

bim harambee .africa 2026 · speaker session

ISO 19650 in Practice

Turning BIM standards into real project delivery workflows

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smarter and better connected

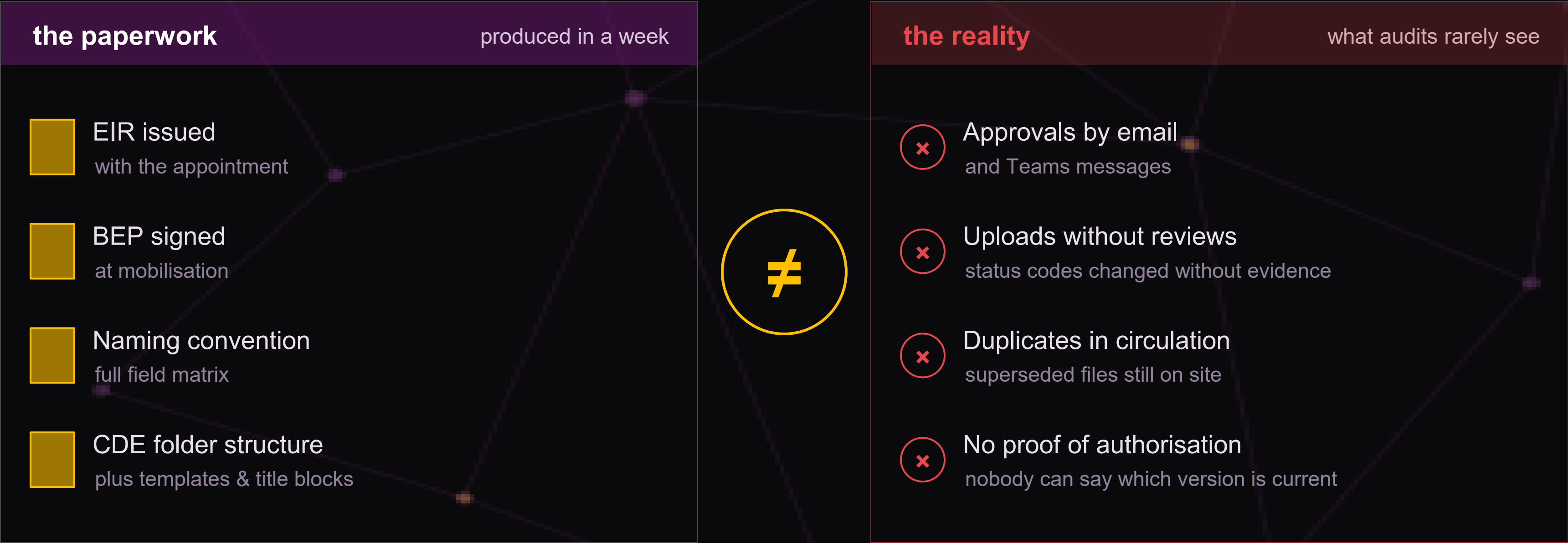
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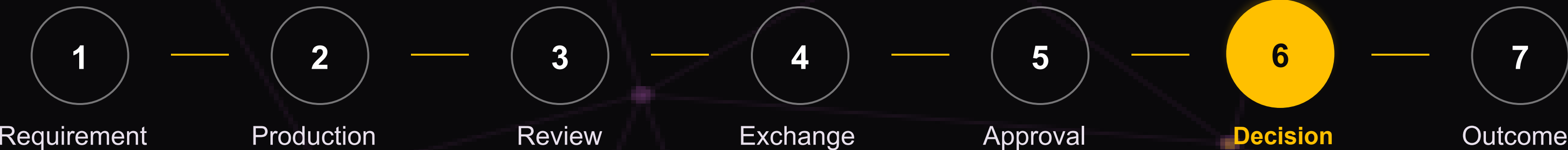


Having the documents is not the same as having the workflow



ISO 19650 failure is usually not a software failure — it is a **governance and enforcement** failure.

Projects are information and decision systems



a break anywhere in the chain surfaces later — as a **bad decision**

for every deliverable, ISO 19650 answers 8 questions

what

is required

why

it is needed

who

must produce it

when

it is due

checked

how quality is verified

exchanged

how it moves between parties

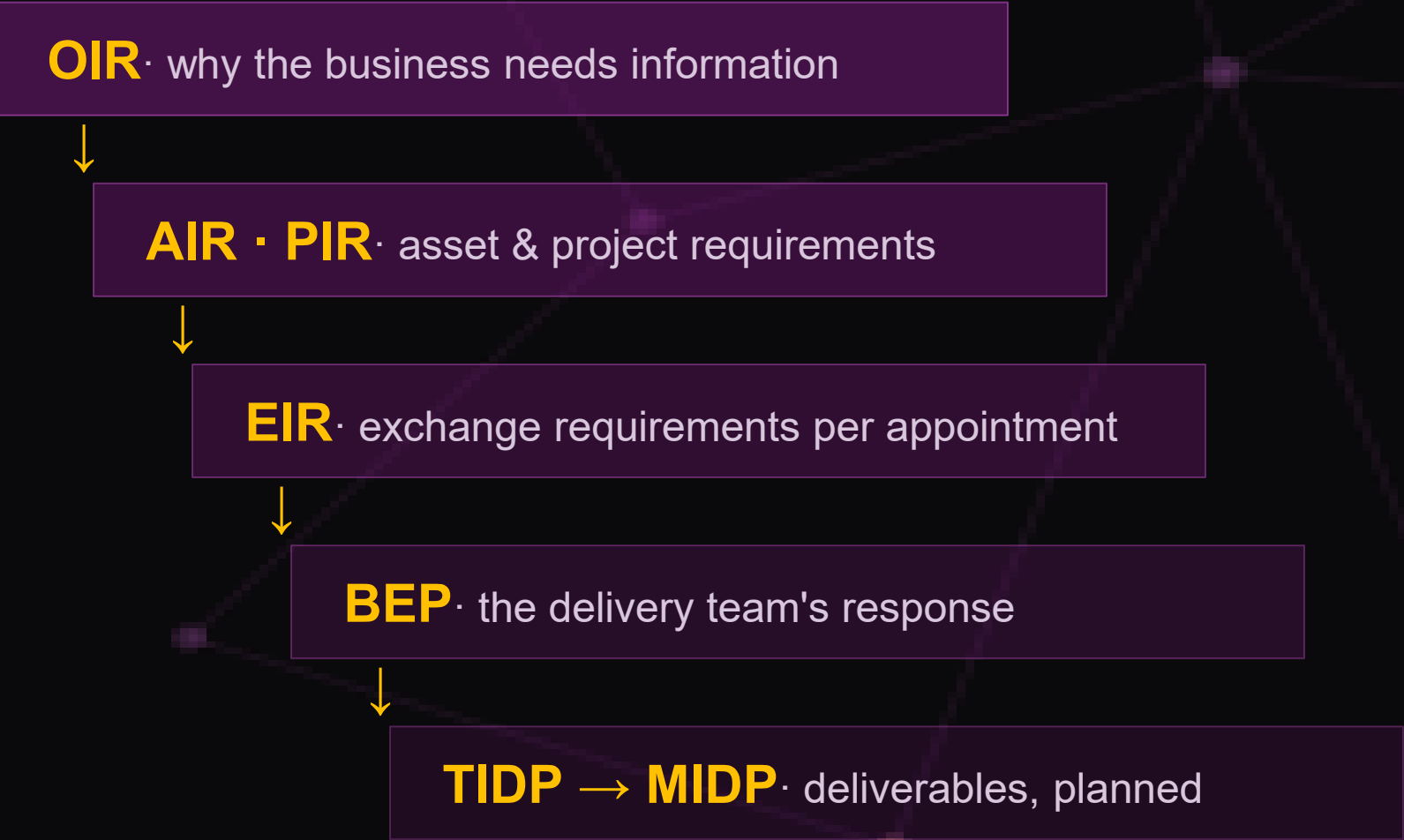
approved

who may authorise it

status

how its permitted use is read

The workflow starts before anyone opens Revit



each level narrows the question: *from business purpose to a dated deliverable*

×

vague ask — buys geometry

“Provide an LOD 400 mechanical model.”

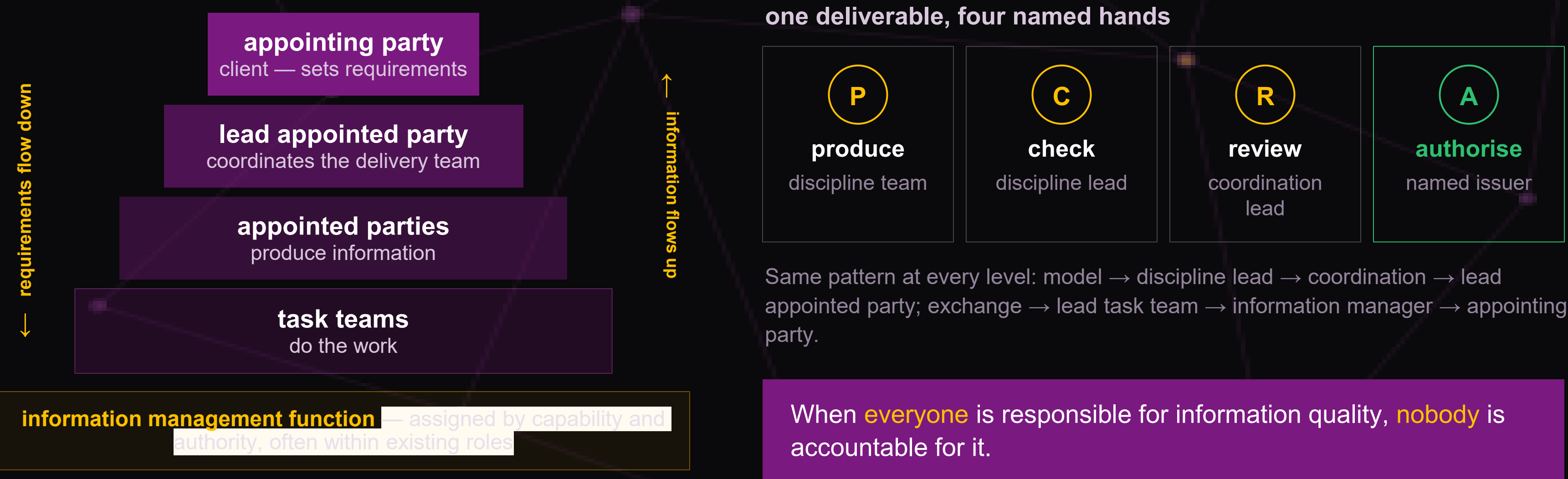
✓

decision-linked ask — buys a construction release

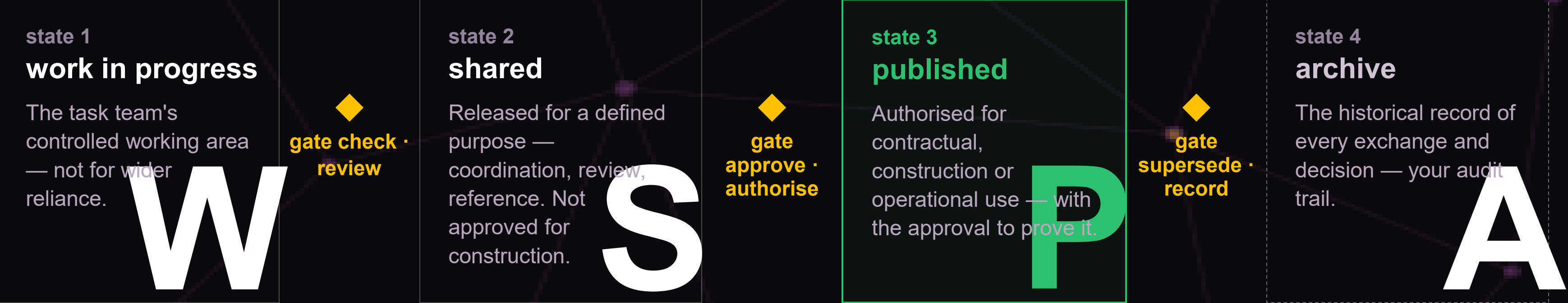
“Provide coordinated equipment data, installation zones, maintainable asset identifiers and approved access requirements before construction release.”

Every good requirement names the **decision**, the **user**, the **date**, the **format**, the **level of information need** and the **acceptance test**.

Someone must own every information decision



A CDE is a workflow, not a shared drive



Every gold gate is a decision with evidence behind it — never a drag-and-drop.

quick poll
show of hands

Where does approval usually happen on your projects?

in the CDE

by email

Teams · WhatsApp

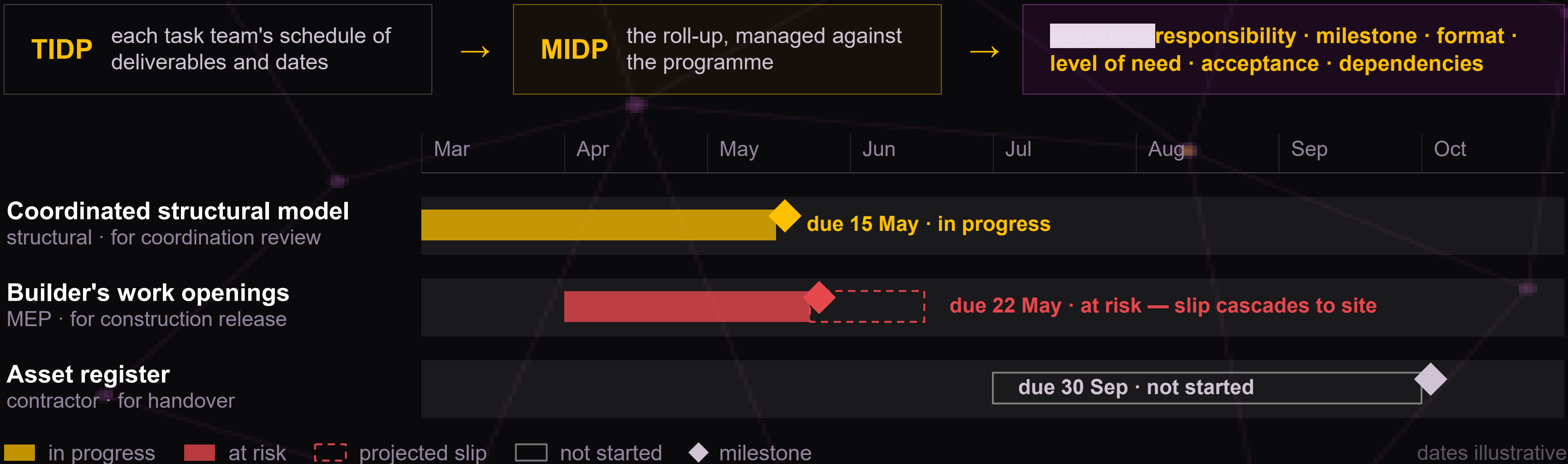
verbal, undocumented

Metadata must communicate meaning



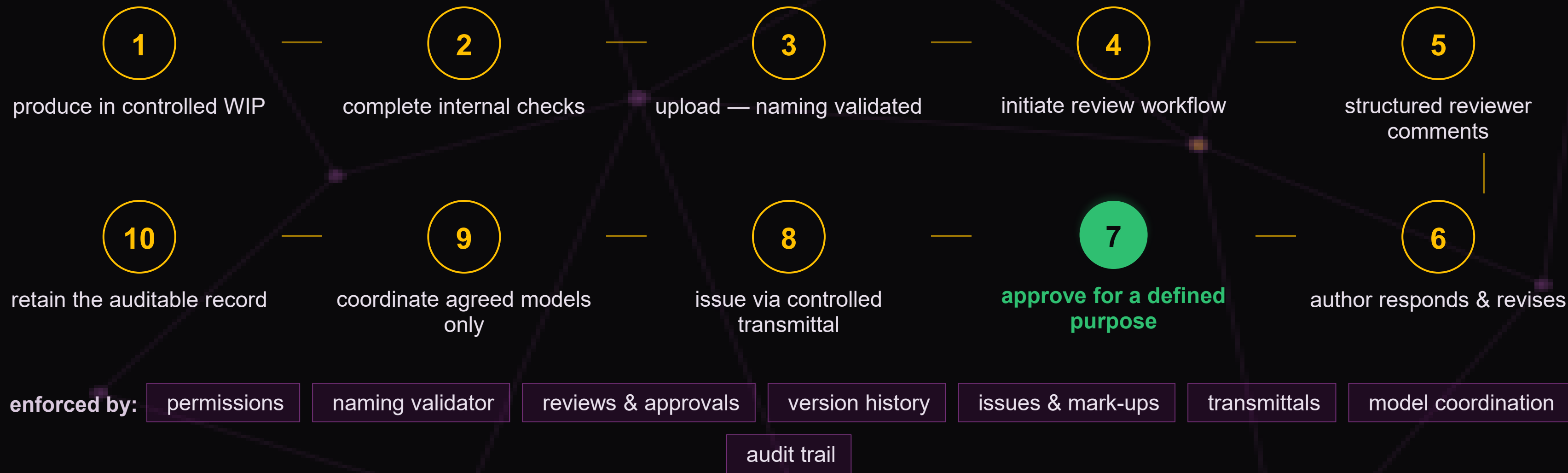
◆ A correctly named container can still be wrong, incomplete or unauthorised — metadata must point to **workflow evidence** of completed checks and approvals.

The MIDP must connect the information plan to the project plan



Late information becomes programme, procurement and construction risk.

How ISO 19650 can work in Autodesk Construction Cloud



ACC is certified against ISO 19650 — but no platform can define your accountability or fix vague requirements.

Why ISO 19650 implementations underperform

5 governance gaps

- × BEP treated as a tender document only
- × Information manager without authority
- × Unrestricted access for everyone
- × Compliance measured by documents produced
- × Project teams never trained

4 requirement gaps

- × Templates copied from another project
- × Naming so complex nobody applies it
- × Excessive model detail demanded
- × Delivery plans detached from the programme

5 enforcement gaps

- × Shared used as a general filing area
- × Approvals made outside the CDE
- × Uploads without completed checks
- × Revision confused with suitability
- × Workflows users cannot realistically follow

Complexity is not maturity — a **simple workflow that is followed** beats a sophisticated workflow that exists only in the BEP.

Implement ISO 19650 through seven operating controls



in south africa

- ◆ **SANS 19650-1 (2022)** and **SANS 19650-3 (2023)** published via SABS
- ◆ National Annex to Part 2 **in development** — SABS TC 267, CIDB-hosted focus group
- ◇ **No blanket mandate** — client EIRs drive adoption

*Keep controls **proportionate** to team capability, digital maturity and connectivity.*

Make the workflow real

documents



workflow



trusted information



better decisions



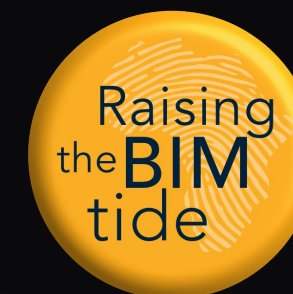
better outcomes

start this month

- 1 Check whether your requirements define actual decisions
- 2 Confirm who may produce, check, approve and authorise
- 3 Map **one** important exchange from production to approval
- 4 Configure the CDE to support that workflow
- 5 Measure whether it reduces uncertainty, delay and rework

ISO 19650 is not about producing compliant documentation. It is about producing **trusted information** through controlled, repeatable and accountable workflows.

On your current project, can you prove why the latest drawing or model should be trusted?



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references

Source register

All sources verified 18 July 2026 — concepts summarised, standard text not reproduced

standards

- ISO 19650-1:2018 — concepts and principles (confirmed 2024; amendment in draft, 2026)
- ISO 19650-2:2018 — delivery phase of assets
- ISO 19650-3:2020 · -4:2022 · -5:2020
- ISO 7817-1:2024 — level of information need
- SANS 19650-1:2022 · SANS 19650-3:2023 (SABS)

guidance

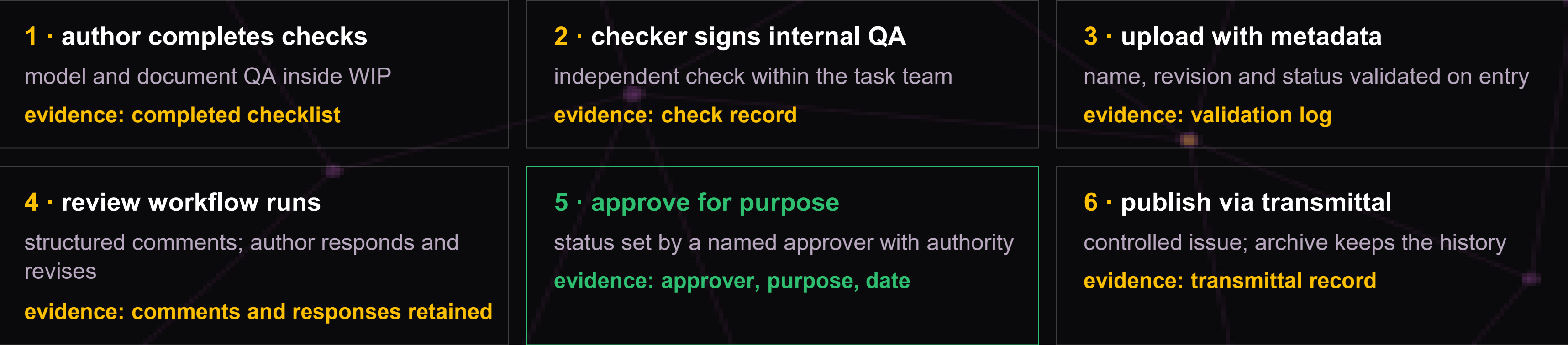
- UK BIM Framework — Guidance Parts 1 & 2 (ukbimframework.org)
- Centre for Digital Built Britain — legacy ISO 19650 guidance
- buildingSMART International — openBIM resources
- CIDB / SABS TC 267 — SA national annex focus group (2025)

platform

- Autodesk — ACC BSI Kitemark certification for ISO 19650 (Docs · Build · Model Coordination, 2026)
- Autodesk — TÜV SÜD ISO 19650 certification (2024)
- Autodesk Docs — naming standard and validation documentation

Platform capabilities describe implementation options, not requirements of the standard. Interpretations and failure patterns are the presenter's professional observations.

Every gate leaves evidence



If a state change has no evidence behind it, it was a folder move — not a decision.

Questions worth preparing for

Is ISO 19650 only relevant on large projects?

No — the concepts apply to assets and projects of any size; apply them proportionately. Small projects need fewer controls, not different principles.

Does it require a specific CDE platform?

No. The CDE is a process supported by technology — any platform that enforces states, metadata, permissions and approvals can support it.

Who should perform the information management function?

Assign it by capability and authority — often within the lead appointed party. It can be shared or delegated, but never left implied.

How do status codes differ from revision codes?

Revision records the development sequence; status records permitted use. A new revision never upgrades suitability by itself.

Who is accountable when incorrect information is published?

The named authoriser who released it for that purpose — which is exactly why approval must happen inside the CDE, with evidence.