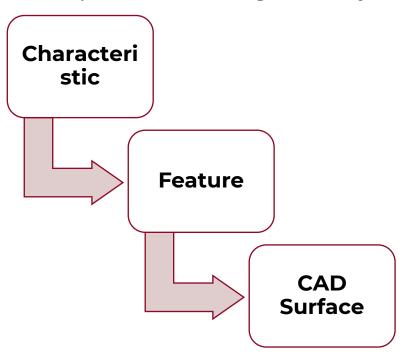
For example, a Tolerance, a Surface Finish, a Weld specification, etc.



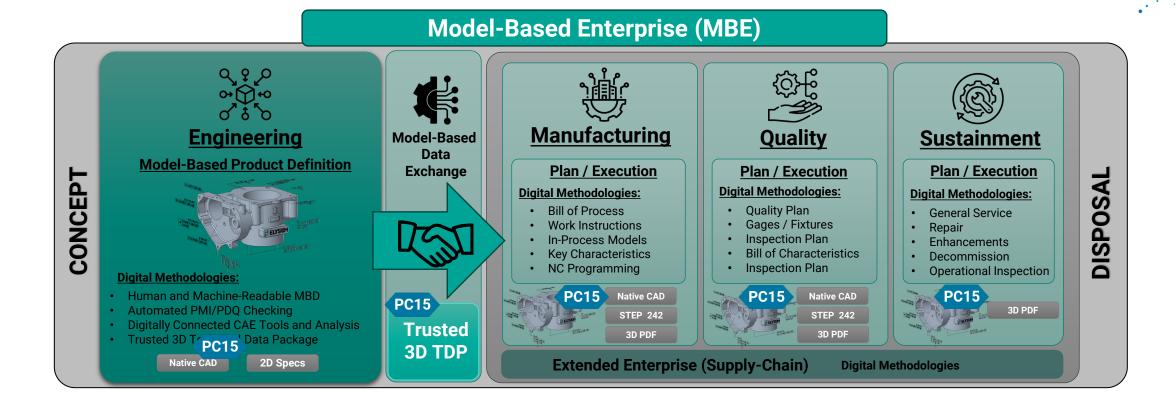
With QIF MBD, it is also possible for a Characteristic to have a 3D presentation element (e.g., an annotation). But that's for human consumption.

How is a Characteristic connected to the MBD?

A Characteristic points to a Feature, and a Feature points to CAD geometry.



Enterprise Technical Data Exchange

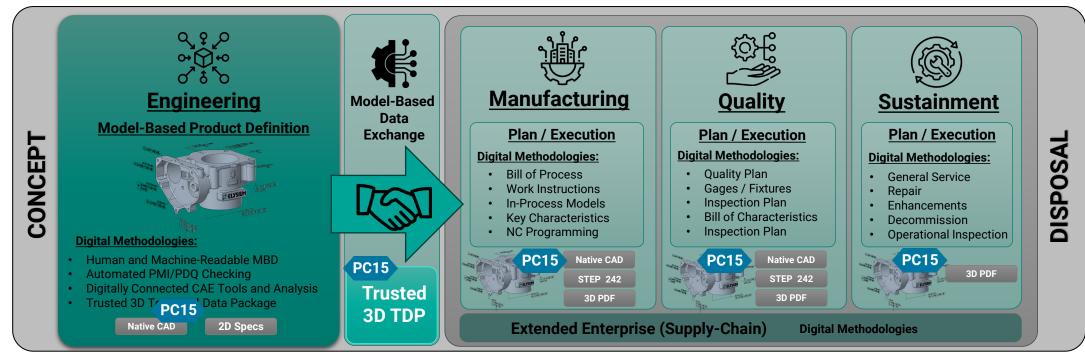




Enterprise Technical Data Exchange

■ Trusted 3D Data Package:

 A collection of <u>authorized</u>, <u>trusted</u> and <u>validated</u> model-based artifacts that communicate the <u>complete</u> technical description of a part that supports the <u>interoperability</u>, <u>traceability</u>, and <u>human-readability</u> of technical data across all enterprise consumption workflows.



Traceability of Model-Based Characteristics (MBC):

Characteristics

Human-Readable

Graphical Representation

<u>Interoperable</u>

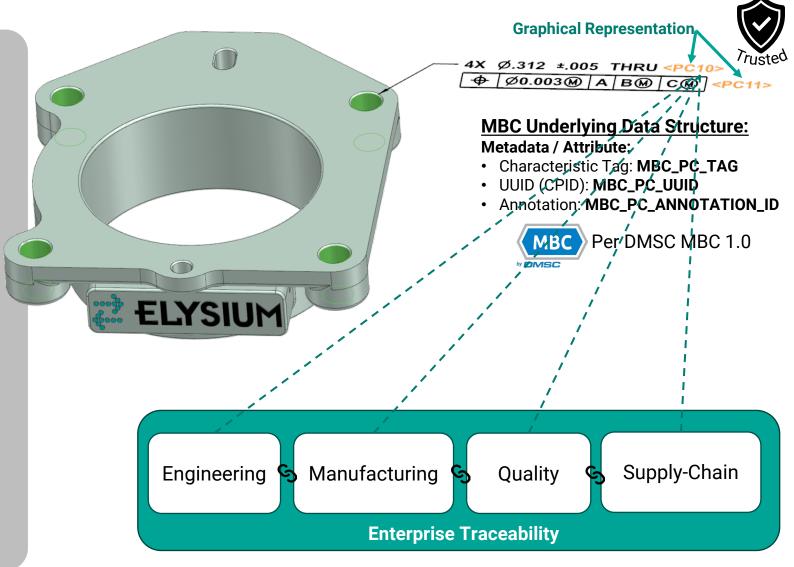
Metadata/Attribute Structure

Trusted

- Compliant to Standards
- Semantic Completeness
- Universally Unique
- Verified Through Checking

Traceable

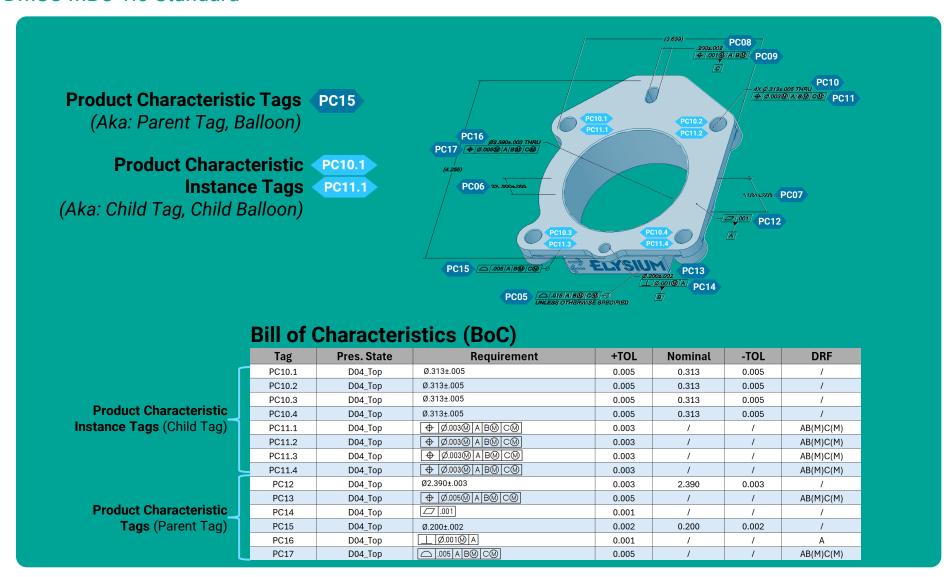
 Consumable and Supported by Software and System Providers Across the Enterprise





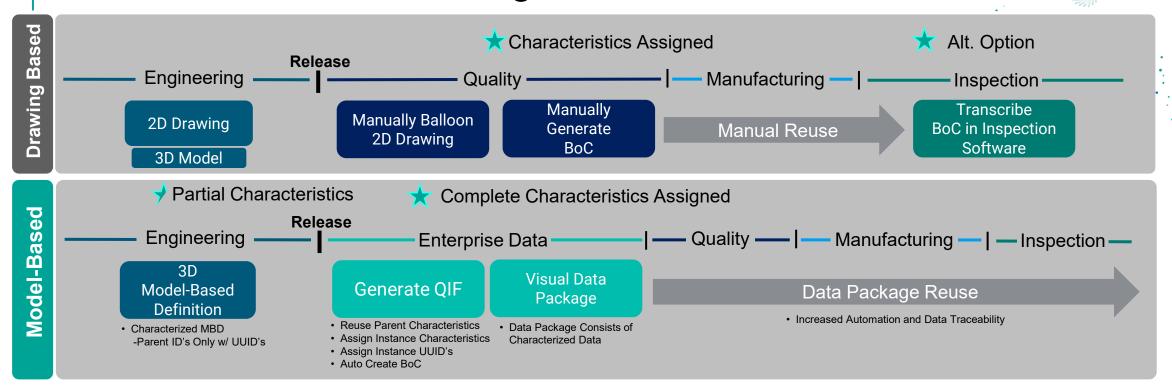
Types of Model-Based Characteristic (MBC)

Per DMSC MBC 1.0 Standard





Characteristic/Balloon Assignments

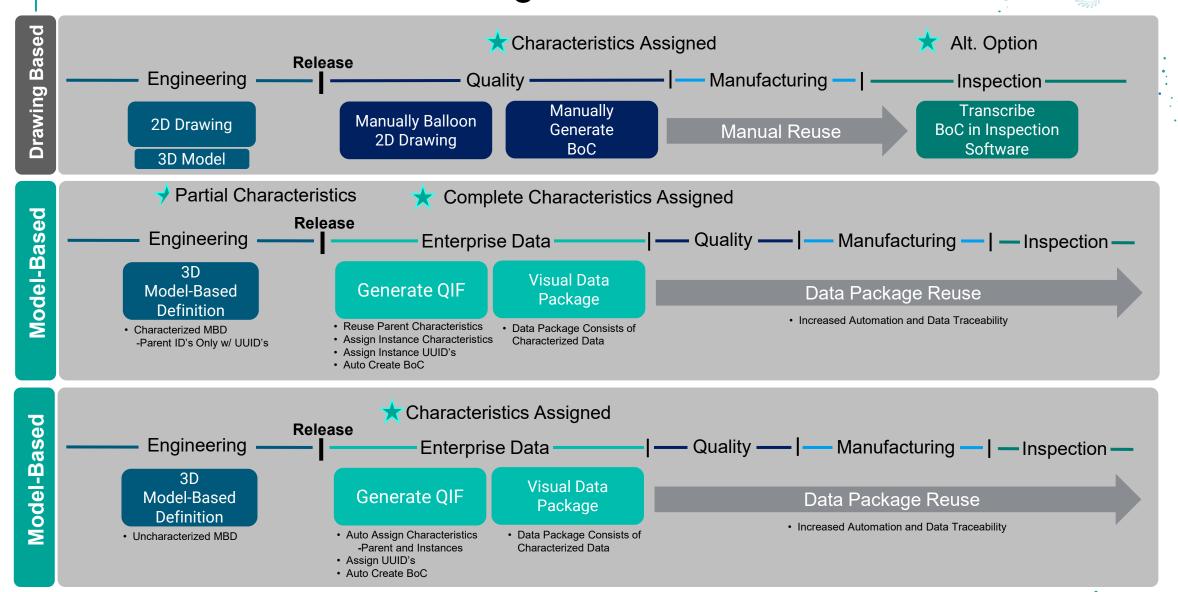


Key Points:

- Nirvana State is to have ALL characteristics within the native CAD...
- Partial characteristics in Native CAD:
 - Lack of tools/support by CAD Vendors and 3rd party tools
 - NX Is the exception!
 - Pattern decomposition is complex, difficult, and lacks industry standardization
- Characteristic Authoring in QIF:
 - Mature and consistent workflow



Characteristic/Balloon Assignments





Model-Based Characteristic Assignment (Native CAD)

Release Engineering **Enterprise Data** Quality —— Manufacturing — | — Inspection — 3D Visual Data Model-Based **Generate QIF** Package

Definition

Model-Based

· Characterized MBD -Parent ID's Only w/ UUID's

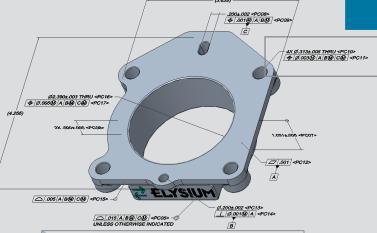
- · Reuse Parent Characteristics
- Data Package Consists of · Assign Instance Characteristics Characterized Data

Data Package Reuse

· Increased Automation and Data Traceability

Source CAD Data

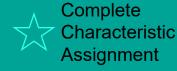
Partial Characteristic Assignment

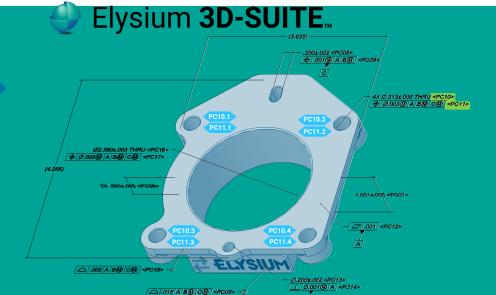


4X Ø.313±.005 THRU <PC10> Ф Ø.003@ A B@ C@ <PC11> MBC_PC_TAG PC10 9e0eca72-152d-4b2c-a7ea-18b329d9d3c0

- Parent Characteristics and UUID's
- If Instance ID's, Incomplete or Low Pattern Support







Bill of Characteristics (BoC)

Tag	Pres. State	Requirement	+TOL	Nominal	-TOL	DRF
PC10.1	D04_Top	Ø.313±.005	0.005	0.313	0.005	/
PC10.2	D04_Top	Ø.313±.005	0.005	0.313	0.005	1
PC10.3	D04_Top	Ø.313±.005	0.005	0.313	0.005	1
PC10.4	D04_Top	Ø.313±.005	0.005	0.313	0.005	1
PC11.1	D04_Top		0.003	/	/	AB(M)C(M)
PC11.2	D04_Top		0.003	/	/	AB(M)C(M)
PC11.3	D04_Top		0.003	/	1	AB(M)C(M)
PC11.4	D04_Top		0.003	/	1	AB(M)C(M)
PC12	D04_Top	Ø2.390±.003	0.003	2.390	0.003	/

Model-Based Characteristic Assignment (QIF Workflow)

Model-Based

Engineering

Enterprise Data

Quality —— | —— Manufacturing — | — Inspection —

Elysium 3D-SUITE...

3D Model-Based **Definition**

Uncharacterized MBD

Generate OIF

· Auto Assign Characteristics

-Parent and Instances

Release

Visual Data Package

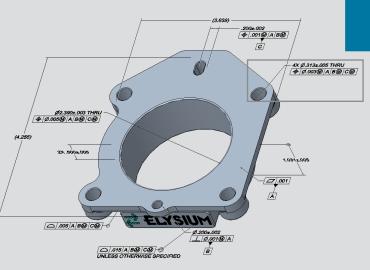
· Data Package Consists of

Characterized Data

Data Package Reuse

· Increased Automation and Data Traceability

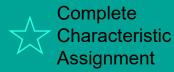
Source CAD Data

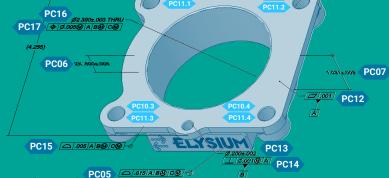


4X Ø.313±.005 THRU \$\\\ \phi \| \phi .003\@ | A | B\@ | C\@ |

· No Characteristics Assigned

QIF Export





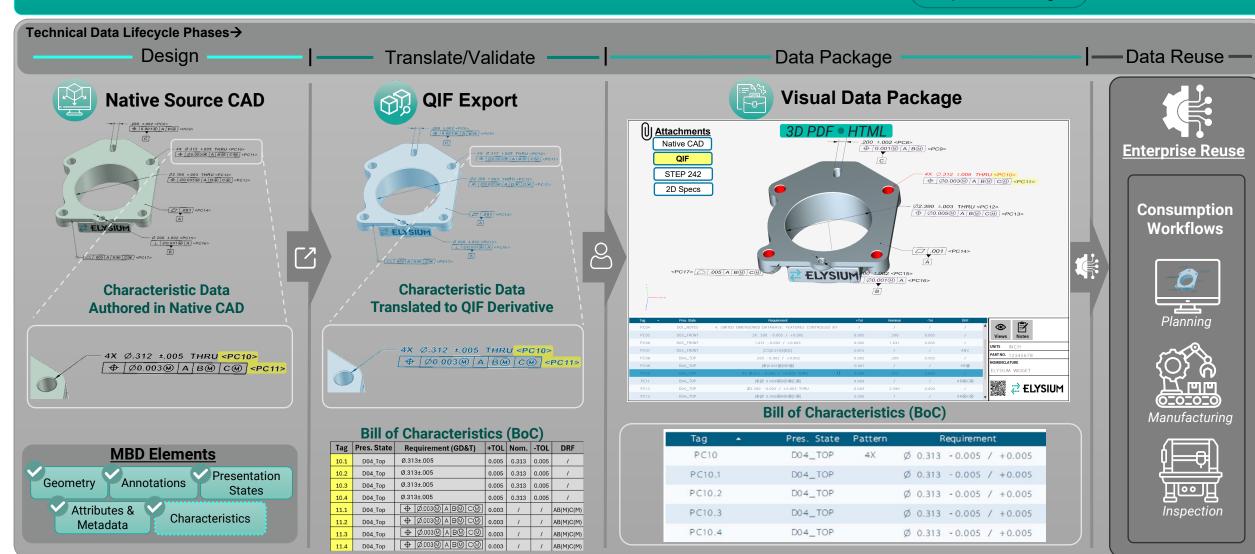
Bill of Characteristics (BoC)

Tag	Pres. State	Requirement	+TOL	Nominal	-TOL	DRF
PC10.1	D04_Top	Ø.313±.005	0.005	0.313	0.005	1
PC10.2	D04_Top	Ø.313±.005	0.005	0.313	0.005	1
PC10.3	D04_Top	Ø.313±.005	0.005	0.313	0.005	1
PC10.4	D04_Top	Ø.313±.005	0.005	0.313	0.005	1
PC11.1	D04_Top	◆ Ø.003(M) A B(M) C(M)	0.003	/	/	AB(M)C(M)
PC11.2	D04_Top	◆ Ø.003(M) A B(M) C(M)	0.003	/	/	AB(M)C(M)
PC11.3	D04_Top		0.003	/	/	AB(M)C(M)
PC11.4	D04_Top	◆ Ø.003(M) A B(M) C(M)	0.003	/	/	AB(M)C(M)
PC12	D04_Top	Ø2.390±.003	0.003	2.390	0.003	1

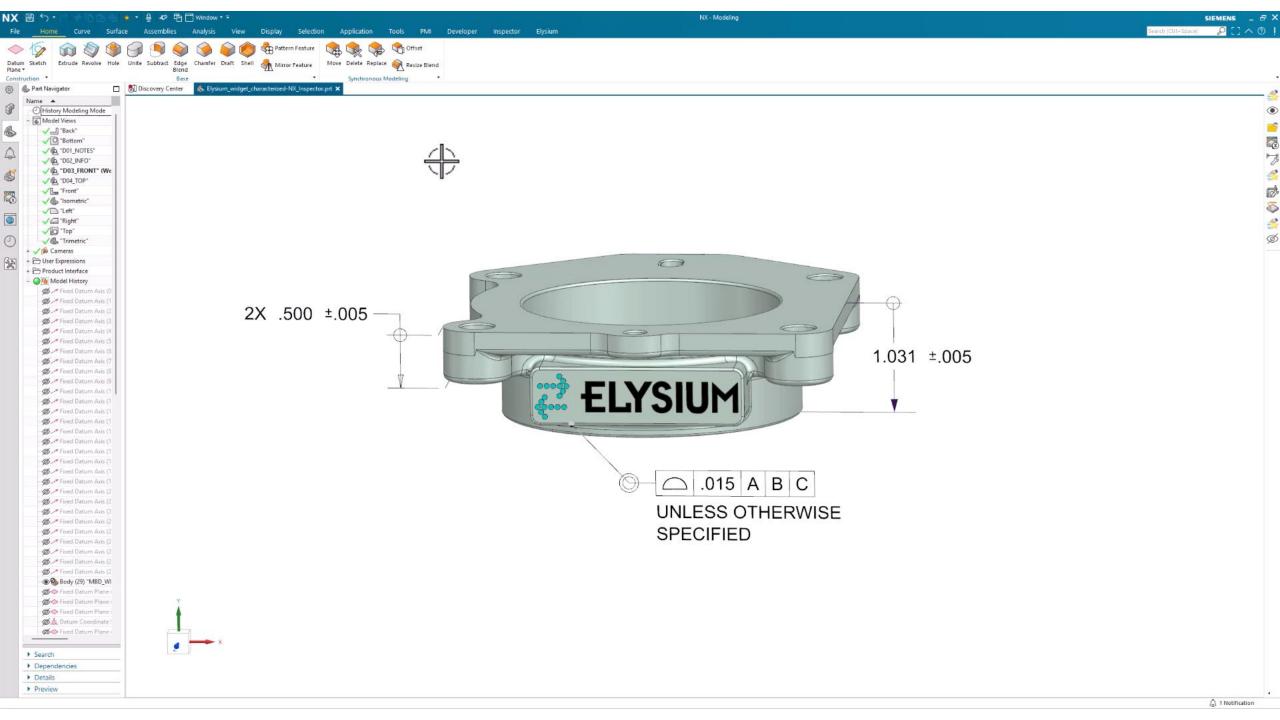
QIF and Characteristic Support

End-To-End Trusted 3D Technical Data

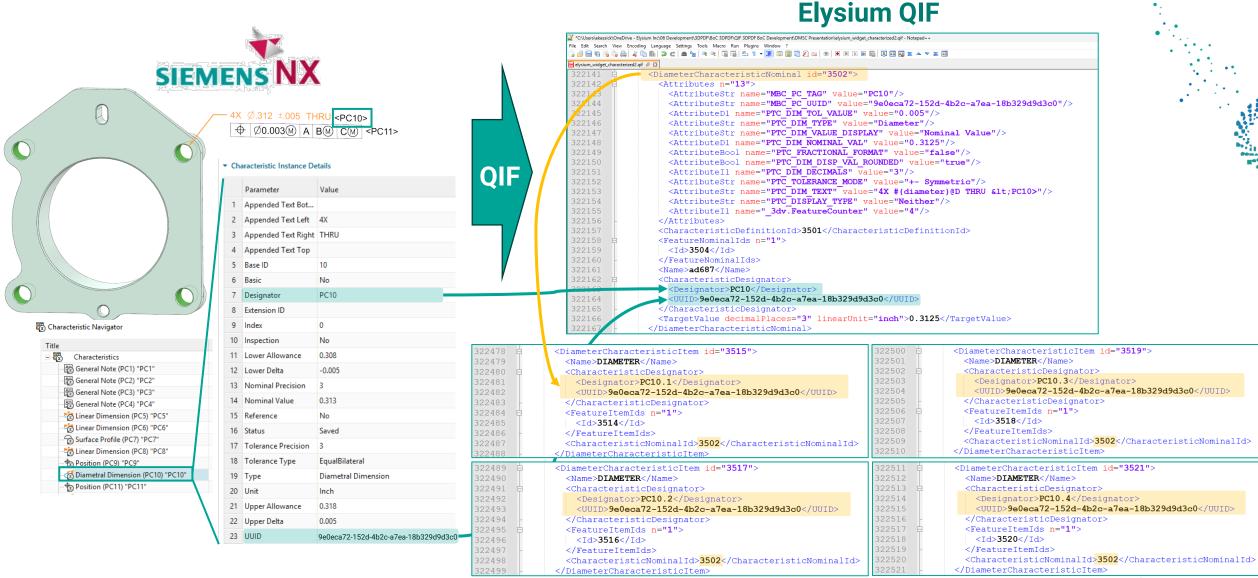








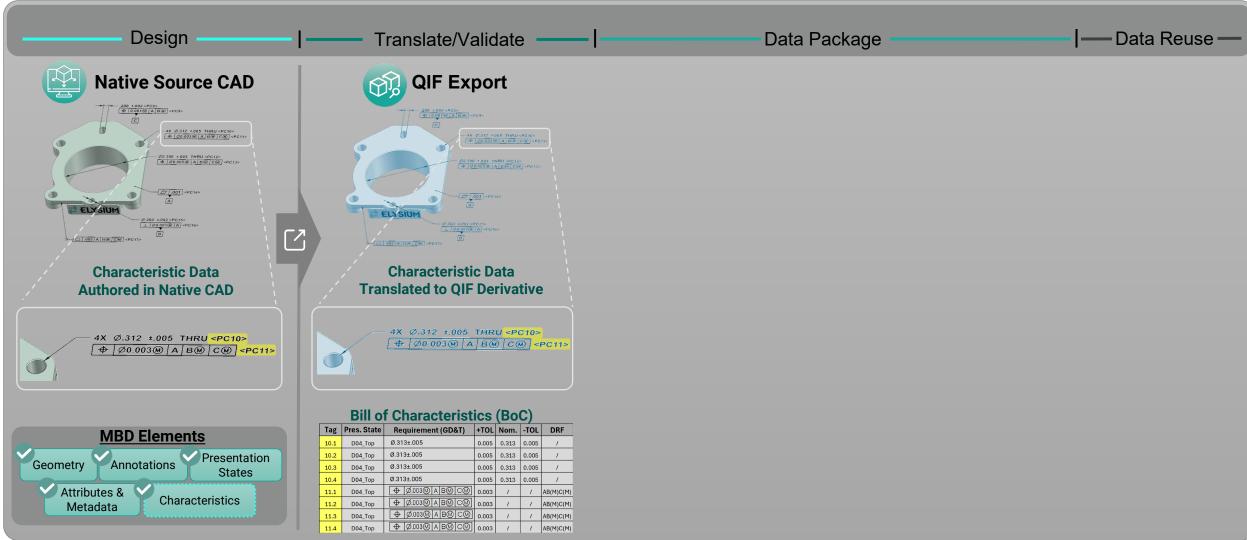
QIF Designators and UUID's

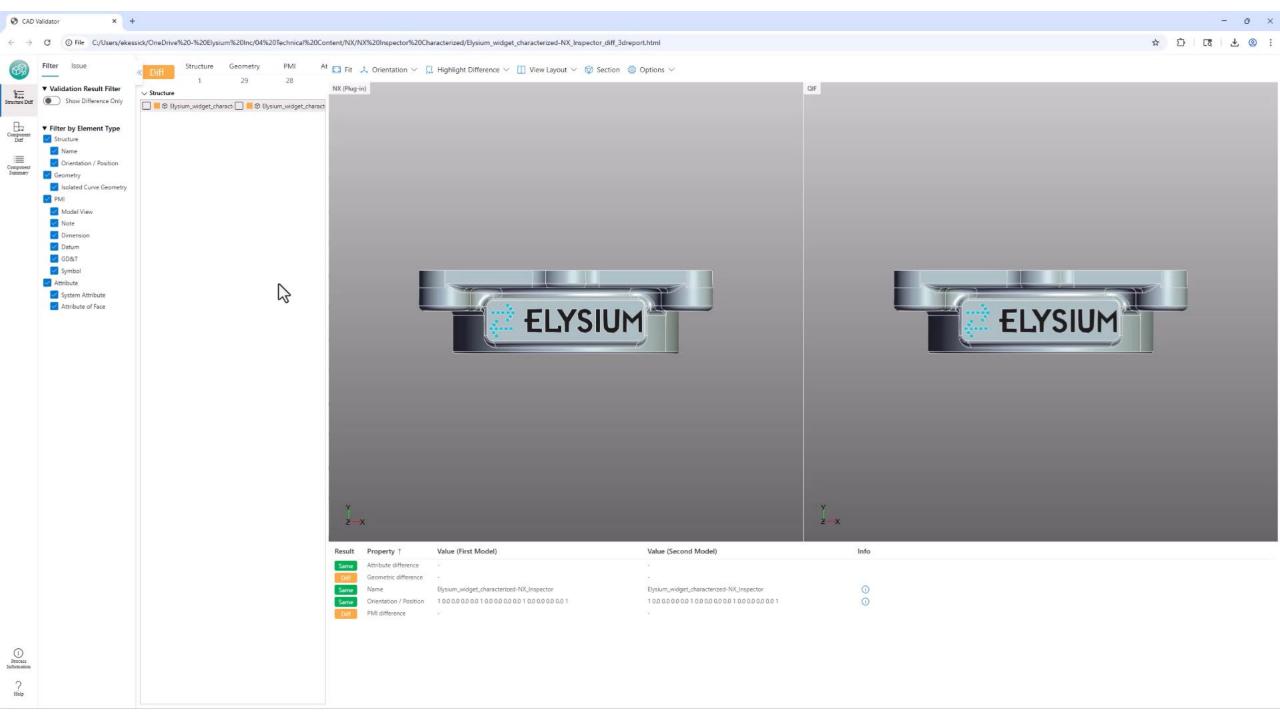


QIF and Characteristic Support

End-To-End Trusted 3D Technical Data



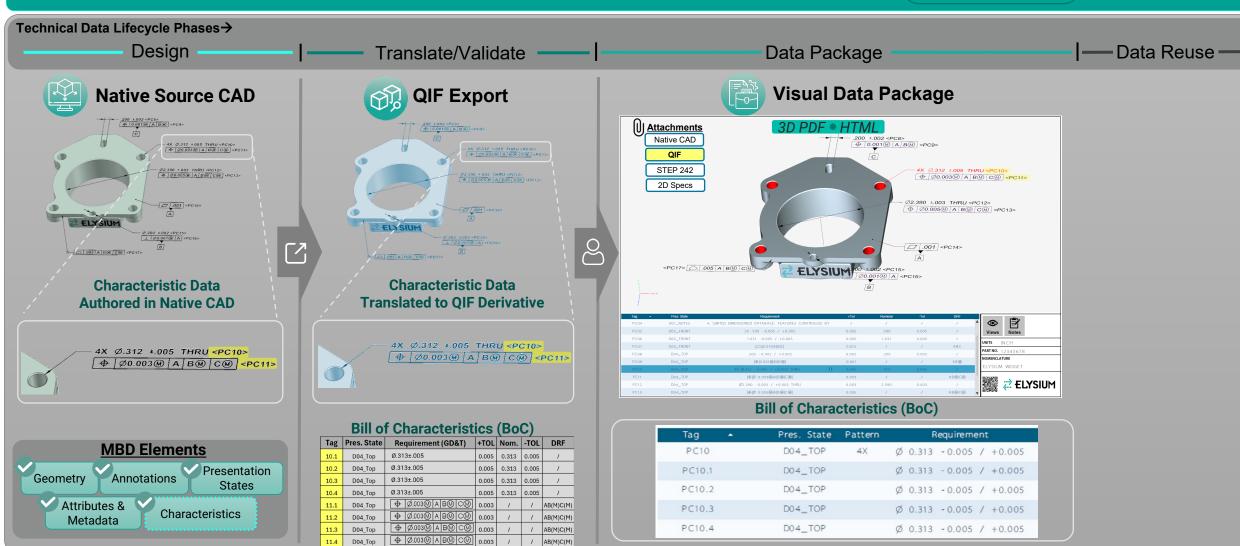


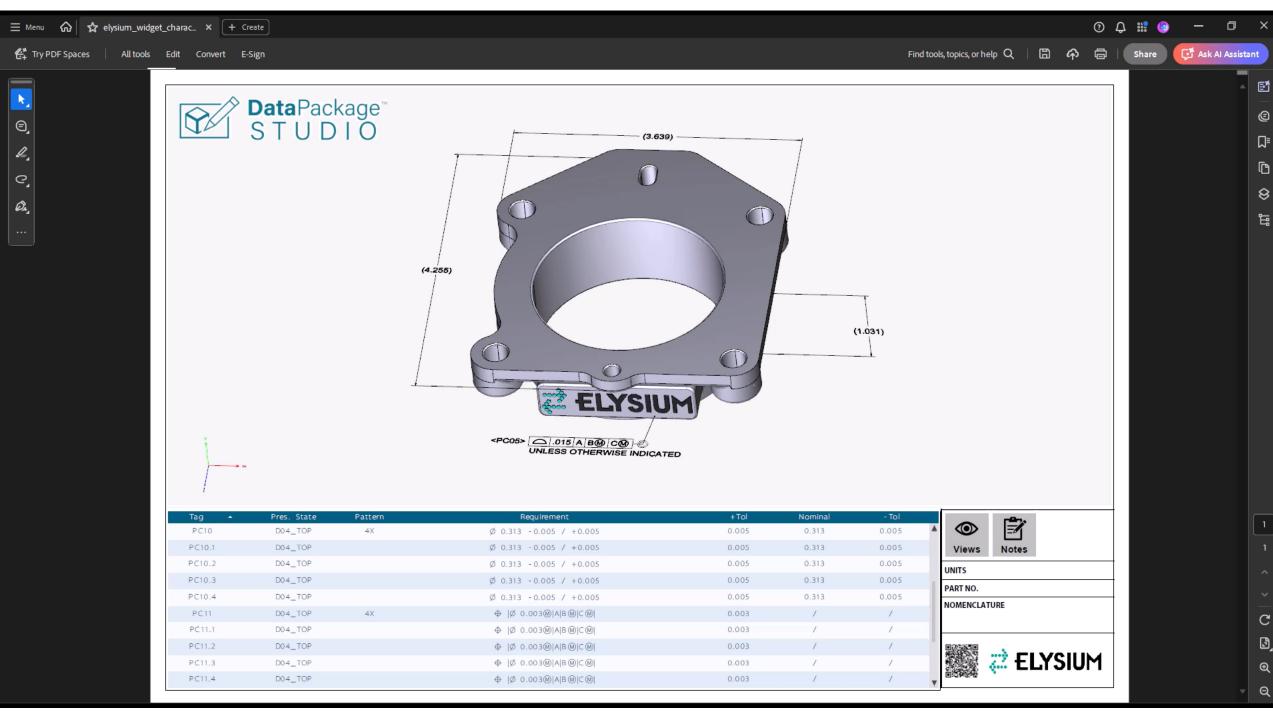


QIF and Characteristic Support

End-To-End Trusted 3D Technical Data







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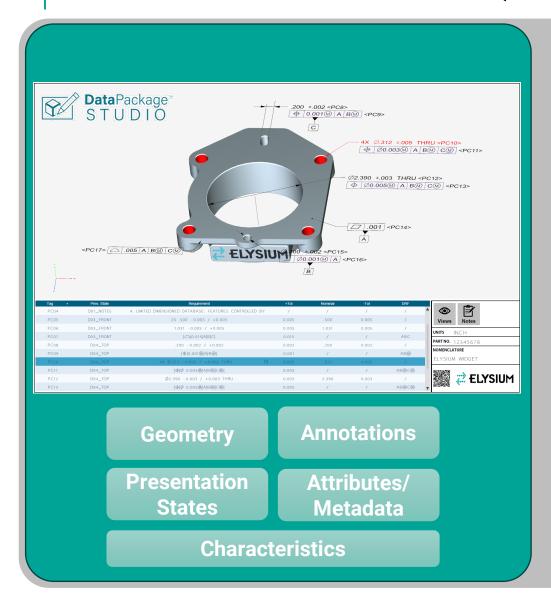
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3D Bill Of Characteristics (BoC) Use-Cases





Human-Readability

- Visual Bill of Characteristics Table
- Visual Characterized PMI



Verify PMI From a BoC View

- PMI is Decomposed Properly
- PMI Is Characterized Properly
- PMI and Characteristics Imported into Tools Properly



Design Review

- ENG \rightarrow MFG \rightarrow Quality
- Metrology: PMI Measurability and Setups



Quality Planning

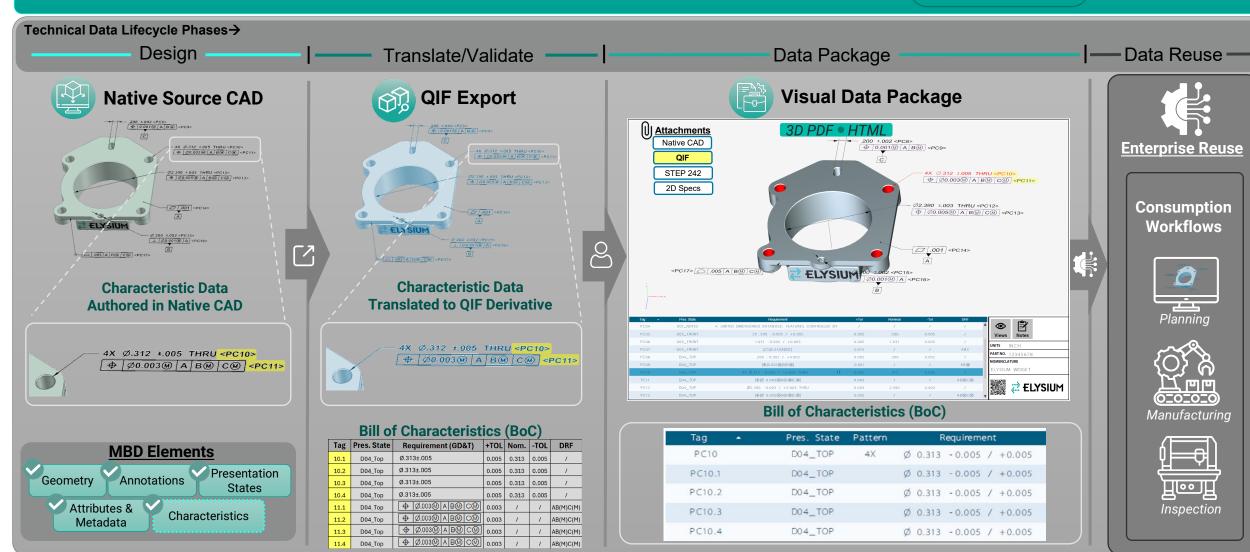
- Inspection Plan
- Bill of Characteristics



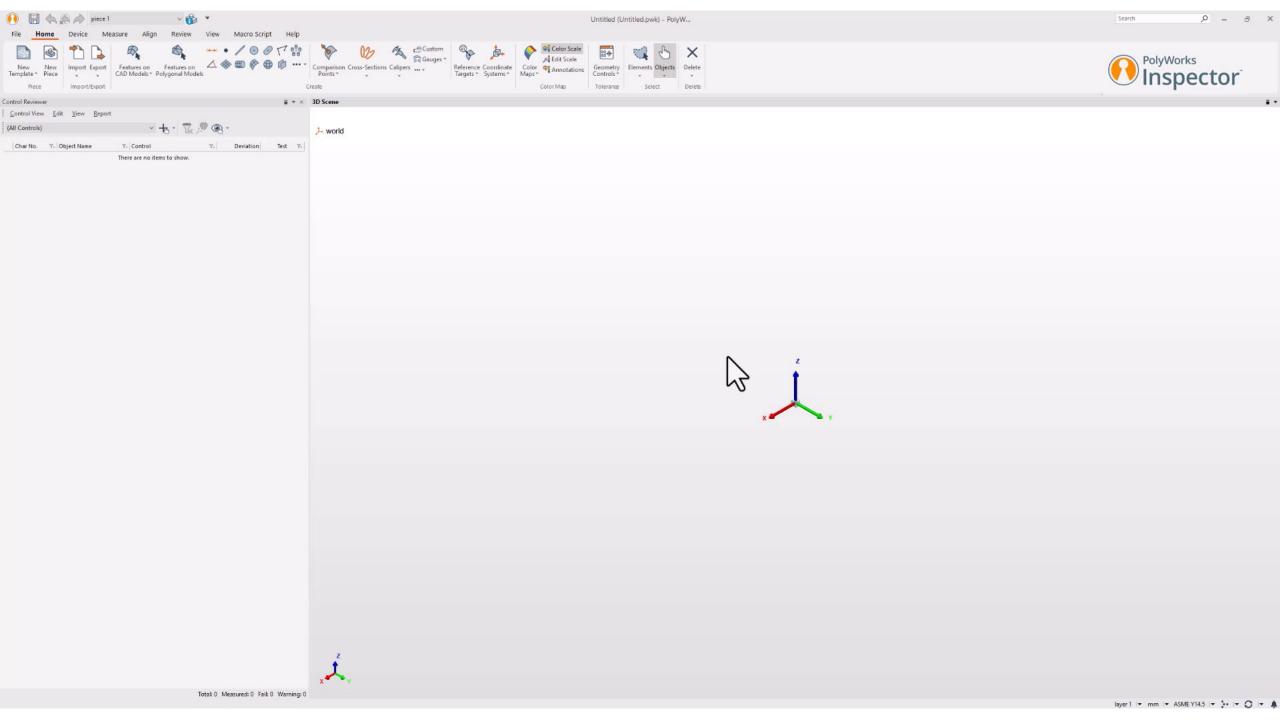
QIF and Characteristic Support

End-To-End Trusted 3D Technical Data









QIF Supporting Metrology Platforms

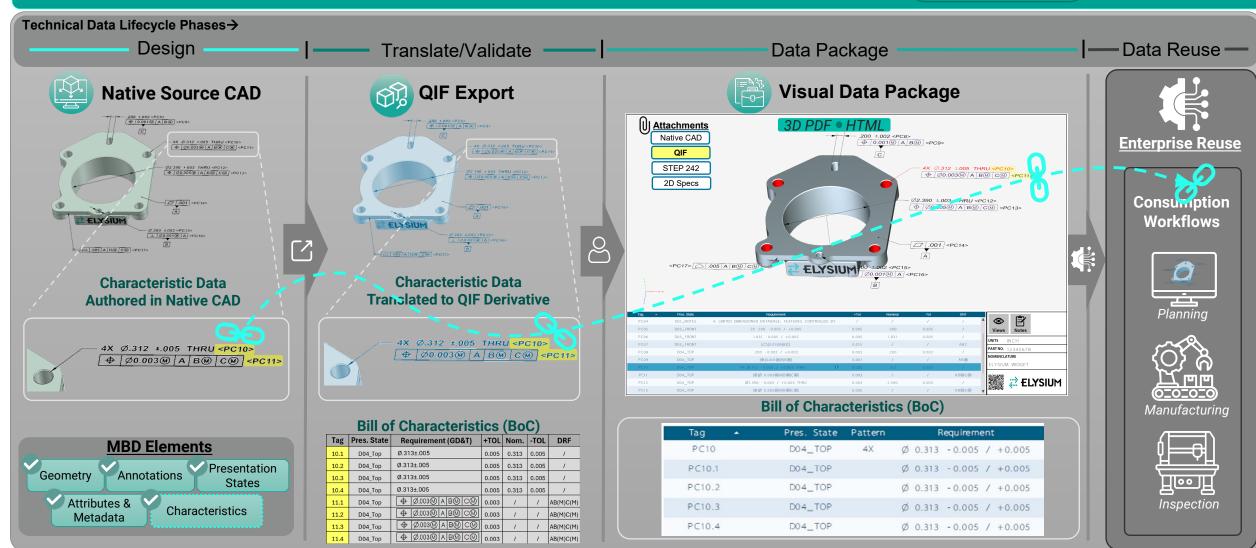
- Polyworks Inspector, Innovmetric
- Metrologic
- PD-DMIS, Hexagon
- Calypso, Zeiss
- Evolve SmartProfile, Kotem
- Verisurf
- MiCAT Planner and MCOSMOS, Mitutoyo
- Others....



QIF and Characteristic Support

End-To-End Trusted 3D Technical Data







QUESTIONS?



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