# Notation, notation, notation

## A software architecture diagram review checklist

#### General

| Does the diagram have a title?               | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|
| Do you understand what the diagram type is?  | Yes | No |
| Do you understand what the diagram scope is? | Yes | No |
| Does the diagram have a key/legend?          | Yes | No |

#### **Elements**

| Does every element have a name?  | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|
| Do you understand the type of every element? (i.e. the level of abstraction; e.g. software system, container, etc) | Yes | No |
| Do you understand what every element does?   | Yes | No |
| Where applicable, do you understand the technology choices associated with every element?                          | Yes | No |
| Do you understand the meaning of all acronyms and abbreviations used?  | Yes | No |
| Do you understand the meaning of all colours used?   | Yes | No |
| Do you understand the meaning of all shapes used?  | Yes | No |
| Do you understand the meaning of all icons used?   | Yes | No |
| Do you understand the meaning of all border styles used? (e.g. solid, dashed, etc)                                 | Yes | No |
| Do you understand the meaning of all element sizes used? (e.g. small vs large boxes)                               | Yes | No |

### Relationships

| Does every line have a label describing the intent of that relationship?  | Yes | No |
|---|-----|----|
| Where applicable, do you understand the technology choices associated with every relationship? (e.g. protocols for inter-process communication) | Yes | No |
| Do you understand the meaning of all acronyms and abbreviations used?   | Yes | No |
| Do you understand the meaning of all colours used?  | Yes | No |
| Do you understand the meaning of all arrow heads used?  | Yes | No |
| Do you understand the meaning of all line styles used? (e.g. solid, dashed, etc)  | Yes | No |

