

# Form, Fit, Function, and Interface (F3I) (glossary)

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(1) *A concept used for the update or upgrade of a system whereby a only a portion or subsystem of the entire system is replaced. The updated item is said to be Form/Fit/Function and interface compatible when it can be inserted into the existing system without impacting system operation. (Created for SEBoK)*

(2) *A mechanism to link design to performance requirements; i.e., replacing an item/system based on form, fit, function and interface characteristics. (DoD 2004)*

## Source

(1) This definition was developed for the SEBoK.

(2) DoD. 2004. *Guidelines for Engineering, Manufacturing and Maintenance Documentation Requirements for Unique Identification (UID) Implementation*, version 1.0. Office of the Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics). Accessed on 11 September 2012. Available at [http://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/Docs/uid/UIDEngDocGuidever4\\_120604.doc](http://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/Docs/uid/UIDEngDocGuidever4_120604.doc).

## Discussion

F3I is an important concept regarding the transparency of a change to a portion of a system.

**SEBoK v. 2.10, released 06 May 2024**

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