

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PORTAL

Browsing Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)



1. Do I have to login to the INCOSE website to browse the learning resources in the PDP Content Catalog? –

ANSWER: If you are not logged in, you can still browse the learning resources in the PDP Content Catalog. You can review the individual learning resource results cards with the title, competencies categorized, publication date, media type(s) available, and a brief overview. To view the abstract and have ability to view the learning resource, the user must be logged in to incose.org.

2. How are the learning resources categorized to be able to browse the PDP Content Catalog?

ANSWER: A taxonomy was created to categorize each learning resource based on its content. The learning resources are categorized by the INCOSE Systems Engineering Competency Framework (ISECF) – competency group, competency & proficiency level; the Systems Engineering Professional (SEP) experience areas; the system engineering domains requested for International Symposia; the ISO 15288 Processes in the Systems Engineering Handbook; and some general engineering areas. At the top of the page, there is a short PDP Taxonomy Overview video if you have additional questions.

3. Where do I find instructions on browsing the PDP Content Catalog? –

ANSWER: Click the Browsing the PDP Content Catalog Overview Video to watch a video or click the Browsing the PDP Detailed Instructions to view / print the instructions.

4. How do I find learning resources browsing the PDP Content Catalog? –

ANSWER: You determine what you want to look for, e.g., the results of your competency self-assessment, topics in a certification experience area you want to improve your knowledge, domains for the upcoming International Symposium, or you want to learn more on a process in the SE Handbook.

Below the videos and some webpage text on the PDP Browsing page are six filter areas: competency group, competency, proficiency level, SE Domain, SE Process, and SEP Experience Area. Each filter is a pull-down list, and you can select just one item in the list or

multiple items in the list. The way the filtering works is “OR” within a filter “AND” between filters. For example, if the following filters were selected:

- Competency Group: “1-Core”
- Competencies: “1-Critical Thinking,” “1-Systems Thinking”
- Proficiency Levels: “Awareness,” “Practitioner”

Then the browsing would look for the following learning resources in the PDP Catalog:

- Core **Competency Group**, AND
- Critical Thinking OR Systems Thinking **Competencies**, AND
- Awareness OR Practitioner **Proficiency Levels**.

5. How do I know how many learning resources (items) are returned when I filter the PDP Content Catalog? –

ANSWER: There is the number of learning resources above the learning resource result cards. Each time there is some filtering, the number of learning resources changes. When you are completed filtering, the number of items (learning resources) remaining will be displayed. When there are no learning resources for the filtering requested, items of interest will be added over time – keep checking back.

6. How do I review more details for the learning resource and connect to the actual learning resources? –

ANSWER: After a browse is completed with filtering, find a learning resource results card that interests you. Click the “Learn More” button. So the filtering selection is not lost, a new tab in your browser will open with the Learn More page for that learning resource. The Learn More page contains:

- In the image at the top, there is the title, the date, and the “Add to / Remove from Bookshelf” button. NOTE: The button is titled, “Add to Bookshelf” until clicked and added to your My Bookshelf page. After clicking the button, it changes to “Remove from Bookshelf.” When the “Remove from Bookshelf” button is clicked again, the learning resource is removed from your My Bookshelf and the button changes back to “Add to Bookshelf.”
- Below the image is a link to “Close the Learning Resource”
- The full abstract and all competencies / proficiencies are provided.
- For each media type, there is its icon and a link to the learning resource (the PDP doesn’t store any materials, it provides a “pointer” to the materials).
- On the right is a piece of paper with a pencil icon. Click that to add notes to the material (e.g., page 25 is important, review again chapter 3, etc.) and then click the respective “Save” button.
- On the bottom left is the feedback icon (two quote circles). Click that to provide feedback.
 - There are 3 boxes at the top – one for your name, your email, and to report the type of feedback:
 - Report a broken link,
 - Report a bug,
 - Report learning resource is not categorized correctly,
 - Recommend and upload new material, and
 - General comments.
 - Provide your comments in the “Tell us your feedback” box.
 - Click the submit button.
 - An email will be sent to pdpadmin@incose.net.

- Click the feedback icon again to close the feedback option.

When you have completed reviewing the learning resource details on the Learn More page, you have a couple of options: you can keep the item in your Bookshelf or remove the item.

- If you are done with the material, click the “Remove from Bookshelf” button or
- If you want to keep the material, do nothing.
- Then, click the “Close the Learning Resource” link and the browser tab will close.

7. How can I take notes on a learning resource in my Bookshelf? –

ANSWER: On the right of the Learn More page is a piece of paper with a pencil icon. Click that to add notes to the material (e.g., page 25 is important, review again chapter 3, etc.) and then click the respective “Save” button. Every time that learning resource is reviewed, the notes will be there until they are deleted.

8. How do you clear the current filter and start a different browse? –

ANSWER: If you are done with the current filter and you want to use a different filter to find learning resources, just click the “Clear Filter” button all the way to the right of the filters.

9. How do you provide feedback on the learning resources in the PDP Content Catalog? –

ANSWER: On the bottom left of the Learn More page is the feedback icon (two quote circles). Click that to provide feedback.

- There are 3 boxes at the top – one for your name, your email, and to report the type of feedback:
 - Report a broken link,
 - Report a bug,
 - Report learning resource is not categorized correctly,
 - Recommend and upload new material, and
 - General comments.
- Provide your comments in the “Tell us your feedback” box.
- Click the submit button.
- An email will be sent to pdpadmin@incose.net.

10. If you have time to browse the PDP Content Catalog, but not review the learning resources, what can you do? –

ANSWER: You can browse the PDP Content Catalog filtering for the learning resources you need using the PDP Taxonomy. When the learning resource results card(s) are available, click the “Add to Bookshelf” button for the learning resources you want to review later.

When you return later, go to the My Bookshelf page and only your learning resources you added to your Bookshelf will be displayed. You can now review the learning resources.