

# CMS - CAST Architecture Checker

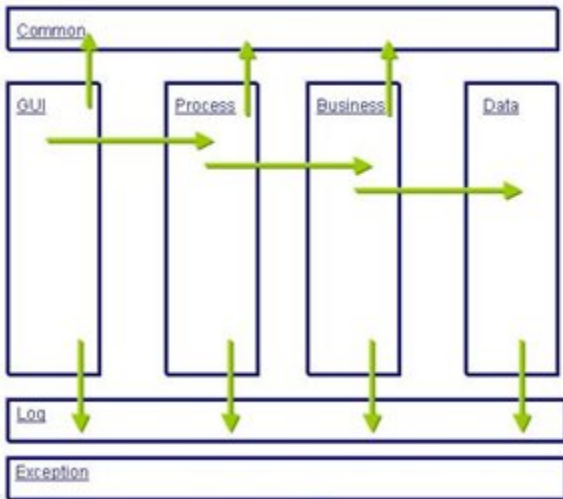
## CAST Architecture Checker

The goal of the **CAST Architecture Checker** is to make it easier for architects to enforce application software architecture rules across IT departments. As part of the CAST Management Studio, the **Architecture Checker** enables the definition of Software Architecture Models that can be checked against the application implementation. Once the software architecture is defined, the **Architecture Checker** enables an ongoing check of the implementation and easy-to-use early reporting of any rule violation in the CAST Dashboard. When detected early, these violations can be fixed and can prevent robustness, security and changeability issues.

### What's an Architecture Model?

An Architecture Model is a description of the application's organization or intended layout based on layers and authorized dependency rules between these layers. A layer describes a selection of software objects (classes, packages, programs) that are logically or technically grouped together and must only have a relationship with a specific set of other layers.

Take the following example - green arrows indicate the authorized dependencies rules:



### Defining an Architecture Model

You can use the **CAST Architecture Checker** application (**CAST-ArchiChecker.exe**) located at the root of your CAST installation to define an Architecture Model (use the **CAST Architecture Checker User Guide** for more information about this application). The Architecture Model is then saved in a **.CASTArchitect** file, which is then specified in the [Architecture model editor](#):

The Architecture Model is then associated to your **Application** via the **Architecture Models tab** in the [Application editor](#). During the [snapshot generation process](#), the CAST Management Studio will check the Application against the rules and layers defined in your definition files.

CAST provides an example **.CASTArchitect** file in the **ArchiCheckerHelp** folder located at the root of your CAST installation. A "readme" file located in each subfolder provides further details about the examples.

### Results

Results are presented in the CAST dashboard as follows:

- A parent Technical Criterion "Architecture - Architecture Models Automated Checks" will be visible to which child Quality Rules are attached.
- Each Architecture Model that you assign to an Application will cause the creation of one corresponding Quality Rule (it will be displayed with the name of the Architecture Model):



### Diagnostics...



				NAME		
0	0	0	n/a	Architecture Check: TEST2	1	



See Also

[Architecture Models tab](#) | [Architecture Models view](#)

