

# ACH - Define a new Architecture Model



Starting from CAST AIP 8.3.23, **CAST Architecture Checker** will no longer be installed as part of the CAST AIP setup, whether installing CAST AIP from scratch or on a server where a previous release of CAST AIP exists. CAST Architecture Checker has evolved into a **standalone component** where all feature requests and bug fixes are now managed. This standalone component can be downloaded from **CAST Extend** (<https://extendng.castsoftware.com/#/search-results?q=archchecker>).

Up-to-date documentation can be found here: [CAST Architecture Checker](#).

## Define a new Architecture Model

When you first launch the Architecture Checker, you need to define a new Architecture Model to get started:

- Use the **File > New Architecture Model** option or right click the blank **Main window (Model tab)** and select **New Architecture Model**
- A dialog box will then be displayed enabling you to define the new model:

The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "New Architecture Model". It has a close button in the top right corner. The dialog contains three input fields: "Architecture Model name:" with the text "TEST\_MODEL", "Choose Template:" with a dropdown menu showing "-- Blank Template --", and "Dependency type:" with a dropdown menu showing "Authorized dependencies". At the bottom are "Ok" and "Cancel" buttons.

<b>Architecture Model name</b>	Enter a name for your Model - this simply identifies the Architecture Model to you.
<b>Choose Template</b>	<p>Allows you to select the custom template you require from the drop downlist - the CAST Architecture Checker will offer you all predefined templates shipped with the software, and any custom templates you have saved to the default template storage location (%USERPROFILE%\Documents). Your new model will open containing all configuration saved to the custom template you have chosen.</p> <p>Alternatively you can choose <b>Blank Template</b>, which will give you an empty Architecture Model.</p> <p>See <a href="#">Working with Templates</a> for more information.</p> <p>Note that the predefined templates shipped with the software are located in the <b>configuration\ACTemplate</b> folder in the CAST AIP installation folder.</p>
<b>Dependency Type</b>	<p>This drop down list enabled you to select the type of Architecture Model you want to create, depending on your requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• a model defining <b>authorized dependencies</b> between layers - i.e. links that are allowed</li><li>• a model defining <b>forbidden dependencies</b> between layers - i.e. links that are not allowed</li></ul> <p>Notes <b>Authorized model type</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- When two layers have no links between them in the model and in reality there are links, then a violation will be reported.</li><li>- If a link between two layers is created in the model, then no violations will ever be raised regardless of whether in reality links exist or not.</li></ul> <p><b>Forbidden model type</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- When two layers have no link between them in the model, whatever the reality is, no violations will be reported.</li><li>- Violations will be reported only when a link between two layers is created in the model and in reality the link exists.</li></ul>

- Click **OK** to complete the creation of the Architecture Model.
- Refer to [Define Layers, Sets and Dependencies](#) and also [Define Layer or Set Contents](#) for more information about the rest of the creation process.
- You should also use the **Save** option (see [Toolbar](#) for more information) to save your model for future re-use.
- You may also wish to define various **Properties** for your model (for example, **weight** and **criticality** of the associated Quality Rule) - if so, see [Configuring model properties](#). Otherwise default values will be used.

