DIGITAL PRACTITIONERS WORK GROUP

Digital Practitioner
Body of Knowledge™ Standard
A Standard of The Open Group

Digital Practitioner Body of Knowledge™ Standard

In 2017, The Open Group created the Digital Practitioners Work Group (DPWG), and in 2018 published the book Managing Digital: Concepts and Practices – a 600-page compendium of digital practices – written by Charles Betz, a member of The Open Group.

The DPWG used this book for much of the source text for the working draft of the Digital Practitioner Body of Knowledge Standard, also known as the DPBoK™ Standard. This has now been edited to make the DPBoK Standard into the first body of knowledge and standard for Digital Practitioners.

Structure of the DPBoK™ Standard

The high-level structure of the standard is summarized as follows:

- **Introduction** includes the objectives and overview, conformance requirements, and terminology definitions
- **Definitions** includes the terms and definitions for this document
- **Digital Transformation** describes the key concept of Digital Transformation
- **Principles of the DPBoK Standard** describes the principles by which the document will evolve and be maintained, and how Digital Practitioner competencies will be defined
- **Structure of the Body of Knowledge** describes how the Body of Knowledge is structured

What we do

The Digital Practitioners Work Group (DPWG) exists to develop and promote an understanding of what it means to be digital, and to establish best practices for organizations providing a digital customer experience. Digital is not about IT – it is about business and workforce transformation.

Digital Transformation is fundamentally a strategy and an operating model change, in which technological advancements are leveraged to improve human experiences and operating efficiencies, and to evolve the products and services to which customers will remain loyal.

The DPWG is a Work Group of The Open Group and is open to participation from any Member of The Open Group.

The Body of Knowledge is divided into into four stages, called Contexts, which correspond to the stages of evolution of a digital practice.

These stages are explained in the section on Context Summaries, and are summarized as follows:

Context I: Individual/Founder – Foundational drivers of, and technical capabilities for, delivering digital value

Context II: Team – The critical product management, collaboration, and operational skills necessary for producing digital value

Context III: Team of Teams – Key capabilities for partitioning investments and ensuring coherence, alignment, and joint execution across multiple teams

Context IV: Enduring Enterprise – Steering, managing risk, and assuring performance at scale and over increasing time horizons and increasingly complex ecosystems

Summary of the DPBoK™ Standard

The Digital Practitioner in today's work environment encounters a confusing and diverse array of opinions and diverging viewpoints. The Digital Practitioner Body of Knowledge Standard aims to provide a foundational set of concepts for the practitioner to make sense of the landscape they find in any organization attempting to deliver digital products. It strives to put both old and new in a common context, with well-supported analysis of professional practice. Practically, it should be of value for both academic and industry training purposes.

The DPBoK Standard is intended broadly for the development of the Digital Practitioner or professional. It seeks to provide guidance for both new entrants into the digital workforce as well as experienced practitioners seeking to update their understanding on how all the various themes and components of digital and IT management fit together in the new world.

"Digital consumes every conversation from the board level to development teams. Enterprises large and small are looking for direction and guidance to help them on their transformational journey across its People, Processes, and Technologies. The Digital Practitioner Body of Knowledge (DPBoK) is a powerful guide to those looking for direction, utilizing the collective knowledge of the Members of The Open Group. A true reflection of open source collaboration, which emphasizes digital in its own right. DXC Technology is proud to be part of its creation and promotion into our communities."

Carl Kinson, Chief Architect, DXC Technology

More Information

To find out more about participating,
please visit www.opengroup.org/membership or
email memberservices@opengroup.org

About The Open Group

The Open Group is an international vendor and technology-neutral consortium upon which organizations rely to lead the development of technology standards and certifications, and to provide them with access to key industry peers, suppliers, and best practices. The Open Group provides guidance and an open environment in order to ensure interoperability and vendor-neutrality.

Further information on The Open Group can be found at www.opengroup.org.