Contribution Templates

Selecting the correct template for a contribution

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Connect. Collaborate. Accelerate.





Modular Contribution Architecture



Implementation-specific
Exact Bill of Materials
+Design Files
Med/High IP

The templates are aligned with OCP's modular contribution architecture.
Additional detail is in the templates.



DESIGNSPECIFICATION

Design-specific Prescriptive Fine Alignment Light/Med IP

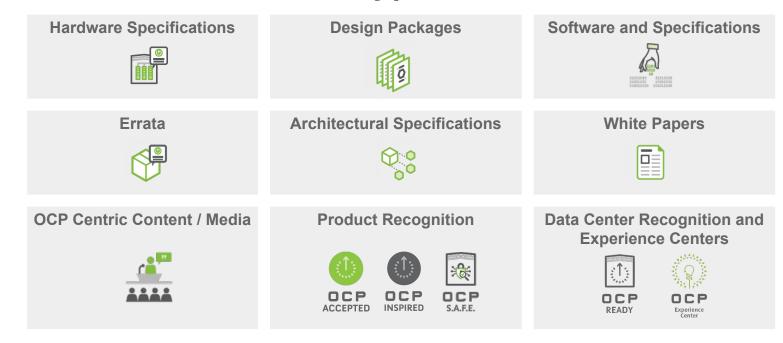


BASE SPECIFICATION

Goals / Overview Architectural Framework Use cases, Coarse Alignment Light/No IP



Common Contribution Types



Most contributions fit at least one of these categories. The Project Leads and OCP Foundation team can help contributors match to the best contribution type and OCP Project domain.



Contribution Types with Templates



These templates have been designed to assist contributors with a structured framework to make it easy to get started. Aligned with the OCP Modular Contribution Architecture, these templates include essential information such as the title, author names, license details, and suggestions for content. They are fully shareable for collaboration and easily modifiable, enabling contributors to adapt and customize them to meet the specific needs of their contributions.



Architectural Specifications Template



The system architecture serves as the foundational blueprint outlining the structure, components, and interactions within a system or subsystem. This could include hardware, software, networking or a combination. It specifies the high-level design decisions and technical framework necessary for the development, deployment, and maintenance of the system.

Chose this template when defining the overall architecture of a system. It may include references to only OCP Contributions and/or external references such as standards. It is versatile, and may be used as a blueprint to define a specific configuration for example.

The template is an all in one template, with the Base, Design and Profile layers as sections for maximum versatility.

See Architectural template:



Hardware Specifications Template



Historically this has been the most common contribution type.

There are 5 templates available.

- All in One (with Examples) Specification All in One (Blank) Specification
- Base Specification
- Design Specification
- Product Specification

The All in One Templates have sections for each layer. This template is applicable to most contributions including for contributing a single layer, multiple layers or making a monolithic contribution (not extensible).

The individual layered Specification templates were the initial templates, they are helpful when extending another specification.

See Hardware Specification templates:



Software Specifications Template



The goal of the Software Specification Templates are to help contributors write Requirements, High or Low Level Design Documents that may be helpful for collaborative development or end users.

There are 2 templates available.

- All in One (with Examples) Specification
- All in One (Blank) Specification

These are All in One Templates and have sections for each layer. This template is applicable to most contributions including for contributing a single layer, multiple layers or making a monolithic contribution (not extensible).

Software may be contributed to OCP's GitHub repository without creating a new specification if it's extending an existing specification and typical of collaborative work leading to a release.

See Software Specification templates:



Errata Template



It is recommended that each project/sub-project/workstream systematically collect and document errors discovered post contribution. These errors and corrections collectively are termed Errata.

The Errata template is designed to be a simple disclosure of an error with reference to where it is located in the original contribution and what the correction is.

Chose this template when errors are found, in any OCP Contribution, to help consumers of the specification, even if the eventual plan is to revise the contribution that contains the errors.

See Errata template:



White Paper Template

White Paper Template



The white paper template is versatile and simple and provides a means for exploring and articulating key concepts, challenges, solutions, and thought leadership within the OCP Community. It supports a range of content, from high-level conceptual discussions to practical guidance, and serves as a flexible option for contributions that may not align perfectly with other template types.

Choose this template when seeking to inform, influence, or educate readers about a particular topic, issue, or innovation—whether detailing best practices, highlighting research findings, or proposing new directions.

See White Paper template:

Thank You

For questions or feedback: contributors@opencompute.org

