

Data quality issue

Definition

A data quality issue is a non-fulfilment of a [requirement](#) regarding [data quality](#).

Notes

Generally, a data quality issue concerns an incorrect data value, but it may also involve any other [data quality dimensions](#), e.g., completeness and timeliness.

Attributes of a data quality issue are:

- Description of a data quality issues
- Classification of a data quality issues
- Impact, severity/urgency
- Assignment of the data quality issues to a person who will resolve the data quality issues
- What is changed, why en how in the resolution of a data quality issues
- Resolution time/Duration

Synonym(s)

- Data anomalies
- Data error
- Data quality incident
- Defect
- Error
- Nonconformity

Lifecycle

| Phase | Activity |
|-------|---|
| Plan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * To detect or identify data quality issues * To determine if similar data quality issues exist * To register data quality issues * To count the number of data quality issues * To categorize or classify data quality issues * To diagnose data quality issues('root cause analysis') * To formulate options for remediation of data quality issues. * To assess the business impact of data quality quality issues('severity') * To prioritize data quality issuesbased on business impact (by data owners and data stewards) * To eventually escalate data quality issues. See figure. |

| | |
|-------|--|
| Do | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * To eliminate or resolve a data quality issues('correction', 'remediation', 'scrubbing' or 'cleansing') * To eliminate the cause of a data quality issues to prevent recurring ('corrective action') * To eliminate the cause of a potential data quality issues('preventive action') * To deal with the consequences of the data quality issues, e.g., to report data isquality issuess to data users * To document actions taken. |
| Check | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * To monitor the status of data quality issues and their resolutions. * To review the effectiveness of corrective and preventive action. |
| Act | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * To adapt corrective and preventive action. |

Characteristics

| Characteristic | Requirements |
|----------------|--|
| Severity | Data quality issues are resolved in order of severity. |

Relations

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Data quality issues | is an element of a | data quality management system |
| Data quality issues | is one of the principles of a | data quality program |
| Data quality issues | can, e.g., be caused by | data entry processes or by an incomplete data migration |
| Data quality issues | is a subject in a | data quality service level agreement |
| Data quality issues | are identified by | data profiling |
| Data quality issues | are prevented by applying | data quality rules |
| Data quality issues | are identified and resolved by | data stewards |
| Data quality issues | are resolved by | data cleansing |
| Data quality issues | are eliminated by | corrections |
| Data quality issues | are prevented by | corrective actions |
| Data quality issues | are prevented by | preventive actions |
| Data quality issues | can be easiers assessed by | data lineage |
| Data quality issues | can be tracked in an | incident tracking system |
| Data quality issues | are detected and reported by | |



Data quality issues escalation path

The figure shows a possible escalation path of data quality issues.

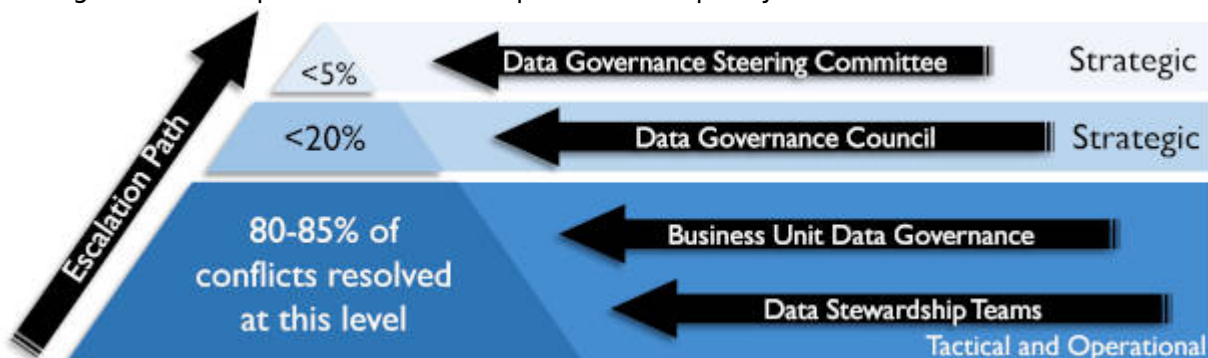


Figure 2: Data quality issues escalation path.

Story

A customer of the TradeAll trade company complained that he had been delivered an incorrect item. The sales department reported this incident in the Incident Tracking System, which was assigned to the Data Steward. The Data Steward then went to see how this could have happened. He found that the item number did not match the item description and suspected that this was due to a data entry error. Based on the item number, the products were taken from the warehouse.

He corrected the item number (Correction), but to prevent this kind of error, he took the measure that the entry of items was checked by a second person to prevent more incidents (Corrective Action). He also made sure to check for duplicate item numbers in the database (Corrective Action).. The customer was apologised for the error and the correct article was delivered as soon as possible.

References

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DAMA Dictionary of Data Management. 2nd Edition 2011. Technics Publications, LLC, New Jersey.

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[All, DQMS](#)

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