

Common Warehouse Metamodel (CWM)

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The **Common Warehouse Metamodel (CWM)** specifies interfaces that can be used to enable the easy interchange of warehouse and business intelligence metadata between warehouse tools, warehouse platforms, and warehouse metadata repositories in distributed heterogeneous environments. CWM is based on three standards:

- [OMG: Unified Modeling Language \(UML\)](#) a software engineering general-purpose, developmental, modeling language
- [OMG: Meta Object Facility \(MOF\)](#) a metamodeling and metadata repository standard
- [OMG: XML Metadata Interchange \(XMI\)](#) a metadata interchange standard

The UML standard defines an object-oriented modeling language that is supported by a range of graphical design tools. The MOF standard defines an extensible framework for defining models for metadata and providing tools with programmatic interfaces to store and access metadata in a repository. The XMI standard allows metadata to be interchanged as streams or files with a standard format based on XML. The complete architecture offers a wide range of implementation choices to developers of tools, repositories, and object frameworks. XMI in particular lowers the barrier to entry for the use of OMG metadata standards.

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<https://www.service-architecture.com/articles/web-services/common-warehouse-meta-model-cwm.html>

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Last update: **2022/04/21 19:16**