

DMSC
Digital Metrology Standards Consortium

QIF Overview

Daniel Campbell

VP Model-Based Definition, Capvidia

Chair, QIF Working Group

Member, Board of Directors, DMSC

April 18, 2024

MBE/QIF Summit – MxD Chicago

About the DMSC

Digital Metrology Standards Consortium



- A non-profit, cooperative sponsorship, consortium organization since 1983.
- Dedicated to identifying, promoting, fostering, and encouraging the development and interoperability of information standards that benefit the digital metrology community.
- Preparing standards that impact digital model-based quality enterprise.
- A professional group of manufacturing metrologists, software developers, and innovators worldwide. Note: 500+ years of experience contributed to the QIF.
- Maintainers of Dimensional Measuring Interface Standard (DMIS) standard.
- Developers & maintainers of Quality Information Framework (QIF) standard.
- Developers & maintainers of Model Based Characteristics (MBC) standard.
- ANSI accredited standards making organization
- A-Liaison member of ISO / TC 184 / SC 4 (allows for harvesting ANSI standards)

DMSC Members



DMSC Board of Directors



Curtis Brown - President
Honeywell FM&T

Sam Gambrell
Lockheed Martin

Jennifer Herron
Action Engineering

Jeremy Hamilton
John Deere

Hermitt Vega
Pratt & Whitney/RTX

Daniel Campbell
Capvidia

Rosemary Astheimer
Purdue University

Why Join the DMSC?



Influence the standards



Do your part for interoperability



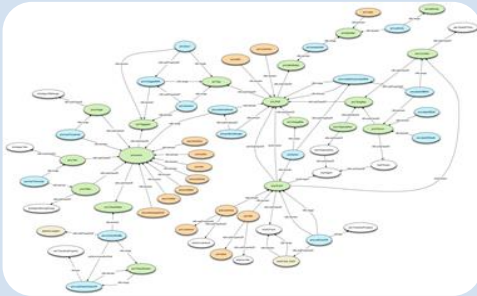
Connect with likeminded tech enthusiasts

Visit www.qifstandards.org for more information

QIF Overview

What is QIF?

What is QIF?



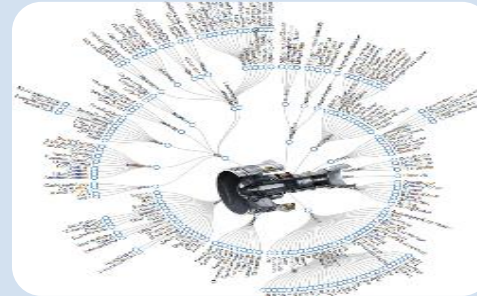
Characteristic-Centric,
Feature-Based
Ontology of
Manufacturing
Quality
Metadata

Structured Data



XML Technology:
Simple, Modern
Implementation
with Built-In
Code Validation

Modern Approach



Semantically
Linked to MBD
for Traceability

Connected Data



ISO Standard for
interoperability

Standard Artifacts

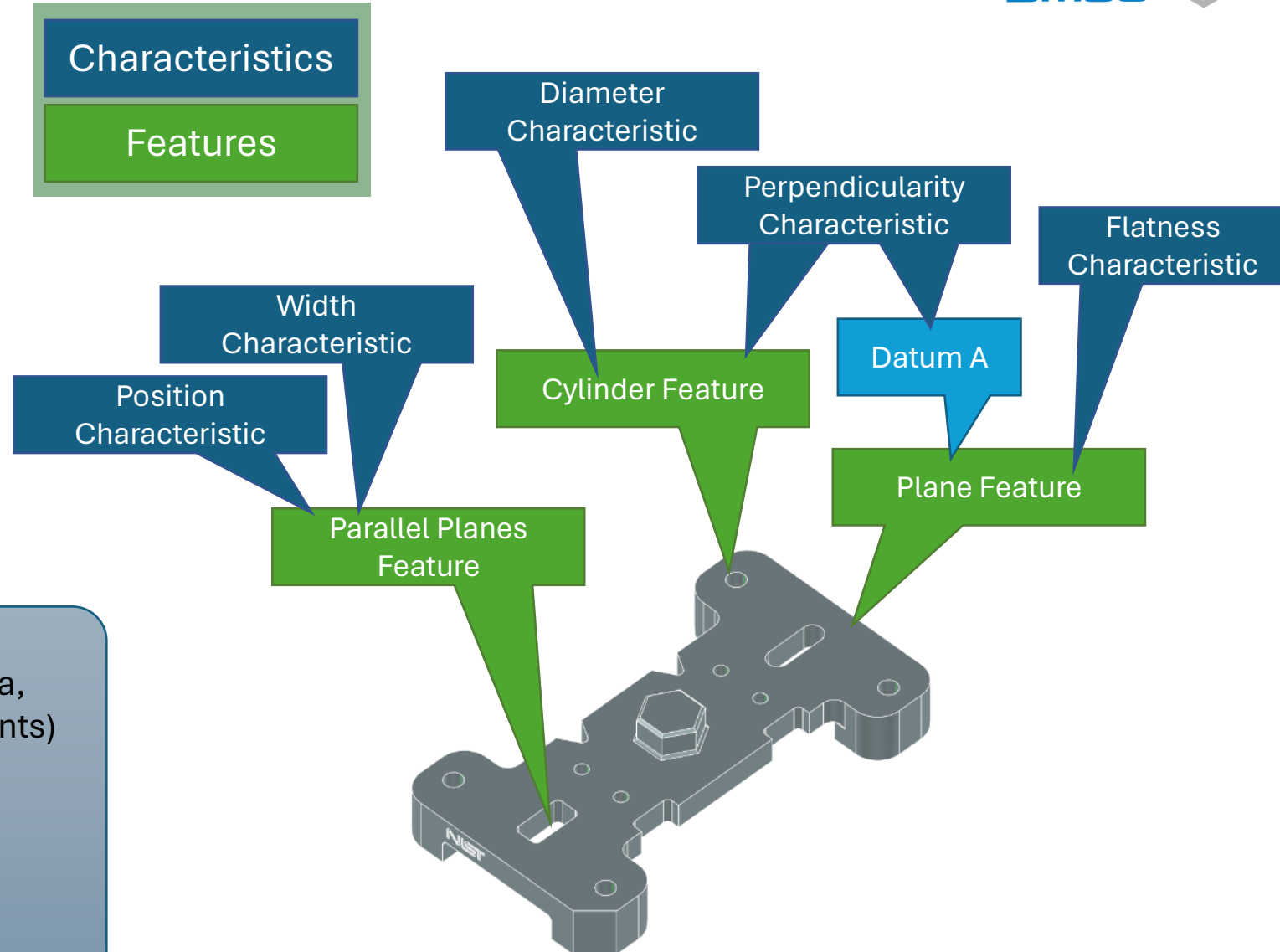
The Building Blocks of QIF: Features & Characteristics

Model geometry is wrapped by **Features**

- Different concept than CAD features!
- Sometimes referred to as:
 - Tolerance Features
 - Metrology Features
 - Measurement Features

Features are referenced by **Characteristics** (aka, Product Characteristics, Inspection Requirements)

- Geometric Tolerances
- Dimensional Tolerances
- Specifications
- Notes
- Welds
- Etc.

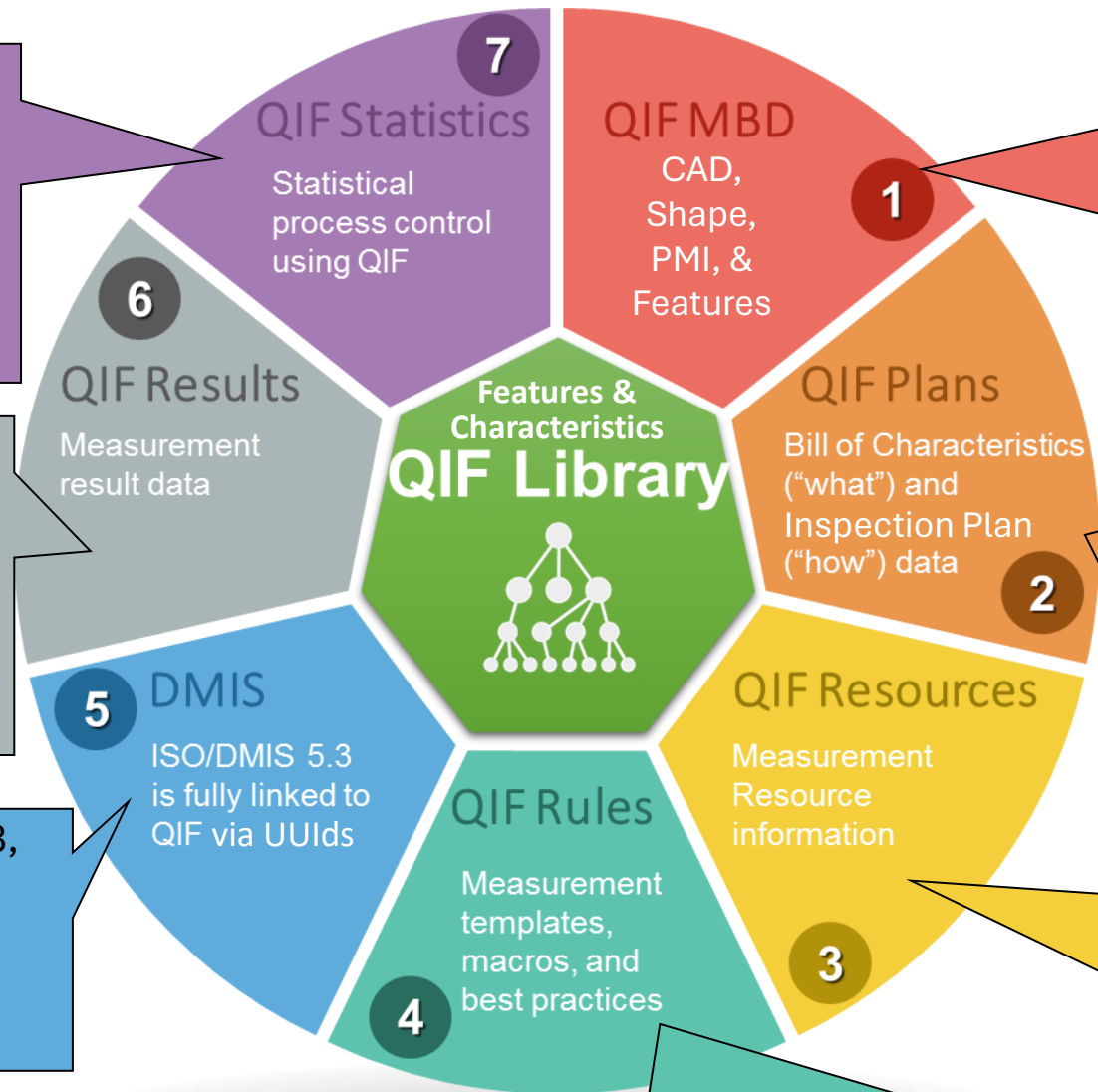


QIF Application Areas

Reference a bundle of QIF Results sets and specify a statistical analysis method to be carried out. Can optionally include the results of the statistical analysis as well

Measurement results data, associated with the MBD! This can be just tolerance evaluation results and can even include all the point cloud data from the features.

DMIS is not part of QIF, ISO 22093, however the latest ANSI DMIS 5.3 has been updated to harmonize with the data traceability mechanisms in QIF.



QIF MBD (Model-Based Definition) is the basis for providing traceability to authority CAD data. It is not required for basic QIF use cases.

Wide range of optional levels of detail for measurement plans:

- What to Measure: Bill of Characteristics
- How to Measure: Inspection Plan
- Assign measurement resources
- Specify sampling point locations

Specify basic or highly detailed information about available measurement equipment (e.g., CMMs, probes, calipers, gages). As always, this data is contextual and semantic.

Rule templates for creating measurement rule instances. (e.g., *If a Surface Profile tolerance value is less than x, then use a CMM method with at least y number of point/sq.in.*)

QIF Core

The primary technological details to be aware of

Major QIF Elements

QIF Document



- Top level container for an instance file
 - 1 instance file = 1 QIFDocument
- At the top level, it contains all the key elements we will discuss in the next slides
- Almost all the elements at this level are optional

```
<QIFDocument>
```

```
...
```

```
<Header> ... </Header>
```

```
<DatumDefinitions> ... /DatumDefinitions>
```

```
<DatumReferenceFrames> ... </DatumReferenceFrames>
```

```
<MeasurementResources> ... </MeasurementResources>
```

```
<Product> ... </Product>
```

```
<Features> ... </Features>
```

```
<Characteristics> ... </Characteristics>
```

```
<Results> ... </Results>
```

```
</QIFDocument>
```

Major QIF Elements Library: Features

An abstraction for referencing a portion of a part.

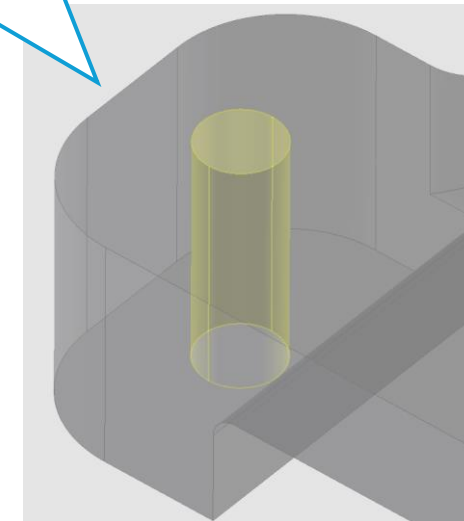
In MBD, this means:

A container for referencing one or more geometrical entities on the model

There are lots of feature types! Some examples:

- Cylinder
- Plane
- Cone
- Opposite Parallel Planes (slot)
- Freeform (generic)
- Circles
- Lines
- Ellipse
- Compound Features
- Pattern Features
- Etc.

This Cylinder feature is made up of 2 CAD surfaces. (Pretty typical.) But the CAD's mathematical representation of this geometry is irrelevant – this is a functional hole, and needs to be treated as such!



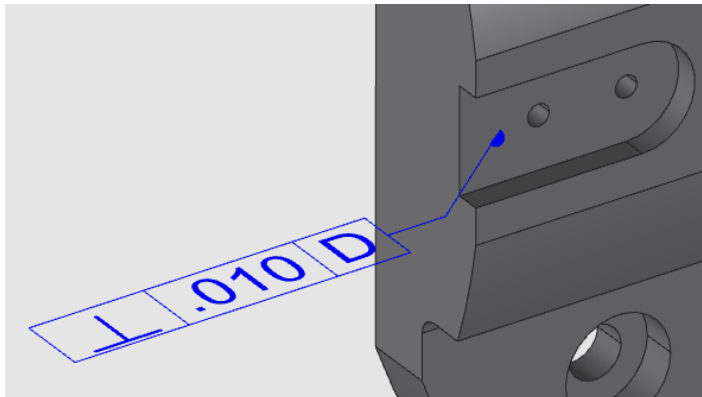
Major QIF Elements

Library: Characteristics



A control placed on a Feature.

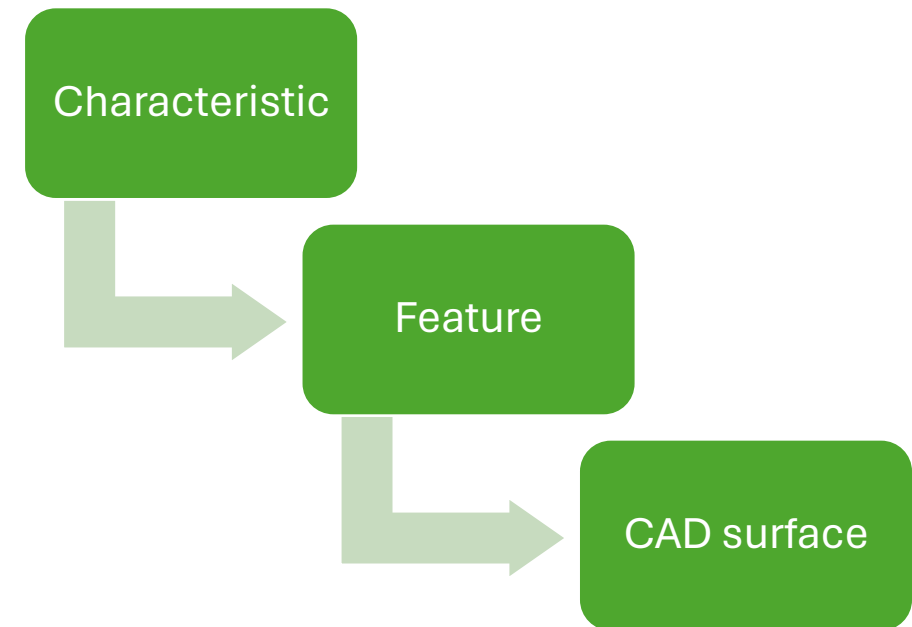
For example, a Size/Form/Orientation/Location tolerance, a Surface Finish, a Weld specification, etc.



With QIF MBD, it is also possible for a Characteristics to have a 3D presentation element (e.g., an annotation). But that's for human consumption.

How is a Characteristic connected to the MBD?

A Characteristic points to a Feature, and a Feature points to CAD geometry.



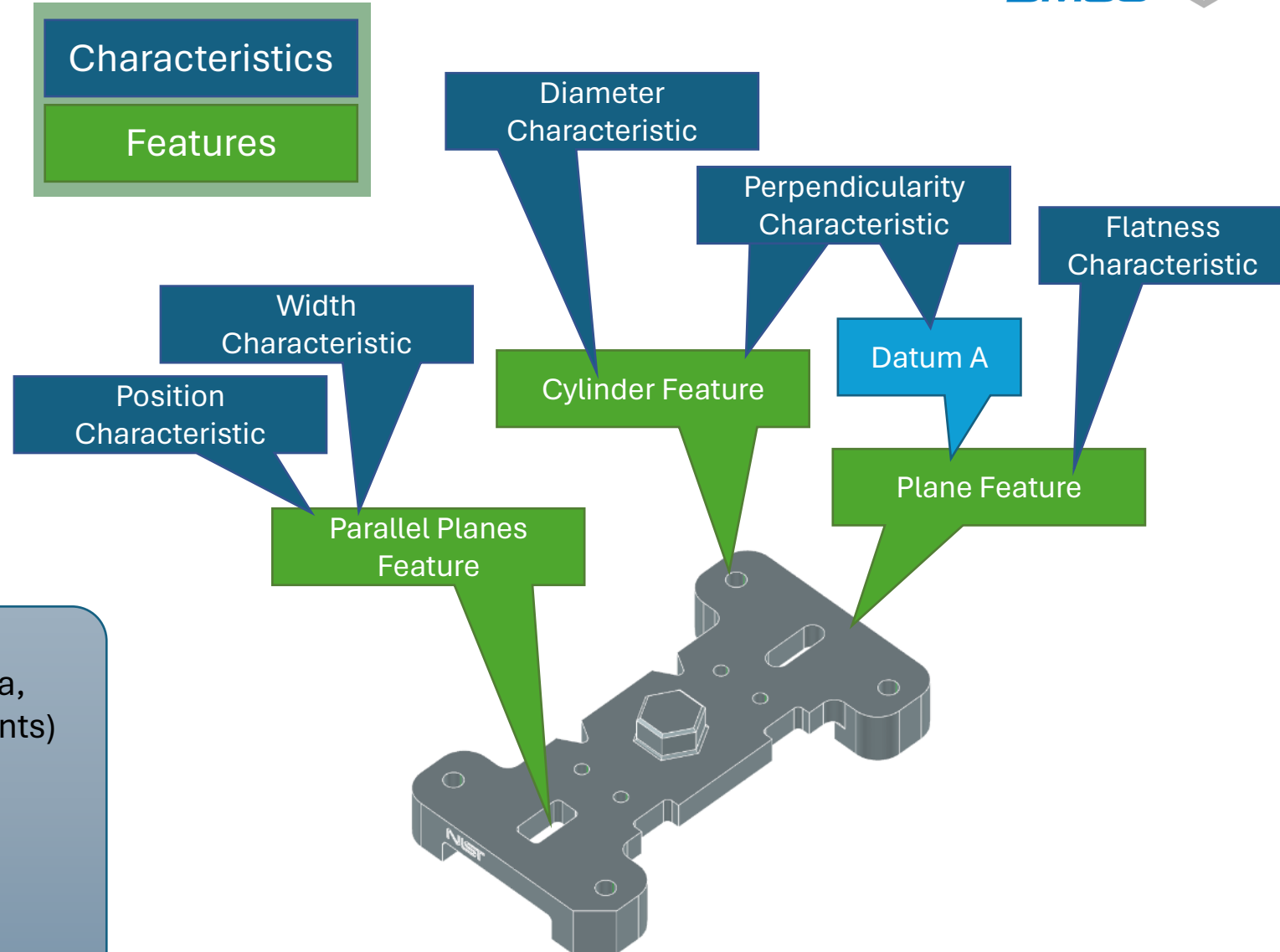
The Building Blocks of QIF: Features & Characteristics

Model geometry is wrapped by **Features**

- Different concept than CAD features!
- Sometimes referred to as:
 - Tolerance Features
 - Metrology Features
 - Measurement Features

Features are referenced by **Characteristics** (aka, Product Characteristics, Inspection Requirements)

- Geometric Tolerances
- Dimensional Tolerances
- Specifications
- Notes
- Welds
- Etc.



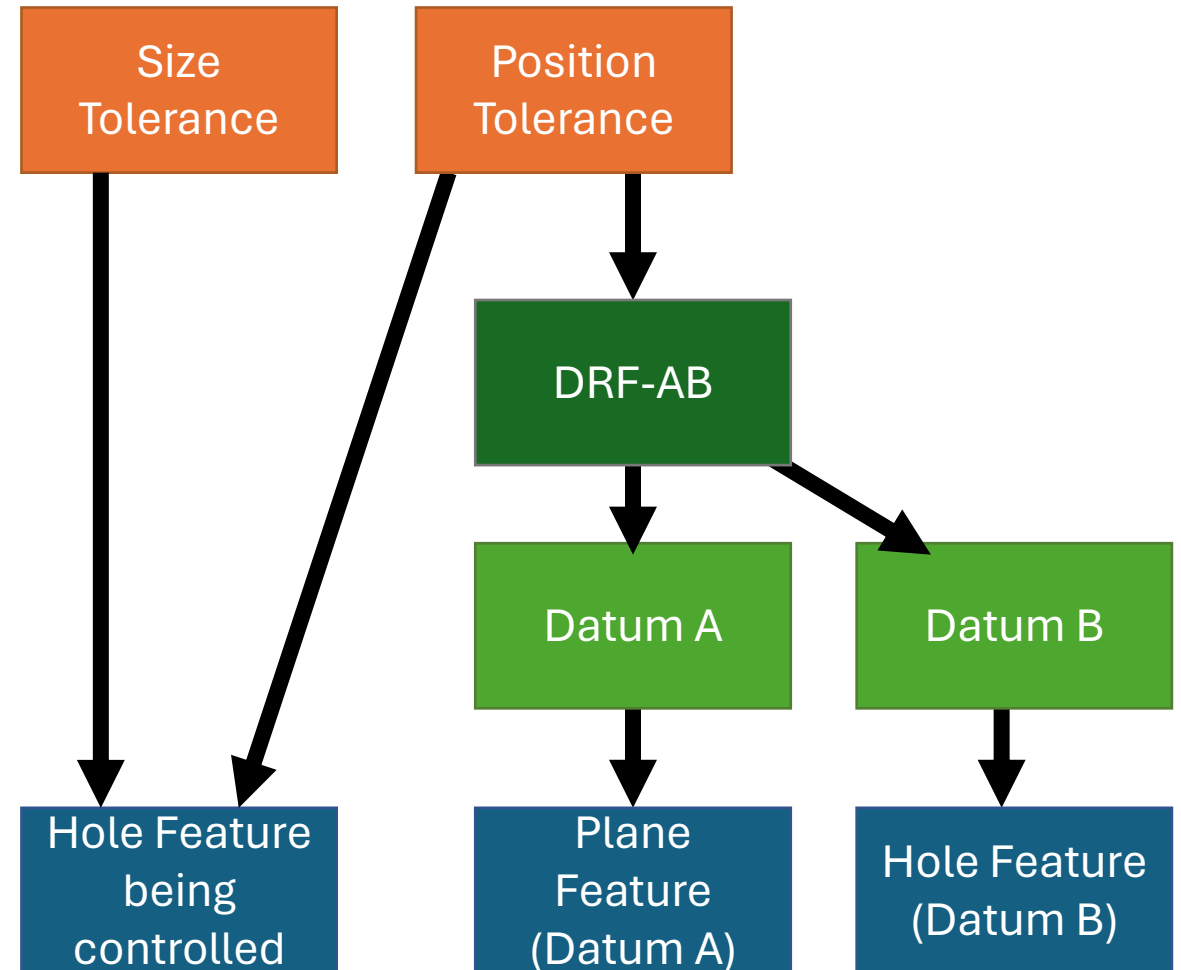
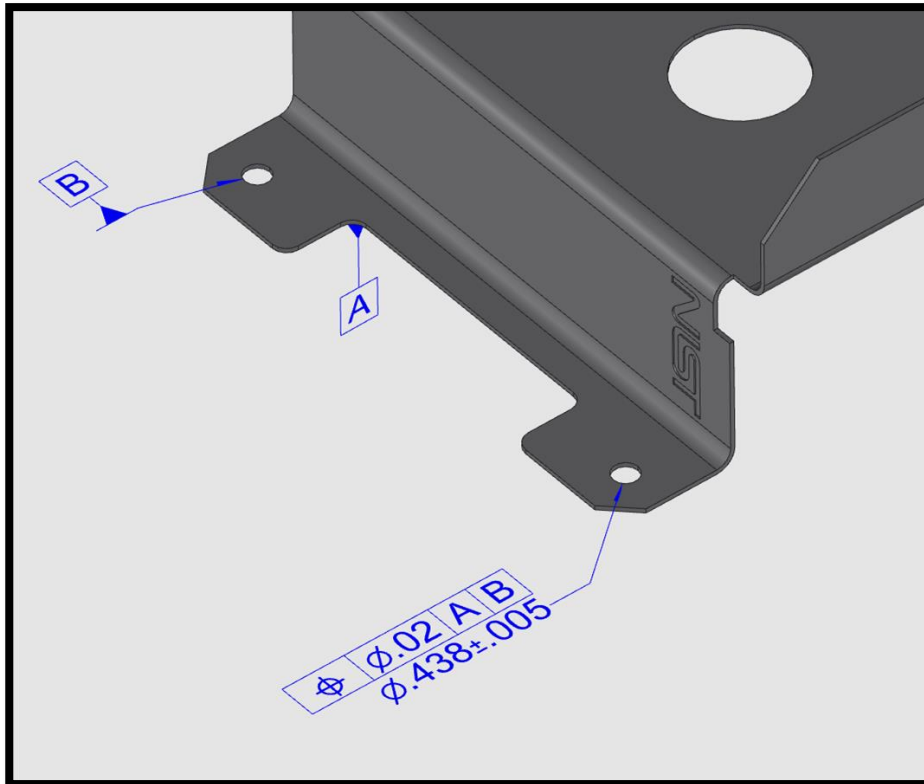
QIF – The Details

The nitty gritty details for the real nerds 😊

Major QIF Elements

Library: Datums and DRFs

Datums and DRFs are data structures used to help define the geometric controls implied by a GTol. This is how Features, Datums, Features, and GTols are linked.



Major QIF Elements

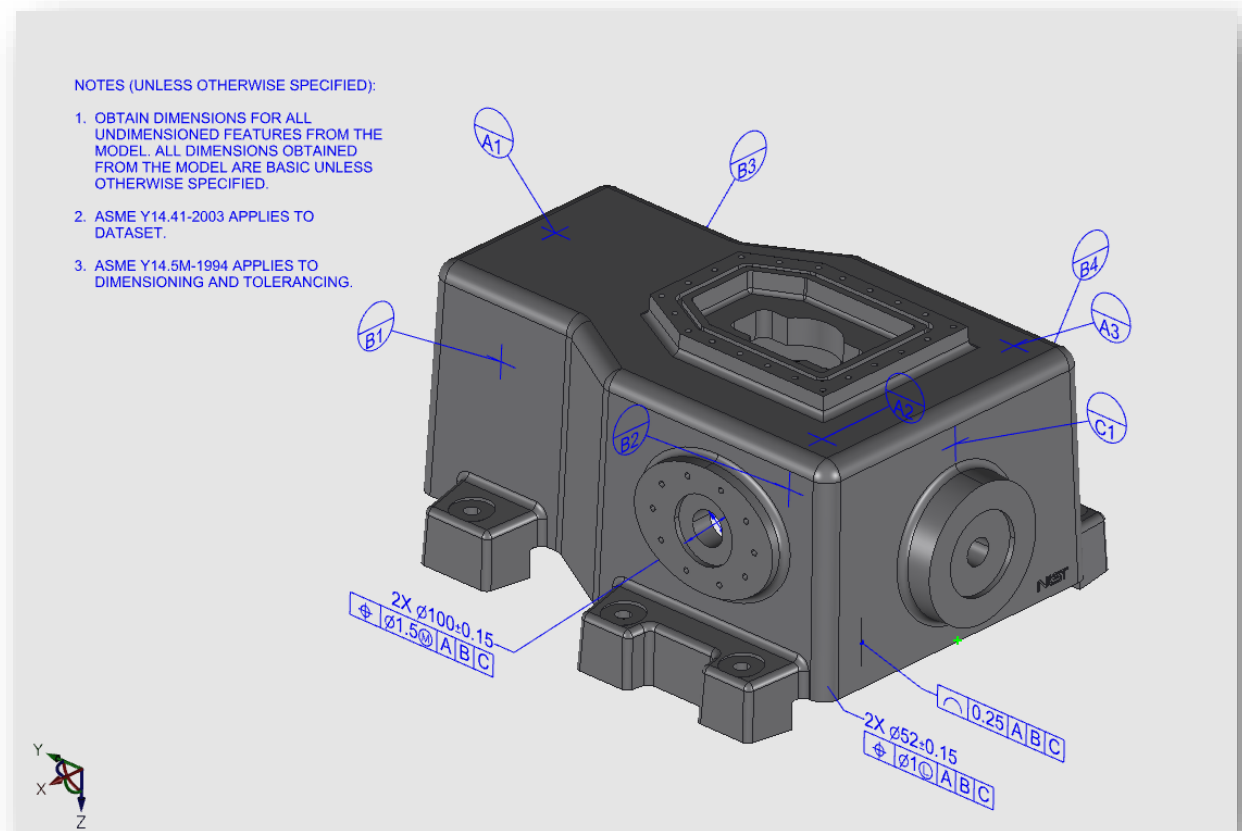
Applications: Product (aka, MBD)



The “Product” is the name of the element for QIF MBD data.

This is how Feature & Characteristic Nominals and Feature & Characteristic Measurements are tied to the MBD model.

This is how **Digital Twin** is done.



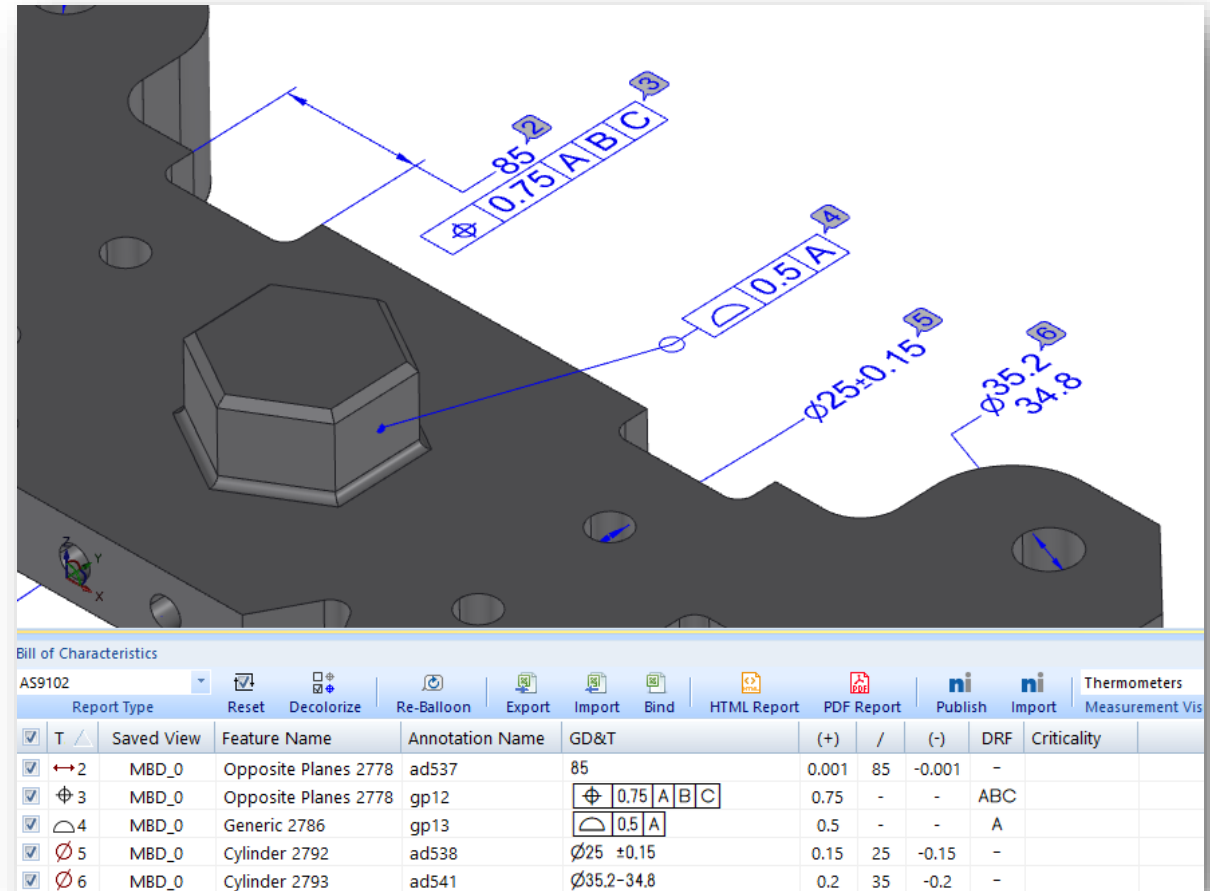
Major QIF Elements

Applications: Plans

Measurement Plans can be described in various levels of detail. Can range anywhere between:

High level plan: just the Bill of Characteristics – *what is being measured?*

Detailed plan: What is being measured, what equipment is being used to do it, where are sampling points being taken, etc.



Bill of Characteristics

Report Type	Reset	Decolorize	Re-Balloon	Export	Import	Bind	HTML Report	PDF Report	Publish	Import	Measurement Vis
✓ T	▲	Saved View	Feature Name	Annotation Name	GD&T	(+)	/	(-)	DRF	Criticality	
✓	↔	2	MBD_0	Opposite Planes 2778	ad537	85	0.001	85	-0.001	-	
✓	⊕	3	MBD_0	Opposite Planes 2778	gp12	⊕ 0.75 A B C	0.75	-	-	ABC	
✓	∩	4	MBD_0	Generic 2786	gp13	∩ 0.5 A	0.5	-	-	A	
✓	∅	5	MBD_0	Cylinder 2792	ad538	∅25 ±0.15	0.15	25	-0.15	-	
✓	∅	6	MBD_0	Cylinder 2793	ad541	∅35.2-34.8	0.2	35	-0.2	-	

Major QIF Elements

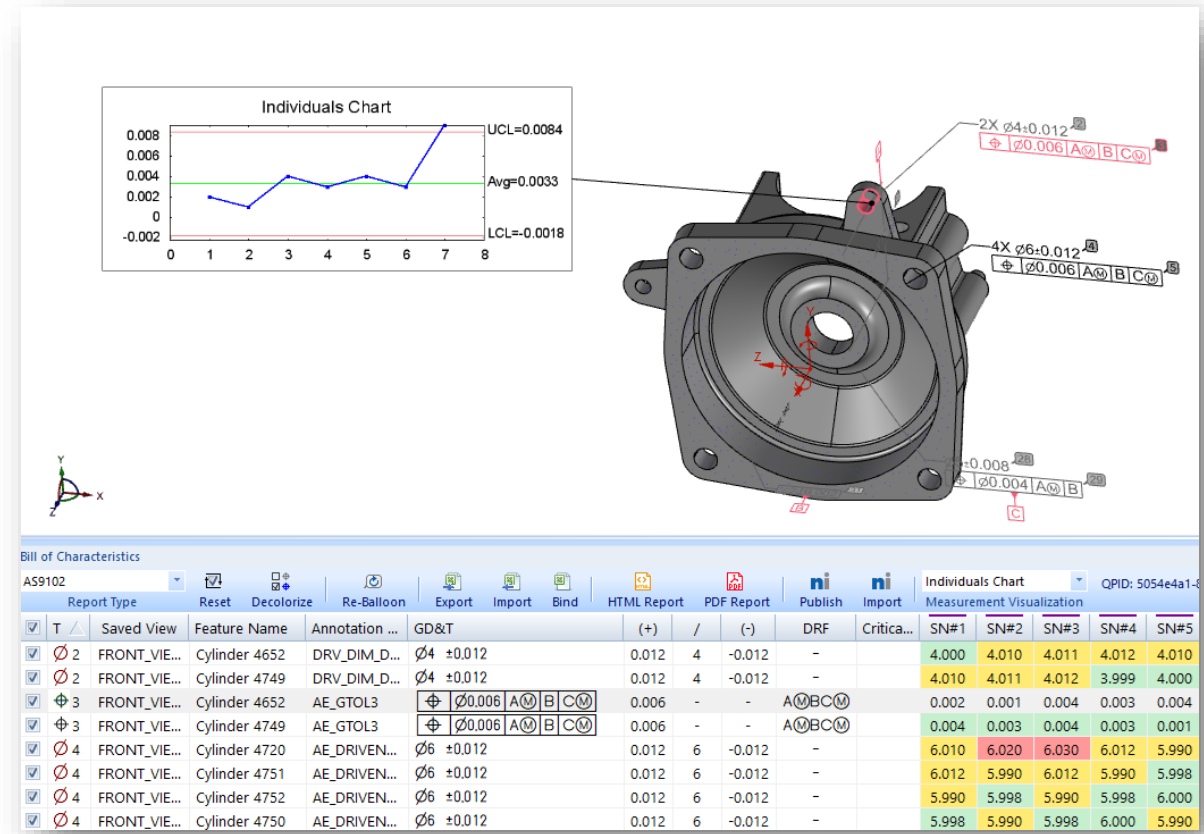
Applications: Results



Tolerances are placed on a product definition to be measured.

QIF Measurement Results is how Feature and Characteristic measurements are stored and linked to the corresponding product definition entity.

This allows for the mapping between:
Measurement ↔ Product Definition



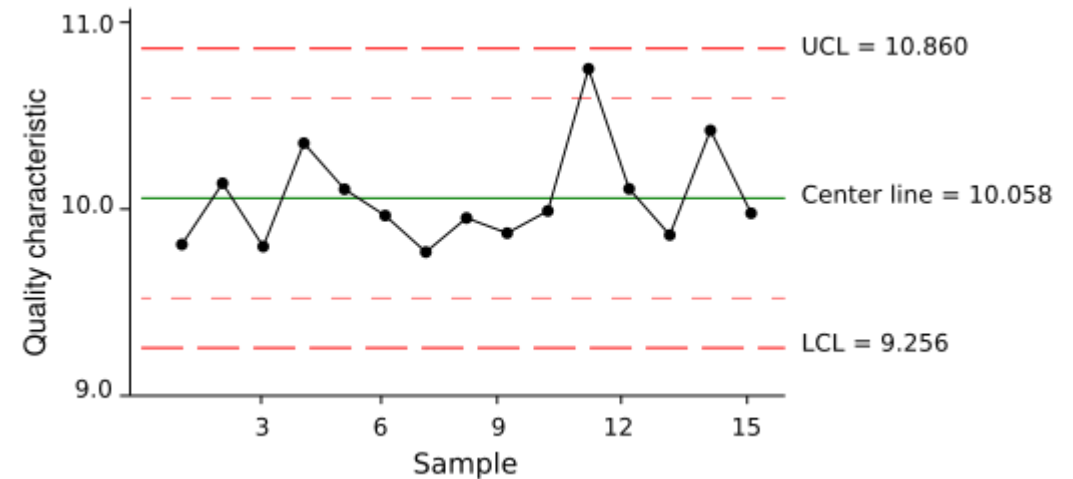
Major QIF Elements

Applications: Statistics



QIF Statistics can be used in one of two ways:

- **Specify statistical method:** define the SPC rules that should be applied to measurement data, when it is acquired
- **Show SPC Results:** bundle up a set of results data, and show the result of the SPC analysis of that dataset



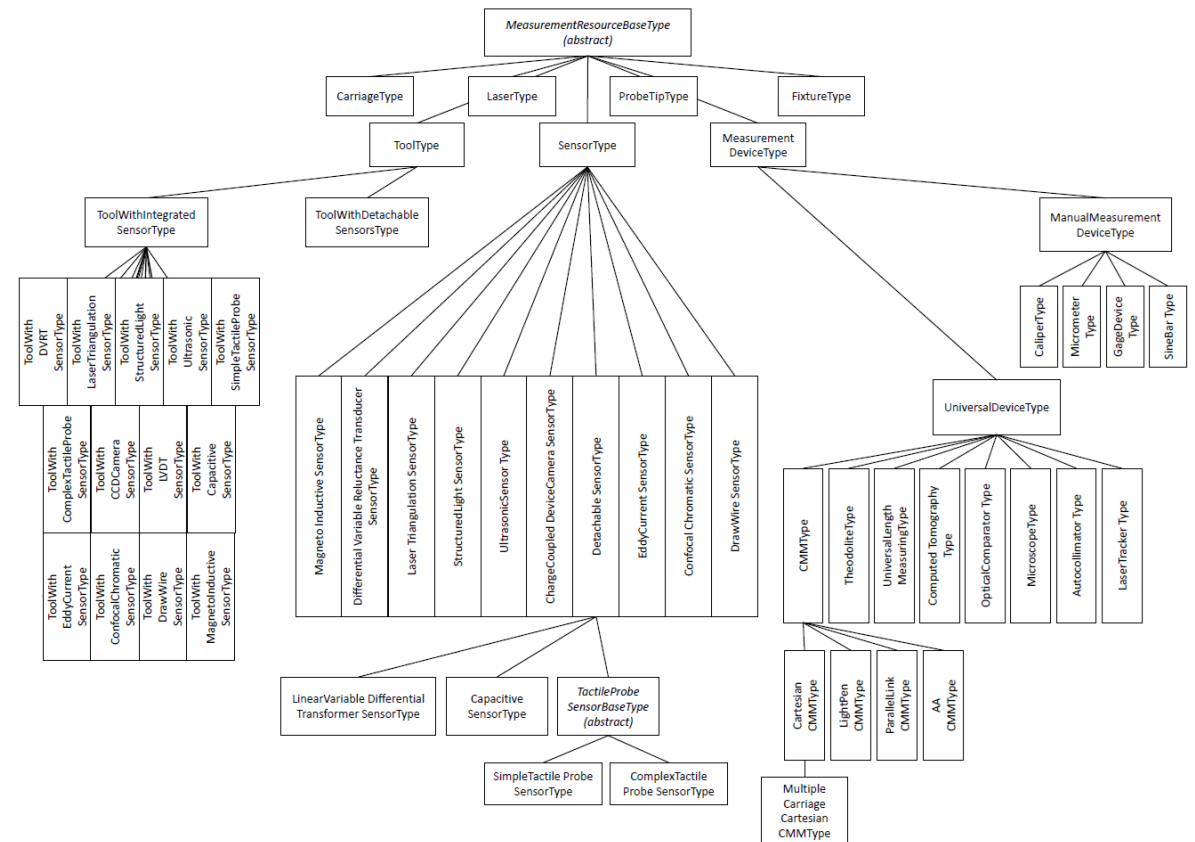
Major QIF Elements

Applications: Resources

What measurement equipment will be used to measure something?

QIF Resources is used to specify this equipment.

A huge range of devices are described in QIF 3.0, including CMMs, calipers, gages, theodolites, lots of sensors, and more!



Major QIF Elements

Applications: Rules

Provides a mechanism to specify things like:

- Measurement best practices
- Measurement templates
- Corporate standards for measurement

How does it work?

```
If (“Boolean condition”) then
{
    Corresponding “action”
}
```

Boolean conditions that can be checked:

- Tolerance type, value, etc.
- Feature type, size, etc.
- Is feature a datum?
- If feature internal/external?
- User defined sampling category
- Anything else can be evaluated to a Boolean results, e.g., “surface area ≥ 150 ”

Actions that can be taken:

- Sampling point count, density, and sampling strategy
- Fitting algorithm
- Measurement equipment: required, allowed, prohibited

Modularity of QIF Data

Back to QIF Document...

Major QIF Elements QIF Document



- Top level container for an instance file
 - 1 instance file = 1 QIFDocument
- At the top level, it contains all the key elements we will discuss in the next slides
- Almost all the elements at this level are optional

```

<QIFDocument>
...
<Header> ... </Header>
<DatumDefinitions> ... </DatumDefinitions>
<DatumReferenceFrames> ... </DatumReferenceFrames>
<MeasurementResources> ... </MeasurementResources>
<Product> ... </Product>
<Features> ... </Features>
<Characteristics> ... </Characteristics>
<Results> ... </Results>
</QIFDocument>

```

A single QIF instance file is a QIF Document which might contain:

- Product (MBD)
- Plans
- Results
- Statistics
- Resources
- Rules

A single part made by a manufacturing enterprise will typically have 1 MBD product definition, **but may have multiple sets of plans, results, statistics**. Also, the resources or rules used on this part might be used on thousands of others.

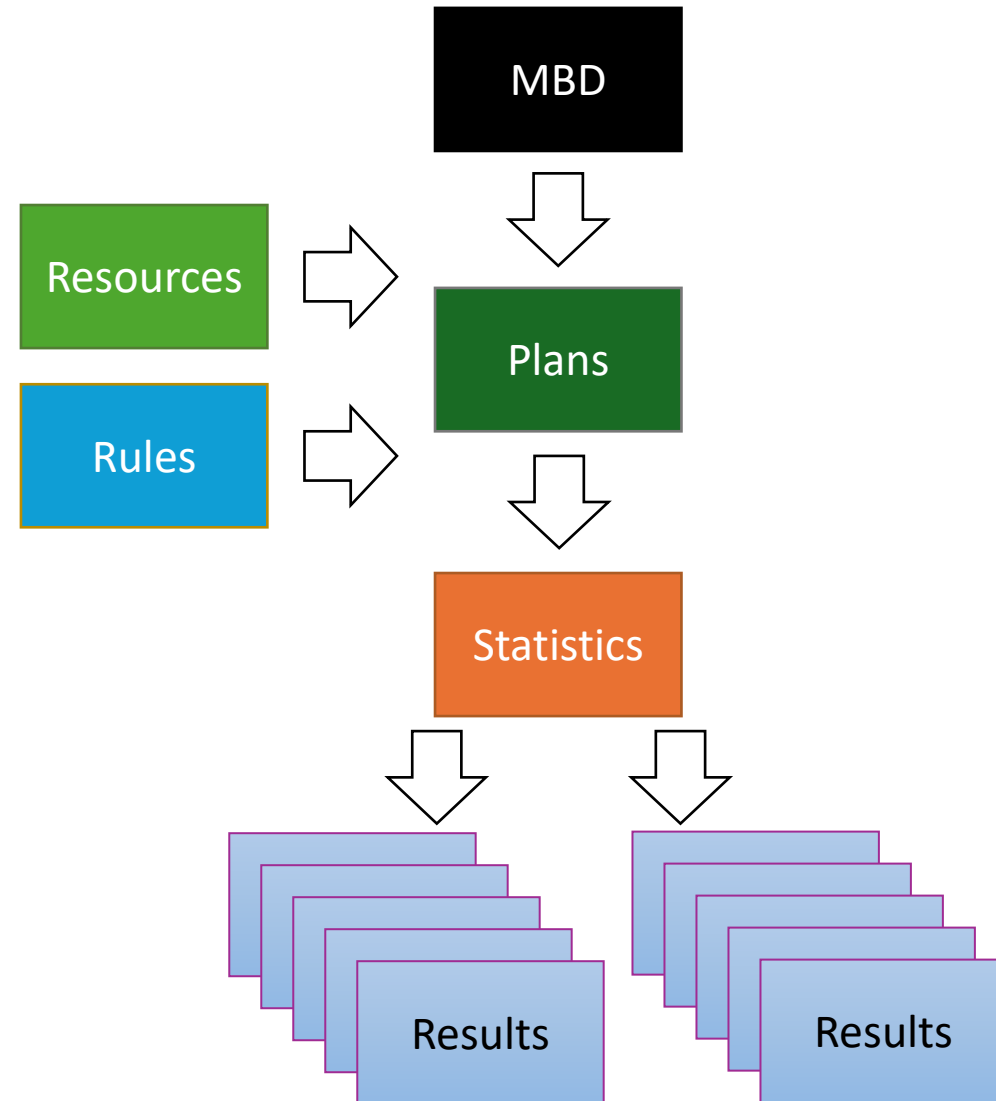
This is why QIF is designed to support a federated data model, where a single mapped bulk of QIF data can be stored across multiple instance files.

Modularity of QIF Data

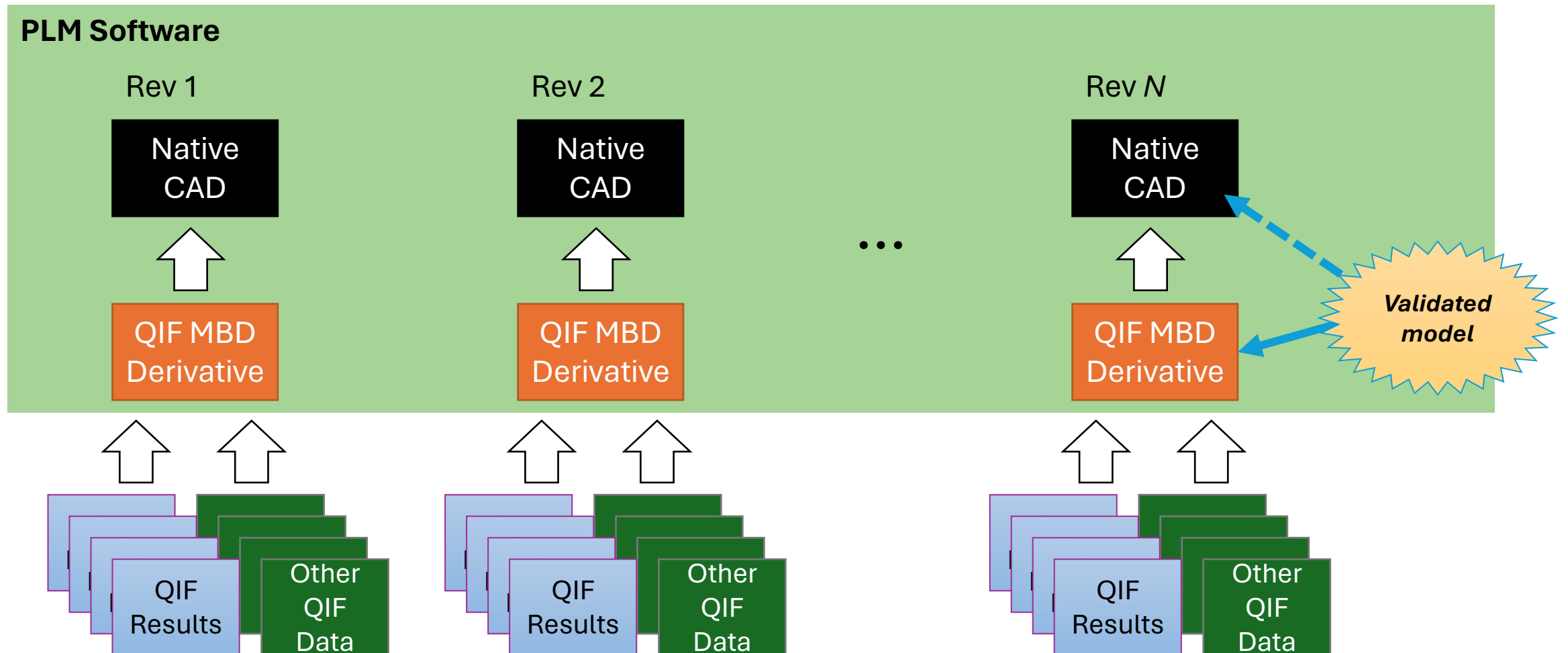
QIF data can be split up among various instance files. For example, the diagram on the right shows a possible group of interrelated QIF instance files, where one box corresponds to one instance file.

But remember:

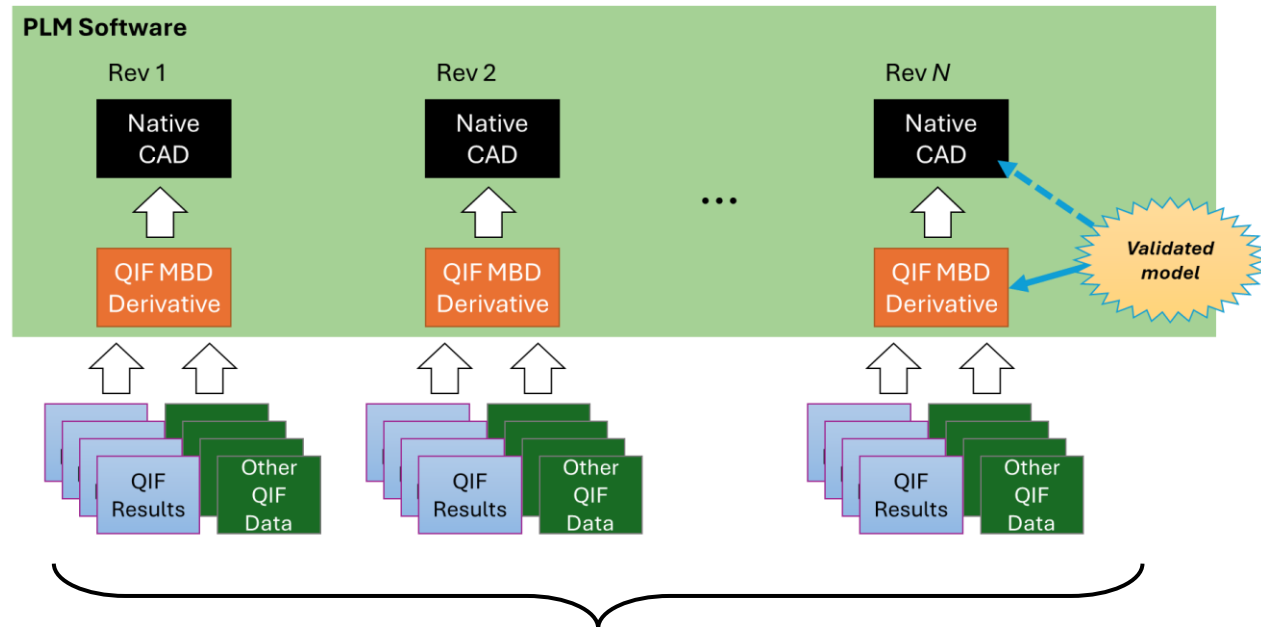
A QIF instance file usually *does* carry more than one type of data. So, it doesn't typically make sense to ask, "*is this a QIF MBD file, or a QIF Plans file?*" It might be both!



QIF at the Enterprise Data PLM Level



QIF at the Enterprise Data PLM Level



Features/Characteristics which are not changed between revisions can be easily correlated.

Mapping maintained from “**single source of truth**” (i.e., CAD model in PDM) and **all measurement data**

Very high data resolution – the measurement data for

- “POS_01” tolerance on
- Part “abc”
- With “123” serial number

corresponds to a specific annotation on our authoritative product definition for a specific physical part instance.

Remember: your metrology department gathers **more data** about your product & process than any other part of your enterprise. Are you leveraging this information?

This is Digital Twin.

Summary

Back to the basics...

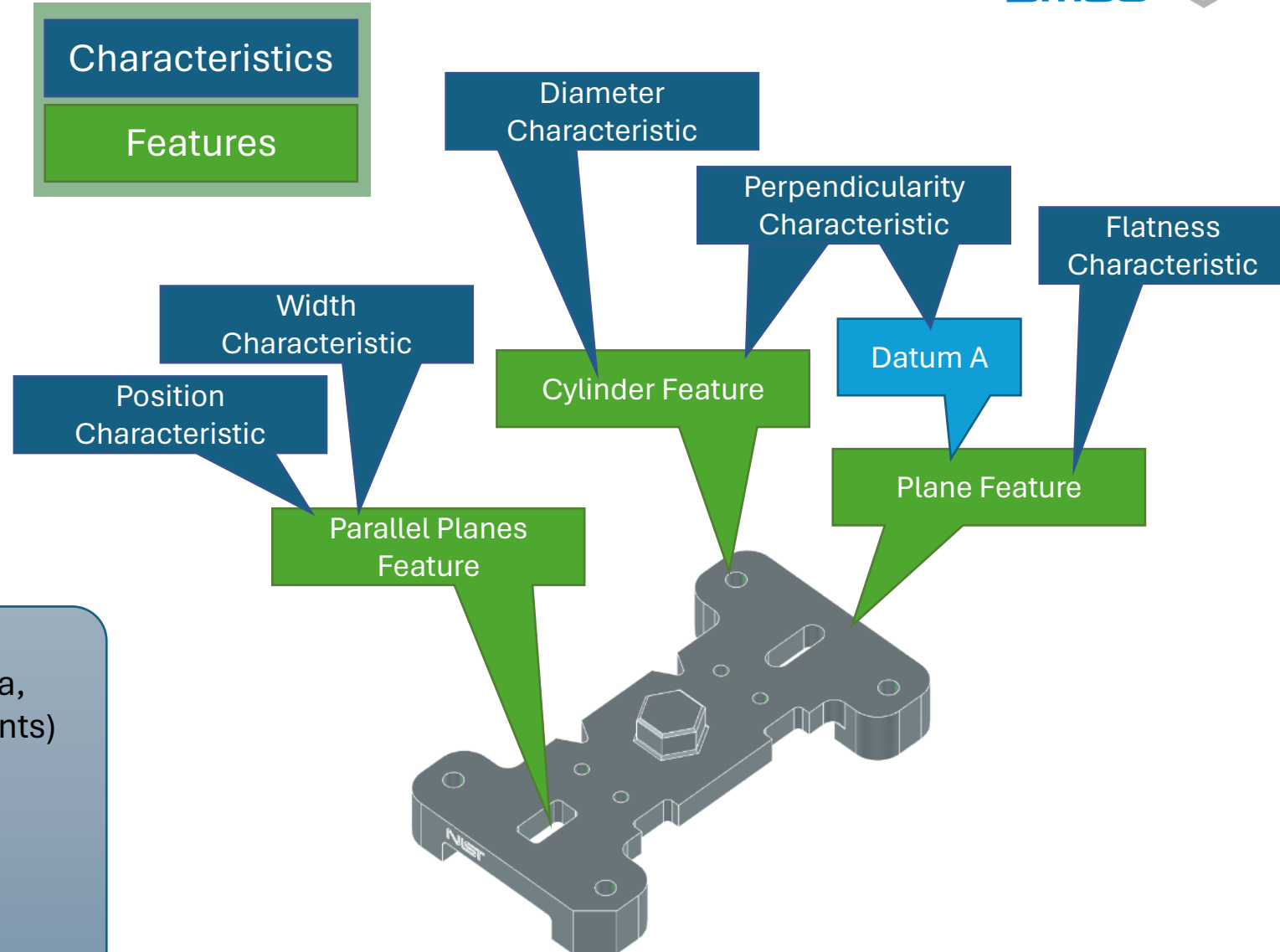
The Building Blocks of QIF: Features & Characteristics

Model geometry is wrapped by **Features**

- Different concept than CAD features!
- Sometimes referred to as:
 - Tolerance Features
 - Metrology Features
 - Measurement Features

Features are referenced by **Characteristics** (aka, Product Characteristics, Inspection Requirements)

- Geometric Tolerances
- Dimensional Tolerances
- Specifications
- Notes
- Welds
- Etc.



Why Join the DMSC?



Influence the standards



Do your part for interoperability



Connect with likeminded tech enthusiasts

Visit www.qifstandards.org for more information

Q&A

Thanks!!



Daniel Campbell
Chair, QIF Working Group
Member, DMSC Board of Directors
Vice President, Model-Based Definition, Capvidia

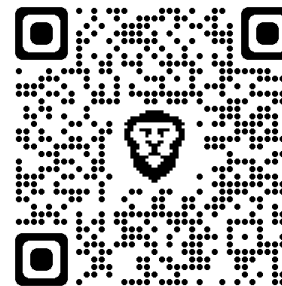
 dc@capvidia.com

 <https://www.linkedin.com/in/daniel-campbell-051769/>

Check out
our online
community:



<https://qualityinformationframework.github.io/>



Schema Browser: [If you want to dig into the schemas in detail, you should check out this schema browser.](#) It allows you to easily navigate the structure and relationships of the QIF data model.