

**Standard**

**ELF 5005:2025**

**EXPRESS changes model in YAML**

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## Foreword

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee *EXPRESS*.

## Introduction

This document specifies the YAML format used to track changes in EXPRESS schema files.



# EXPRESS changes model in YAML

## 1 Scope

This document specifies the YAML format used to track changes in EXPRESS schema files.

## 2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 10303-1:2024, *Industrial automation systems and integration — Product data representation and exchange — Part 1: Overview and fundamental principles*

ISO 10303-11:2004, *Industrial automation systems and integration — Product data representation and exchange — Part 11: Description methods: The EXPRESS language reference manual*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org>

### 3.1

#### change

modification to an EXPRESS schema that alters the structure or semantics of the schema

## 4 Format structure

The EXPRESS Changes YAML format follows this basic structure:

```
path: String (required)
# Relative path to the EXPRESS file
changes:
- type: String (required)
  # Type of change: add, remove, modify
  entity: String (required)
  # Name of the entity being changed
  details: String (required)
  # Description of the change
  original: String (optional)
  # Original content (for modify/remove)
  new: String (optional)
  # New content (for add/modify)
```

Figure 1

## 5 Change types

### 5.1 Add

Used when adding new elements to the schema.

EXAMPLE — Example

```
path: data/schema.exp
changes:
- type: add
  entity: PERSON
  details: Add new entity for representing individuals
  new: |
    ENTITY PERSON;
    name: STRING;
    age: INTEGER;
    END_ENTITY;
```

### 5.2 Remove

Used when removing elements from the schema.

EXAMPLE — Example

```
path: data/schema.exp
changes:
- type: remove
  entity: OBSOLETE_TYPE
  details: Remove deprecated type definition
  original: |
    TYPE OBSOLETE_TYPE = INTEGER;
    END_TYPE;
```

### 5.3 Modify

Used when modifying existing elements.

EXAMPLE — Example

```
path: data/schema.exp
changes:
- type: modify
  entity: PERSON
  details: Add email attribute to PERSON entity
  original: |
    ENTITY PERSON;
    name: STRING;
    END_ENTITY;
  new: |
    ENTITY PERSON;
    name: STRING;
    email: STRING;
    END_ENTITY;
```

## 6 Validation rules

- a) The `path` field must be a valid relative path to an EXPRESS file
- b) Each change must have a `type`, `entity`, and `details` field
- c) `original` is required for `remove` and `modify` types
- d) `new` is required for `add` and `modify` types



- e) Multiple changes can be specified for the same file

## **7 Usage guidelines**

- a) Keep change descriptions clear and specific
- b) Include context in the details field
- c) Maintain proper EXPRESS syntax in original/new content
- d) Use consistent indentation in YAML structure

## Bibliography

- [1] ISO 10303-21:2016, *Industrial automation systems and integration — Product data representation and exchange — Part 21: Implementation methods: Clear text encoding of the exchange structure*

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