

IBM Engineering Requirements Management

Scalable, AI-assisted requirements management for traceable and compliant product development



Highlights

Comprehensive management of requirements

Improved requirement quality, productivity and reuse

Integrated across the development lifecycle

Companies today face increasing pressure to deliver more complex products faster while maintaining quality, cost discipline, as well as regulatory compliance. Successful product development starts with requirements management: requirements define the essence of what is being built, what needs to be verified and what must be controlled. When requirements are clear, connected and traceable, they provide a foundation for teams to align decisions across engineering disciplines and reduce downstream rework. When they are fragmented, poorly defined or managed, schedule risks, costs and audit exposure rise quickly.

IBM Engineering Requirements Management DOORS® Next is a scalable, comprehensive requirements management solution inside IBM Engineering Lifecycle Management suite of products, designed to manage complex product development. It helps enterprise teams capture, organize, trace, review and manage changes to requirements, while connecting them to tests, workflows and other engineering artifacts to support compliance throughout the development lifecycle. With configuration-aware reuse, team collaboration and AI-assisted capabilities such as requirement quality analysis, conversational summaries and translations, and concurrent editing and advanced filtering, DOORS Next strengthens both day-to-day productivity and program-level control. And while AI can accelerate coding tasks, including approaches such as vibe coding, requirements remain essential to maintaining control in software development at enterprise scale. In large and complex projects, the rise of spec-driven development reinforces the need for clear, governed requirements to guide delivery, manage change and reduce risk.



Comprehensive management of requirements

Throughout the years, IBM has helped define what modern requirements management should deliver. DOORS Next acts as both a central repository for requirement artifacts and an integrated control point for managing each requirement and change across the development lifecycle.

Structured folders, modules, hierarchy, views, tags and advanced filtering help teams handle scaling requirements sets with clarity, confidence and precision. Reviews, comments, approvals and traceability help keep requirements aligned as they evolve. The result is better scope control, stronger collaboration and a more reliable, and audit-ready foundation for complex product and systems development.

With trace links across requirements and into design, development and test, teams can move from static specifications to connected engineering decisions. Links Explorer and suspect-link analysis help identify downstream impact when requirements change, so engineering teams can respond faster and with greater confidence.

Improved requirement quality, productivity and reuse

As product lines expand and development teams work to reduce cost and accelerate delivery, requirements quality and reuse of proven requirements become critical to manage variants without losing context or control. Poorly written or ambiguous requirements create rework. Disconnected and unmanaged versions and variants slow teams down and make change harder to manage.

DOORS Next addresses both problems directly, using IBM Global Configuration Management (GCM) application for configuration and variant management, to support parallel development and reuse across baselines, streams and product variants. AI agentic automations analyze requirements against industry criteria, generate scores and provide wording recommendations for domain experts to validate and approve, while natural-language queries, summaries and translations help teams understand complex requirements faster, with more confidence. Together, these capabilities improve authoring quality, reduce manual effort and duplication and lower the cost of change across projects, programs and releases.

In addition, graphical trace views, live dashboards, real-time metrics and concurrent editing help teams work faster with large repositories and manage requirements more consistently at any scale. They translate into clearer requirements, enhanced collaboration and stronger control over the mission- and safety-critical, compliance-sensitive development.

Integrated across the development environment

With products becoming increasingly complex and software-defined, many organizations adopt specialized development tools or outsource and distribute work across suppliers, software teams and systems teams. That can create silos across the development environment and make it hard to collaborate efficiently or maintain alignment from requirements through delivery.

DOORS Next is designed to share data openly through Open Services for Lifecycle Collaboration (OSLC) interface, ReqIF and APIs, to connect requirements to related engineering artifacts across IBM Engineering Lifecycle Management and partner solutions, providing a central hub for managing requirements and enabling engineering teams to optimize their environment across various suppliers and tools. This integrated approach gives teams better end-to-end traceability, faster impact analysis and clearer visibility into how requirement changes affect design, development and test.

Conclusion

Requirements management creates the engineering foundation for controlling scope, cost, quality and compliance. Powered by AI agentic automations, IBM DOORS Next combines capabilities that improve requirement quality, enable collaborative authoring and structured reviews, and support end-to-end traceability, reuse and open integration in one scalable solution. The result is better and clearer requirements at the point of initial definition, faster impact analysis when change occurs and stronger basis for decision-making and overall readiness for complex, compliance-heavy product development.

Why IBM?

IBM Engineering Requirements Management DOORS® Next extends requirements management beyond documentation into a connected, end-to-end engineering discipline. It combines lifecycle traceability, enterprise-level governance, open integration and AI-assisted quality improvements so organizations can manage complexity, strengthen compliance and move from requirement definition to delivery at scale, and with greater control.

For more information

To learn more about IBM Engineering Requirements Management DOORS® Next, contact your IBM representative or Book a live demo via:

www.ibm.com/products/requirements-management.

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