# Overview

This clause is informative.

This document describes an abstract model, the abstract package model (§**Error! Reference source not found.**), and physical format conventions, the physical package model (§**Error! Reference source not found.**), for the use of XML, Unicode, ZIP, and other openly-available technologies and specifications to organize the content and resources of a document within a package. The package structure is intended to support the organization of constituent resources for various applications and categories of content. The specification is written for developers who are building systems that process package content.

In addition, this document defines common services that can be included in a package, such as Core Properties and Digital Signatures.

This Part of ISO/IEC 29500 specifies a set of conventions used by Office Open XML documents to define the structure and functionality of a package in terms of a package model and a physical model.

The abstract package model holds a collection of parts. The parts are composed, processed, and persisted according to a set of rules. Parts can have relationships to other parts or external resources, and the package as a whole can have relationships to parts it contains or to external resources. The abstract package model specifies how the parts of a package are named and related. Parts have MIME media types and are uniquely identified using the well-defined naming rules provided in this document.

The physical package model defines the mapping of the components of the abstract package model to the features of a specific physical format, namely a ZIP archive.

This document also describes certain features that might be supported in a package, including core properties for package metadata, a thumbnail for graphical representation of a package, and digital signatures of package contents. Because this document might evolve, packages are designed to accommodate extensions and to support compatibility goals in a limited way. The versioning and extensibility mechanisms described in ISO/IEC 29500-3 support compatibility between software systems based on different versions of this document while allowing package creators to make use of new or proprietary features.

This document specifies requirements for documents. Conformance requirements are identified throughout the text of this document. A formal conformance statement is given in §**Error! Reference source not found.**.

Various XML-based building blocks within a package make use of the conventions described in ISO/IEC 29500-3 to facilitate future enhancement and extension of XML markup. That Part must be cited explicitly by any markup specification that bases its versioning and extensibility strategy on Markup Compatibility elements and attributes.

End of informative text.