

D3.7 – i4Q GUIDELINES FOR BUILDING DATA REPOSITORIES FOR INDUSTRY 4.0

WP3 – BUILD: Manufacturing Data Quality





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ABSTRACT

This deliverable presents an overview of the role and importance of data repositories in Industry 4.0 contexts, such as this project. Furthermore, this document explains the challenges and requirements arising when developing data repositories and provides some recommendations on how to address them, using the i4QDR as an illustrative example.



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ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS

ANSI American National Standards Institute

API Application Programming Interface

BDA Big Data Analytics

CNC Computer Numerical Control

CRUD Create, Read, Update, and Delete

DR Data Repository

DRG Data Repository Guidelines

HA High Availability

HA+Sec High Availability with Security

HTTP Hypertext Transfer Protocol

HTTPS Hypertext Transfer Protocol (Secure)

IM Infrastructure Monitoring

IT/OT Information Technology/Operational Technology

JSON JavaScript Object Notation

OS Operating System

PA Perspective Analysis

PDF Portable Document Format

PQ Process Qualification

REST Representational State Transfer

REST API RESTful Application Programming Interface

SQL Structured Query Language

SS Single Server

SS+Sec Single Server with Security

TCP Transfer Control Protocol

TLS Transport Layer Security



Executive summary

D3.7 is the first version of a guide devoted to the building of Data Repositories for Industry 4.0, which also tackles the estimation of storage capabilities and the building of technological systems that provide easy ways to access manufacturing data and to communicate with industrial platform components and microservice applications. These guidelines correspond to the **i4Q Data Repository Guideline** (i4QDRG) solution.

In this document, firstly the role of data repositories in Industry 4.0 contexts is explained and is presented the importance of the requirements they fulfil. Using illustrative examples, this role explanation is matched with the **i4Q** project and its solutions, especially with the **i4Q Data Repository** (i4Q^{DR}) solution.

Furthermore, this deliverable explains the challenges arising when building a data repository for Industry 4.0 and provides an overview on how to approach its development by gathering a set of recommendations addressing these challenges, focusing especially on the analysis and design phases, but also covering some aspects related to the implementation phase.

These guidelines have driven the development of the **i4Q Data Repository** (i4Q DR) Solution, which is presented in "D3.8 - i4Q Data Repository". Furthermore, this deliverable will have a second version, at M24, namely D3.15 – Guidelines for building Data Repositories for Industry 4.0 v2.



Document structure

Section 1: provides an overview on the features provided by data repositories in Industry 4.0 contexts, explaining the key role they play. This explanation is illustrated using the i4Q project and its solutions (especially the i4Q^{DR}) as running examples.

Section 2: gathers some of the most important challenges and requirements arising when developing data repositories for Industry 4.0. Moreover, it proposes some recommendations and procedures addressing them.

Section 3: explains in detail how the recommendations and guidelines provided in Section 2 have been applied to define the design and the development *strategy* of the $i4Q^{DR}$. Note, however, that this section does not provide specific details on the implementation of the $i4Q^{DR}$. This issue is out of the scope of this deliverable but will be covered by "D3.8 - i4Q Data Repository" (due on M18).

Section 4: provides the conclusions of this document, summarising its main contributions and providing a brief explanation on the future version of this deliverable.

Appendix I: provides information on a questionnaire used to gather specific needs from pilots and other i4Q solutions to must be covered by the i4Q^{DR}.

Appendix II: includes the PDF version of the i**4Q Data Repository Guideline** (i4Q^{DRG}) web documentation, which can be accessed online at: http://i4q.upv.es/7 i40 DRG/index.html



1. Introduction

One of the main characteristics of the so-called industry 4.0 is the application of technical solutions to retrieve data from industrial processes so that it can be analysed and processed afterwards. The goal of such exercise is to obtain relevant knowledge, that can be applied to improve these industrial processes and make them more efficient. For instance, by reducing the percentage of defects, or by detecting them in earlier stages of the production process, which typically reduces the economic costs of those defects.

In a typical Industry 4.0 scenario, most part of the data is *generated* by manufacturing devices acting as *sensors* and is dumped into a storage technology or tool. Then, there are several *data* analysis and processing tools that consume this data for different purposes. For instance, there are tools that perform data cleaning processes to remove useless cases, or to extract only the parts of data that really matters for a specific purpose. Other tools, such as dashboards, show the stored information in a more graphical and intuitive way, to facilitate some decision-making processes. Other important data consumers are big data analytics tools, that apply different algorithms to the data and allow, for example, to discover correlations and relationships among different variables of the analysed data.

In the case of the i4Q project, the *i4Q Data Repository* (i4Q^{DR}) is the solution covering all the data storage and retrieval requirements of the other solutions, which is presented in more detail in deliverable D3.8. Then, there are many other i4Q solutions that fall into the category of *data analysis and processing* tools mentioned, such as the i4Q Data Integration and Transformation Services (i4Q^{DIT}), the i4Q Services for Data Analytics (i4Q^{DA}), and i4Q Big Data Analytics Suite (i4Q^{BDA}), which are presented in deliverables D4.1, D4.2 and D4.3, respectively. These solutions take data previously stored in the i4Q^{DR} as input and produce new one that can be stored into it as well. Another source of data for the i4Q^{DR} is the i4Q Trusted Networks with Wireless and Wired Industrial Interfaces (i4Q^{TN}) solution (see deliverable D3.4), which oversees collecting data generated by actuators, sensors, and other IT/OT systems and give it as input for the i4Q^{DR} and the i4Q Analytics Dashboard (i4Q^{AD}) solution (described in deliverable D4.4). Figure 1 shows an overview of connection and interactions of the i4Q^{DR}, including other i4Q solutions. More specifically, elements in the box labelled as "Takes input from" are the ones requiring the storage

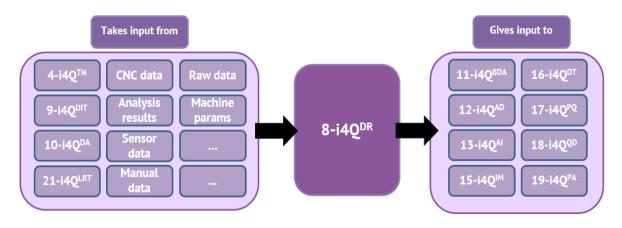


Figure 1. Connections and interactions of i4QDR



of data into the $i4Q^{DR}$, whereas the ones located within the box labelled as "Gives input to" correspond to solutions retrieving data from the $i4Q^{DR}$.

Note that the $i4Q^{DR}$ in some cases can be the final destination of the stored data, but in some other cases, the stored data will be provided as input for another solution that will further process it. This is well illustrated by the pipelines designed for the i4Q pilots. For instance, in Pilot 1 (see pipeline in Figure 3) data stored into the $i4Q^{DR}$ will not be retrieved by any other solution, whereas in Pilot 3 (see pipeline in Figure 2) such data will be sent via the Message Broker to other solutions, and directly retrieved by the i4Q Prescriptive Analysis Tools $(i4Q^{PA})^1$. As discussed above, storing, and retrieving data is a basic but crucial feature in an Industry 4.0 scenario. Therefore, the development of technical solutions providing that functionality, such as the $i4Q^{DR}$, must be addressed very carefully so that this feature is provided in the most appropriate way for each different component that interacts with it.

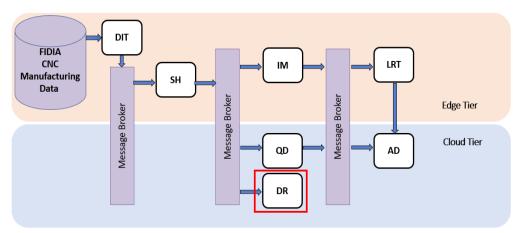


Figure 3. Pipeline of Pilot 1 (FIDIA)

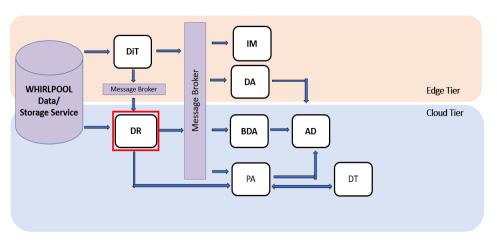


Figure 2. Pipeline of Pilot 3 (Whirlpool)

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¹ In both, Figure 3 and in Figure 2, solutions are denoted by the acronyms of the solution's code without the word "i4Q". For example, the i4Q Data Repository, whose code is i4QDR, is denoted by "DR".



Indeed, the interaction with other solutions is the main challenge for the development of the $i4Q^{DR}$. In this sense, some complexity arises just due to the number of different solutions interacting with the $i4Q^{DR}$. However, the highest degree of complexity is due to the fact that solutions retrieving or storing data from or into the $i4Q^{DR}$ may need different functionalities from it, and, specially, have different technical requirements. For instance, some solutions may only need to store data, whereas other may need importing/exporting data from/to other data sources. Moreover, some solutions may require an SQL-style relational database, while others may require storing files.

This document provides the first version of the i4Q Data Repository Guidelines solution (i4Q^{DRG}), a guide devoted to the building of Data Repositories for Industry 4.0, which also tackles the estimation of storage capabilities and the building of technological systems that provide easy ways to access industry data and to communicate with industrial platform components and microservice applications. More specifically, this document focuses on the challenges that may arise during the development of a data repository, and some recommendations to address them.

The recommendations gathered in this document have guided the development of the $i4Q^{DR}$ so far, up to M18. Therefore, this solution will be used as an example to illustrate some of the concepts and recommendations explained in this document.



2. Guideline on how to tackle data repositories for Industry 4.0

Data repositories may be thought of as low-complex technical solutions, since they provide a basic functionality, namely the storage and retrieval of data. However, its development is quite challenging since, as explained in Section 1, they usually interact with many other components with different purposes. Consequently, in this context, the requirements of a data repository, especially the technical, are quite *heterogenous*, since the ones for a given component can be quite different from the ones for another component.

In this sense, a good example is the type of storage technology, which will vary depending on the type of data to be stored. However, it could also be the case that two components have contradictory requirements. For instance, some components running on premises with constrained resources will require light mechanisms to store just a few bytes of data, whereas other components may require more complex and powerful mechanisms to store large amounts of data.

Therefore, the development of data repositories in that context requires a balance between two somehow opposite concepts. In the one hand, data repositories need to have a *flexible design*, so that they can fulfil heterogenous requirements coming from different dependent solutions. In the other hand, to reduce the complexity of the development, and the maintenance of the data repository once it is deployed, it is necessary to *provide* the required *functionality* in the *most centralised fashion possible*, by extracting as many common functionalities as possible and implement them in the most harmonised possible way. For instance, a data repository should try to offer only one interface to receive data from other solutions to store it, independently of the type of data. In this way, there is only one implementation for that feature, instead of one per storage technology.

The first step to address these challenges when developing a data repository is to identify which components interact with it, either to provide data that needs to be stored, or to retrieve data that has previously been stored. Then, for each solution interacting with the data repository, it is necessary to gather the specific needs regarding several aspects, such as:

- The functionality required (e.g., only CRUD, or something else).
- The volume of data.
- Possible performance constraints, such as the expected number of read or write operations per second.
- The operation mode. For instance, whether the data will be provided in an interactive mode, or in batch, and if will be done on-demand or as a scheduled task.
- The need of replicated instances of the data repository.
- The type of communications and expected interfaces and data formats.
- Who and what components are authorised to access the data repository.

This information must be carefully analysed to make the decisions that will define the main aspects of the data repository's design, namely:

- The most appropriate tools and technologies for the type of data that will be managed.
- The architecture of the data repository, which must be flexible to accommodate different requirements but, at the same time, should try to fulfil them in a centralised fashion



- whenever possible, as mentioned above.
- The necessary storage configuration options considering the functional requirements and technical details such as the amount of data that will be handled, and the computing resources that will be available once the data repository is deployed.

For making these decisions it might be helpful to categorise needs and functionalities into those that are specific only to few solutions (or only one) and those that are common to several of them. Addressing the first group of needs might require using concrete tools. However, whenever possible, one should try to use tools that can work for other cases, too. Common needs and functionalities should be addressed in the most general and harmonised way. For instance, using the same technology or tool, whenever possible.

At the implementation level, the most important strategy is to simplify and reduce the complexity of the developments. This can be achieved, for instance, by providing only one implementation of a common functionality, independently of the solution requiring it. This can be the case, for instance, of access control. If the implementation differs depending on the solution the data repository is interacting with, it is recommended to analyse whether there are some subfunctionalities that can be implemented in the same way. For instance, if a solution needs to store data in a relational database, and another one needs to store a file in an object storage tool, the concrete mechanism to do so will be different in both cases. However, as mentioned above, the data repository can offer a common interface to receive the data to be stored, and then run the corresponding storage mechanism.

When different implementations for the same feature are necessary, the recommendation is to follow a similar structure and style to facilitate the identification of the functionality that is being implemented and the update of the code if changes are necessary in the future. An example of this is using similar class or method names.

Finally, another way to simplify and decrease the complexity of developments consists of reducing the number of dependencies and using tools and libraries that do not have too specific requirements. For instance, Docker is compatible with most common operating systems. Furthermore, Docker containers allow to abstract the (virtual) execution of a tool from the operating system (OS) in which Docker is running. This means that a tool running inside a Docker container executed on a Windows OS behaves *exactly the same* as when the tool is run in a Docker container executed on a Linux OS, assuming both containers have the same configuration.



3. Design specifications of the i4Q Data Repository

This section describes how the design of the $i4Q^{DR}$ and the definition of the *strategy* for its development have been approached so far (M18), following the recommendations and guidelines provided in Section 2 to address the challenges and requirements arising when developing data repositories for Industry 4.0. Further details on the implementation of the $i4Q^{DR}$ will be explained in deliverable "D3.8 - i4Q Data Repository" (due on M18).

Regarding the interactions of the $i4Q^{DR}$ with other components, the i4Q project includes a number of pilots and solutions that manage data one way or another and thus need mechanisms to handle such data. More specifically, the $i4Q^{DR}$, takes as input data from other i4Q solutions as well as raw data from other industrial components (e.g. CNC data or data gathered from sensors), and even data manually provided by a human user. Furthermore, the $i4Q^{DR}$ provides data to other i4Q solutions, such as the $i4Q^{BDA}$, the $i4Q^{IM}$, the $i4Q^{PQ}$, etc. As explained in Section 2, Figure 1 gathers the interaction and connections of the $i4Q^{DR}$ with other components and solutions. Further information on this topic can be found in deliverable "D1.9 – Requirements Analysis and Functional Specification v2" (Section 4.8).

With respect to the features and functionalities that the i4Q^{DR} is required to provide, the main needs common to all pilots and solutions are basic functionalities like storing data and retrieving the stored data. However, there are some additional generic requirements which are quite common in any storage technology, including:

- *Data persistence*: the data is saved to a persistent storage and remains intact until it is altered or deleted on purpose.
- Availability: the data is available to any of its legitimate users.
- *Privacy:* the data is protected against unauthorized access.
- Security: the data is protected against software and hardware failures.
- Efficiency: with a proper use of the available resources.

Moreover, each pilot and solution have specific needs that involve a number of factors. One of the most important criteria is the *type of the data* to be stored, either relational, document-based, graph-oriented, blob-based, file-based, etc. This criterion on its turn affects other criteria. For instance, the use of enormous blobs or files may make a significant impact on the performance numbers. On the other hand, the same solution may have different needs depending on which pilot it is used. Thus, the i4Q^{DR} must be able to offer its services to its clients, under a wide range of needs, scenarios, and settings.

As a second step, needs related to the *interoperability* of the data have been identified. For instance, a pilot or solution generates data with different structures and/or syntax (e. g. relational and document-based data) or data that, for some reason, has to be handled by different storage tools. Another example may be the case of a solution that handles different sets of data and each one has different needs (formats, syntax, access patterns, performance requirements, etc.) and needs to use them in a unified way.

The $i4Q^{DR}$ includes a number of off-the-shelf open-source tools. The selection of the current tools has been performed according to the needs of both the pilot and solution partners of the project. The procedure followed to produce such selection includes the following steps.



- 1. Prepare a questionnaire to ask about the needs a pilot or solution has regarding the i4QDR.
- 2. Receive the answers of the questionnaire and summarize them.
- 3. Identify which tools are specifically required by the partners.
- 4. Identify other tools that can satisfy the requirements and needs of the partners.

The questionnaire is a Microsoft Excel document available in a private repository² (see Appendix I for further details). As shown in Figure 4, which provides an overview of such document, it includes a page for each pilot and solution partner. These pages contain a set of questions to be answered by each partner. The questions include these issues:

- The types of storage mechanism needed by the pilot or solution (relational, structured, JSON-based, key-value-oriented, etc.).
- Any information available so far regarding the volume of the data to be handled (for instance, in orders of magnitude).
- The type of interaction that may be expected (interactive, batch, stream-oriented, etc.).
- The type of communication interfaces that may be used (HTTP, HTTPS, TCP, etc.).
- Any other requirement related to communication.
- Any requirement or need related to data replication.
- Any requirement regarding data privacy and security (access control, anonymization, etc.)
 that may apply.
- Any specific deployment needs if any (on bare machines, Docker, Kubernetes, etc. and also on-premises vs cloud).
- Any requirement or need regarding the performance.

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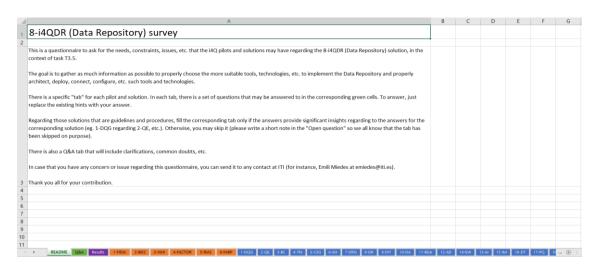


Figure 4. Overview of questionnaire to gather needs to be covered by the i4QDR

After analysing the survey's answers and carefully evaluating the needs of the partners, the following tools were selected:

- Cassandra³, a wide-column NoSQL distributed database server, appropriate for managing massive amounts of data.
- *MinIO*⁴, which offers a high-performance, S3 compatible object storage. It is used to store files and is compatible with any public cloud.
- *MongoDB*⁵, a JSON document-oriented database server.
- MySQL⁶, a SQL relational database server.
- *Neo4J*⁷, a graph database server that allows storing data relationships.
- *Redis*⁸, an in-memory data structure store, used as a distributed, in-memory key-value database, cache, and message broker, with optional durability.

In addition, the following tools have been included later, to satisfy additional needs and requirements brought out by some partners:

- MariaDB⁹, a SQL relational database server, very similar to MySQL.
- *PostgreSQL*¹⁰, a SQL relational database server.

³ Cassandra. https://cassandra.apache.org

⁴ MinIO. https://www.min.io

⁵ MongoDB. https://www.mongodb.com

⁶ MySQL. <u>https://www.mysql.com</u>

⁷ Neo4J. https://www.neo4j.com

⁸ Redis. <u>https://redis.io</u>

⁹ MariaDB. <u>https://mariadb.org</u>

¹⁰ PostgreSQL. https://www.postgresql.org



Both tools offer similar features, in the sense that they are SQL relational databases. However, it is not possible to use only one of them or replace them by MySQL to have only one tool for relational data storage because they were especially requested by some pilots to facilitate the integration with other technological systems.

Moreover, according to the needs of the pilot and solution partners, it has been decided to offer a variety of configurations or *scenarios* of each tool. These scenarios can be seen as different ways of deploying the tools to meet some requirements related to aspects such as performance or security. Generally speaking, for each tool, the following scenarios are considered:

- A first basic *single server (SS)* scenario, which offers the tool in its most basic version. It leverages a single instance of the tool, ready to be used. It is worth noting that such single instances do not consider any security issue beyond its default configuration. Thus, an "SS" scenario is only recommended for the development tasks of a pilot or solution.
- A *single server with TLS security (SS+Sec)* scenario, that offers the tool with a security configuration based on the use of TLS (with x509 certificates). This scenario is suitable for production settings in which a single instance of the tool suffices to provide a secure and stable service.
- A high availability (HA) scenario, which offers the tool in a high availability mode. This typically involves defining some *cluster* or *replica set* environment, composed by a number of instances of the tool that work in a cooperative mode (for instance, a cluster of replicas of a database server). Again, these instances do not offer any security mechanism beyond those that are offered by default and are, thus, only recommended for development purposes.
- Finally, a high *availability with TLS security (HA+Sec)* scenario, which extends the "HA" scenario with a security configuration based on the use of TLS. This is the recommend option to offer a secure, fault-tolerant, highly available service.

For each scenario, a number of *software artifacts* are provided, including configuration files, Docker Compose¹¹ orchestration files, and shell-scripts for Bash. Moreover, additional common configuration files and shell scripts are provided. The purpose of such artifacts is to deploy the selected storage tools according to the features of one of the four scenarios described above. Deliverable "D3.8 - i4Q Data Repository" (section 3.1 "Current implementation") provides additional details about these artifacts. Moreover, it provides a summary about the status of the development of the scenarios of each tool.

Furthermore, the i4Q^{DR} includes another tool, Trino¹², which is a highly parallel and distributed ANSI SQL-compliant open-source query engine. These features enable a very efficient performance, even in the case of many simultaneous queries. Trino offers a relational-like view of a number of data storage tools including Cassandra, MariaDB, MongoDB, MySQL, PostgreSQL, Redis and others.

From an architectural perspective, Trino will be deployed as a layer on top of the different artifacts mentioned above, as illustrated in Figure 5. Note that Neo4J does not appear below the Trino

¹¹ Docker Compose documentation. https://docs.docker.com/compose/

¹² Trino. https://trino.io



layer because this storage tool is not currently supported by Trino. Therefore, in this case, access to the storage tool will not be performed via Trino and, instead, a dedicated mechanism might probably be necessary.

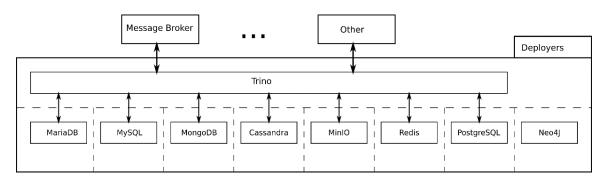


Figure 5. Architectural overview of i4QDR

In the context of the i4Q^{DR}, besides its efficient performance, the most important benefits of using Trino are related to interoperability aspects. Firstly, it enhances interoperability at an internal level. In this regard, Trino adds a level of abstraction that allows the pilots and solutions to have a relational SQL-based view of different data storage tools, no matter what type of data they handle. This also allows to build *federated views* of data that is managed by a heterogeneous set of tools, which in turns allows to build more complex and interoperable software components.

Secondly, Trino also enhances the interoperability of the $i4Q^{DR}$ at an external level since it facilitates its interaction with other i4Q solutions. More specifically, Trino allows the $i4Q^{DR}$ to offer a common communication interface for all the selected storage tools. For instance, Trino offers a REST API which will allow the interaction of the $i4Q^{DR}$ with other solutions by means of the HTTP protocol.



4. Conclusions

This document provided an overview of the importance of data repositories in Industry 4.0 contexts. In Section 1 this explanation was illustrated with the i4QDR, the technical solution that will cover the data management requirements of any solution or pilot in the context of the i4Q project.

Moreover, this deliverable gathers the main problems and challenges arising when developing such data repositories. In this regard, a non-exhaustive list of recommendations addressing these problems and challenges has been proposed with the purpose of serving as a guideline for the development of data repositories. Indeed, Section 3, as an illustrative example, describes in detail how these recommendations have been applied in practice during the design of the i4Q^{DR} solution, and the definition of its development strategy.

This document provides feedback to deliverable "D3.8 - i4Q Data Repository", which presents the i4Q^{DR} solution, and to its future version, "D3.16 - i4Q Data Repository v2", due on M24. In fact, deliverable D3.7 will also have a new version on M24, namely deliverable "D3.15 - i4Q Guidelines for Building Data Repositories for Industry 4.0 v2", due on M24 as well. This new version will probably extend the content of the present document by explaining challenges arising in later phases of the development (e.g., deployment), and the corresponding recommendations addressing them, or considering other technical aspects not included here.



Appendix I: questionnaire on data storage needs

This appendix provides further information on the questionnaire distributed to the responsibles of pilots and other i4Q solutions. The purpose of this questionnaire was gathering more specific and technical details on their data storage needs. The information provided by the partners that filled in this questionnaire was used to select the most suitable tools and technologies to implement the $i4Q^{DR}$.

The questionnaire is a Microsoft Excel document containing different sheets. Besides some sheets providing an overview on the survey and useful information on how to fill in it, there is a sheet for each pilot and solution. These sheets contain a set of questions on different issues, as briefly explained in Section 3. Since this questionnaire is stored in a private repository, several figures have been included in this section to show the concrete questions that were asked to the partners. More specifically:

- Figure 6 shows the questions about the type of storage that is necessary.
- Figure 7 gathers the questions on the expected volume of data to be handled
- Figure 8 reflects the questions on the expected type of interaction with the i4Q^{DR} (interactive, batch, stream-oriented, etc.), and the communication interfaces with the solution that may be used (HTTP, HTTPS, TCP, etc.).
- Figure 9 shows questions regarding other communication issues, and the needs related to data replication.
- Figure 10 gathers the questions in relation to authorization issues, deployment of the solution, and its expected performance.
- Figure 11 shows he questions asked to collect information on whether the partners have specific needs regarding tools or technologies to use, possible constraints and preferences about the premises where the solution will be deployed, or other concrete needs, such as data anonymisation or any other proposed by the partners.



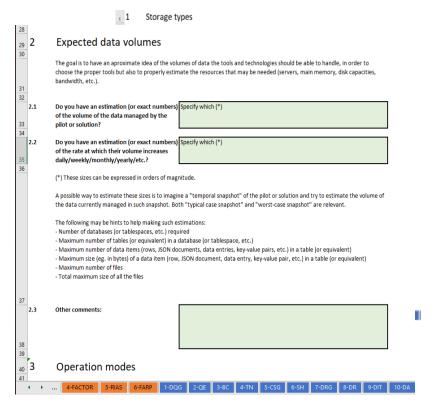


Figure 7. Questions on expected data volumes

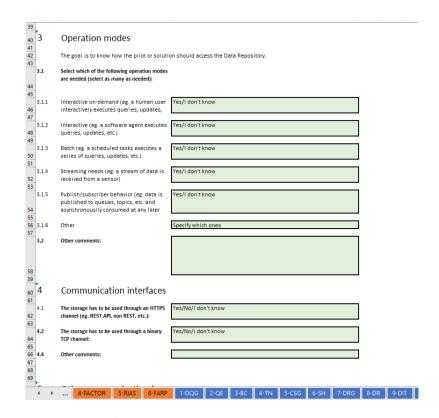


Figure 8. Questions on type of interaction and communication interfaces



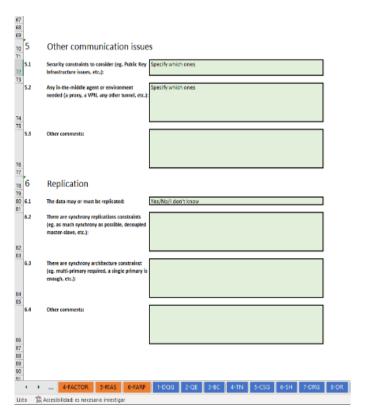


Figure 9. Questions on other communication issues and data replication needs

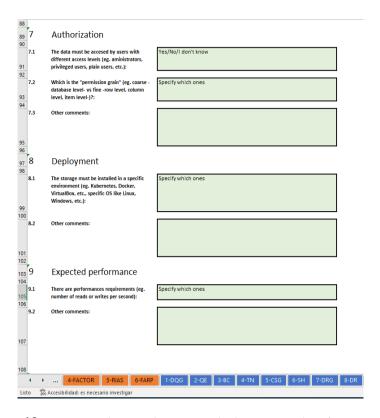


Figure 10. Questions about authorization, deployment, and performance



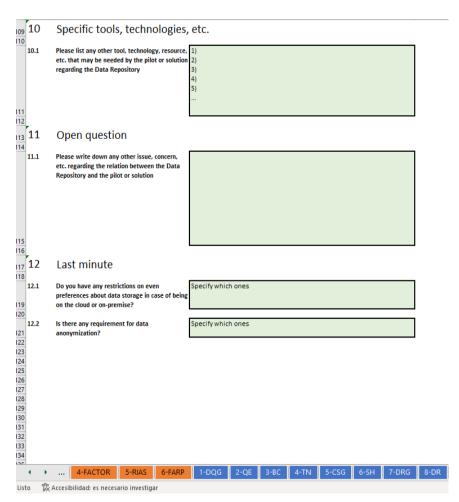


Figure 11. Questions about other specific needs and possible constraints and preferences



Appendix II: web documentation

This appendix shows the PDF version of the **i4Q Data Repository Guideline** (i4Q^{DRG}) web documentation, which can be accessed online at: http://i4q.upv.es/7 i40 DRG/index.html.

i40 Data Repository Guidelines (i40 DRG)

General Description

This solution is a guide for building Data Repositories for Industry 4.0, for estimating the storage capabilities and for building systems providing easy ways to access industry data and to communicate with industrial platform components and microservice applications.

The i4Q^{DRG} is not technical solution. Actually, it consists of two documents: deliverables "D3.7 – Guidelines for building Data Repositories for Industry 4.0" (due on M18), and "D3.15 – Guidelines for building Data Repositories for Industry 4.0 v2" (due on M24).

In D3.7 we first explain the role of data repositories in Industry 4.0 contexts and motivate the importance of the requirements they fulfill. With illustrative purposes, we relate this explanation with the i4Q project and its solutions, especially with the i4Q Data Repository (i4Q DR) solution. Furthermore, this deliverable explains the challenges arising when building a data repository for Industry 4.0 and provides an overview on how to approach its development by gathering a set of recommendations addressing these challenges, focusing especially on the analysis and design phases, but also covering some aspects related to the implementation phase. These guidelines have driven the development of the i4Q Data Repository (i4Q DR) Solution, presented in "D3.8 - i4Q Data Repository". The web documentation of the i4Q DR solution is available here.

Features

Overview on data repositories in Industry 4.0: the $i4Q^{DRG}$ explains the role of data repositores in the context of Industry 4.0, explaining the challanges and requirements arising when developing this type of solutions.

Description of i4Q^{DRG} **design process**: these guidelines describe how the design of the i4Q^{DR} has been approached.



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License

A free-software license

Pricing

Subject	Value
Payment Model	One-off
Price	0 €



Associated i4Q Solutions

Required

None.

Optional

These guidelines have driven the development of the $\underline{i40}^{DR}$.

Guidelines Summary

The development of data repositories in Industry 4.0 is very challenging, since this type of solution typically interacts with many other components, each one for different purposes. Consequently, the requirements of a data repository, especially the technical ones, are quite heterogenous, since the ones for a given component can be quite different from the ones for another component.

Therefore, the development of data repositories in that context requires a balance between two somehow opposite concepts. In the one hand, data repositories need to have a flexible design, so that they can fulfil heterogenous requirements coming from different dependent solutions. In the other hand, to reduce the complexity of the development, and the maintenance of the data repository once it is deployed, it is necessary to provide the required functionality in the most centralised fashion possible, by extracting as many common functionalities as possible and implement them in the most harmonised possible way.

Our recommendations to address the challenges arising when developing data repositories can be briefly summarised as follows. During the **analysis and design phase**:

- 1. Identify the components that will interact with the data repository.
- 2. For each component identified in step 1, gather the specific needs regarding:
 - The functionality required (e.g., only CRUD, or something else).
 - The volume of data.
 - Possible performance constraints, such as the expected number of read or write operations per second.
 - The operation mode. For instance, whether the data will be provided in an interactive mode, or in batch, and if will be done on-demand or as a scheduled task.
 - The need of replicated instances of the data repository.
 - The type of communications and expected interfaces and data formats.
 - Who and what components are authorised to access the data repository.
- 3. Analyse and summarise results, categorising needs and functionalities into those that are specific only to few solutions (or only one) and those that are common to several of them. Addressing the first group of needs might require using concrete tools. However, whenever possible, one should try to use tools that can work for other cases, too.
- 4. Address common needs and functionalities in the most general and harmonised way.

During the **implementation** phase the most important recommendations are:

- 1. Harmonise developments of common functionalities as much as possible
- 2. Follow similar structure and architecture



3. Simplify dependencies: use systems, tools, and libraries that do not have too specific requirements (e.g. Docker)

Other resources

• Deliverable "D3.7 – Guidelines for building Data Repositories for Industry 4.0" explains in detail the guidelines briefly presented in this web documentation.

Resource	Location
Last document release (v.1.0.0)	Link to D3.7 (private Repository)

• Deliverable "D3.8 - i4Q Data Repository" provides a technical description of the i4Q^{DR} solution, and explains its implementation status.

Resource	Location
Last document release (v.1.0.0)	Link to D3.8 (private Repository)

• The web documentation of the $i4Q^{DR}$, available <u>here</u>, contains further technical information on how to configure and use the $i4Q^{DR}$.