



Document Map and Overview

**Version 3.5-A.0
Review Draft 5**

September 17, 2003

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Preface

Contacts

For general questions regarding this document and referrals to technical experts for detailed questions, please contact:

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Abstract

This is the base document describing the other components of the IPDR.org document library, guiding readers to the appropriate area and suggesting how to use the full set.

Change History

3.5-A.0 Initial Draft	September 17, 2003
3.5-A.0 Review Draft 1	April 24, 2003
3.5-A.0 Review Draft 2	May 20, 2003— Distinguish document types by shape, add legend, modify flowchart and define roles.
3.5-A.0 Review Draft 3	June 10, 2003—Add IPDRDoc Structuring Guidelines Component
3.5-A.0 Review Draft 4	Add glossary terms
3.5-A.0 Review Draft 5	September 19, 2003—Reflect decisions from Miami Beach face-to-face meeting

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1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose

This document provides a map to the rest of the documents in the IPDR.org document set. It also describes each of those documents at a summary level. Lastly, a general guide for the use of the document set is provided.

1.2 Scope

This document limits its discussion to the IP-based services and application areas chartered by the IPDR Organization's Steering Committee.

2. Document Map

The following figure illustrates the various components of the IPDR.org document set, indicating high-level content where appropriate. The following section details each component.

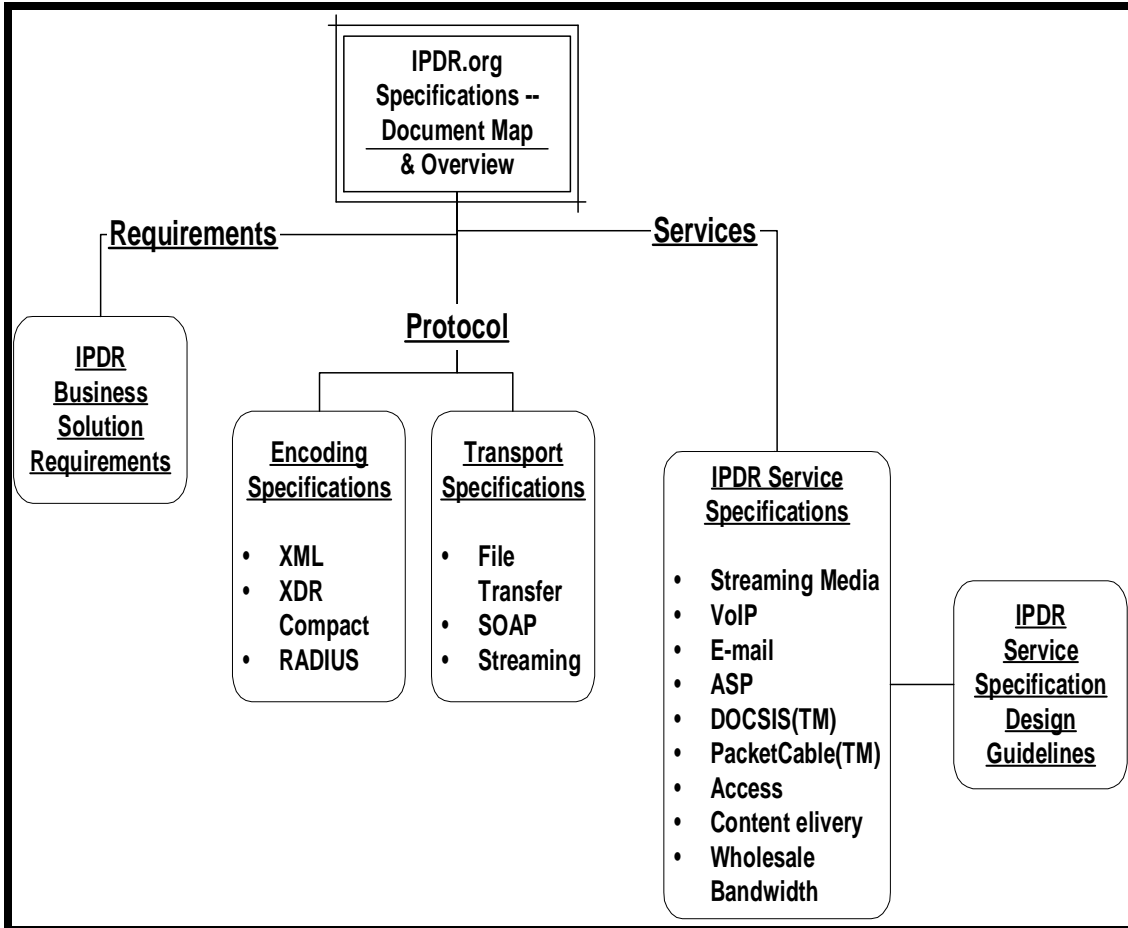


Figure 1 - Document Map

The specifications in the map above that list detailed choices (such as the variety of encoding options) indicate the areas of extensibility of the IPDR solution. Those components that do not indicate choices document the generic discussion of the IPDR solution.

3. Overview

The following subsections detail the purpose and general content of the document components illustrated in Figure 1 above.

3.1 Requirements— IPDR Business Solution Requirements

3.1.1 Business Problem Definition

This section puts the solution specified in the context of the industry needs and problems with current and past solutions. The general objectives to improve on past solutions are explained.

3.1.2 Reference Model

This section describes the functional components and the interfaces between them that are used in specifying protocols and information for implementation of Service Specifications.

3.1.3 NDM-U Accounting Solution Requirements

This section provides a technology-neutral model of the TeleManagement Forum's Network Data Management component of its eTOM for the application of managing usage data in support of IP-based services, thus the acronym NDM-U. The business requirements which drive Service Specifications for specific service instances are documented here.

3.1.4 S/PS Settlement Solution Requirements

This section provides a technology neutral model of the TeleManagement Forum's Supplier/Partner Settlement component of its eTOM for the application of exchanging usage information in support of multi-enterprise financial transactions related to the provision of IP-based services to the customers of one or more of those enterprises. . The business requirements which drive Service Specifications for specific service instances are documented here.

3.1.5 Information Meta Model

This section describes the service-independent elements of information upon which the Service Definitions are based.

3.3 Protocol—Encodings Specifications

These documents specify the various choices for encoding information defined in Service Definitions.

3.4 Protocol—Transport Specifications

These documents specify the various choices for transport protocols used to move service-specific instance documents between functional entities in the Reference Model.

3.5 Services—Service Specification Guideline

This document provides the guidelines for authors in the creation of service-specific instances of IPDR Service Specifications. This document also specifies an “envelope” for usage detail and settlement details and/or aggregate totals of usage and charges. The document also provides the general approach for constructing an IPDRDoc for a given service or Supplier/Partner settlement scenario.

3.6 Services—IPDR Service Specifications

This set of documents provide service-specific Use Cases, Information Elements, Service Definitions (XML Schema documents conforming to the Information Meta Model), and applicable Business Processes for each IP-based service for which the IPDR technology is applicable.

4. User's Guide to IPDR.org Documents

The following is a typical example of the use of the document set:

1. Familiarization with the components of the Document Map and their general purpose by reading this document.
2. Read Business Solution Specification.
3. Read Service Specification Guidelines.
4. For Application Specialists, author Use Case section of the Service Specification.
5. For High-Level Designers, specify service-specific information elements in the Service Definition section of the Service Specification.
6. For Detailed Designers, use the Encoding and Transport Specifications in the construction of software solutions.

This use case can also be understood by means of the following flow chart.

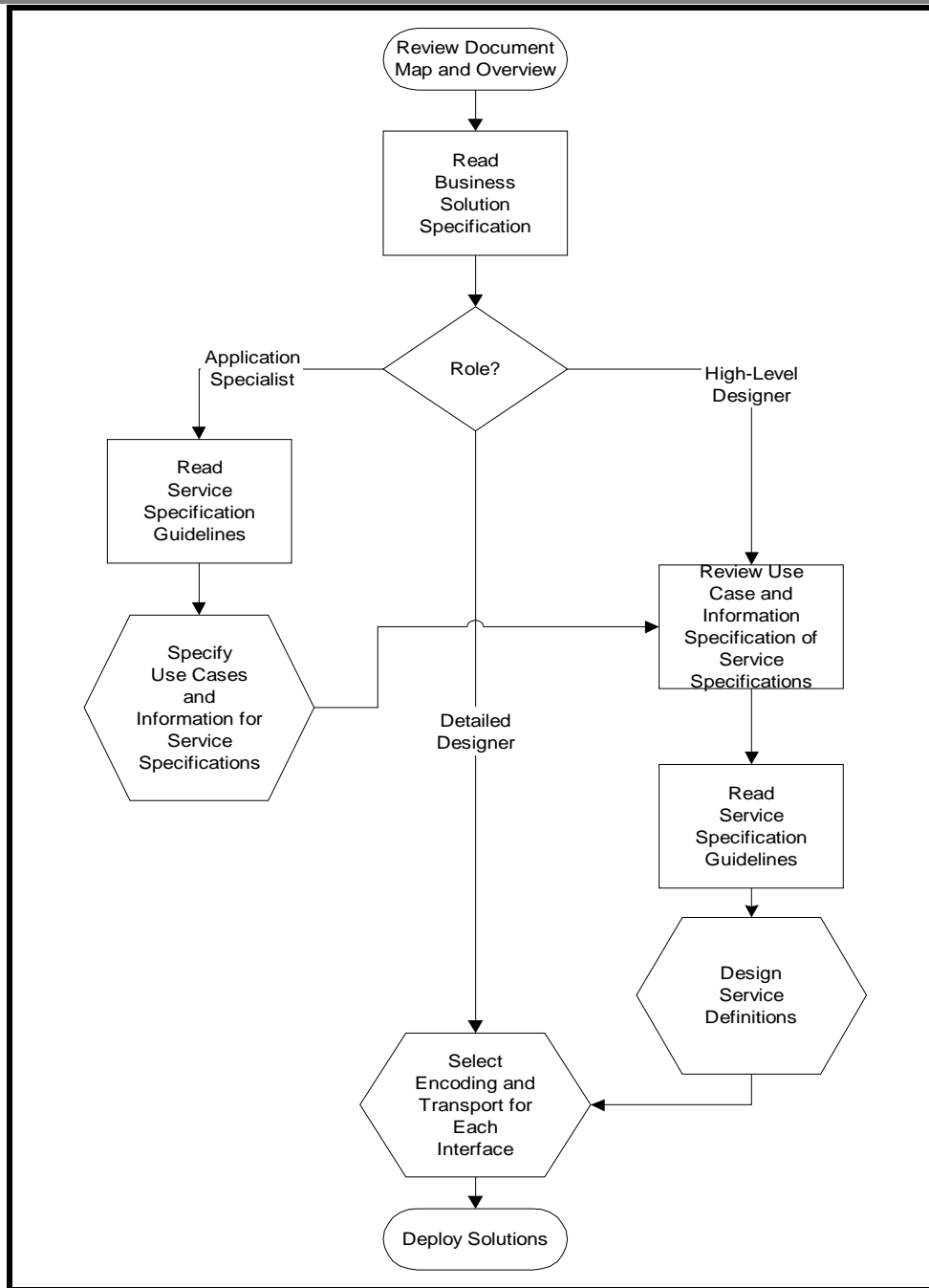


Figure 2 - User's Guide Flow Chart

The roles identified on the three branches of the flowchart above are:

1. Application Specialist – this is a subject matter expert in the area of accounting and settlement use cases of internet-based services.
2. High-Level Designer – this is a subject matter expert in the area of information modeling and use case analysis.
3. Detailed Designer – this is a subject matter expert in the area of defining formal Service Definitions, using the subset of XML Schema described in the Service Specification Guideline.