Simplification with sustainable consistency

Question*:* How can I simplify my views without compromising the consistency?
Solution: Within ArchiMate it is possible to deduce indirect relationships by compositions of relationships. This is described in paragraph 5.7 of the book EA at work. This is considered an indispensable instrument for visualizing architecture: leave out some details and at the same time maintain consistency between models.
For *structural* relationships, a powerful composition rule has been developed based on the *strength* of the relationship. In a chain of concepts the most 'weak' relationship in the chain determines the overall relationship between the endpoint concepts of the chain. The table below shows the strength of structural relationships. Figure **Fout! Geen tekst met opgegeven opmaakprofiel in document.**-1 shows an example of this composite rule.
In this example, the indirect relationship between the process Registration and the application function Manage Customer data is a *used by* relationship because this has a lower weight than a *realization*.

Table Strength of structural relationships

Relationship	**Strength**
association	1
access	2
used by	3
realization	4
assignment	5
aggregation	6
composition	7

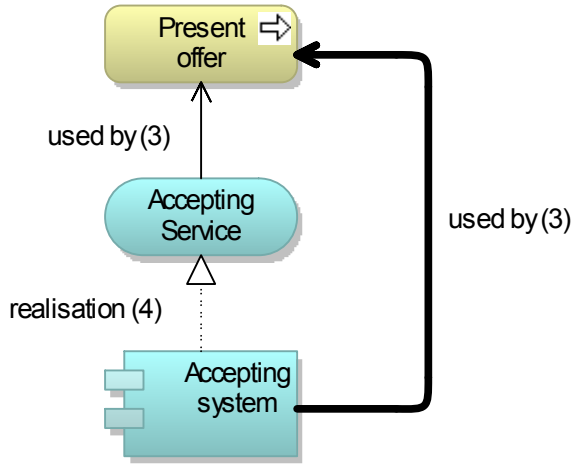

Figure **Fout! Geen tekst met opgegeven opmaakprofiel in document.**-1: Example of an indirect relationship

The following rules apply for the two dynamic relationships:

- A triggering or flow relationship between behavioral elements (for example processes or functions) may be redirected to structural elements (for example business actors or application components) to which they are assigned.

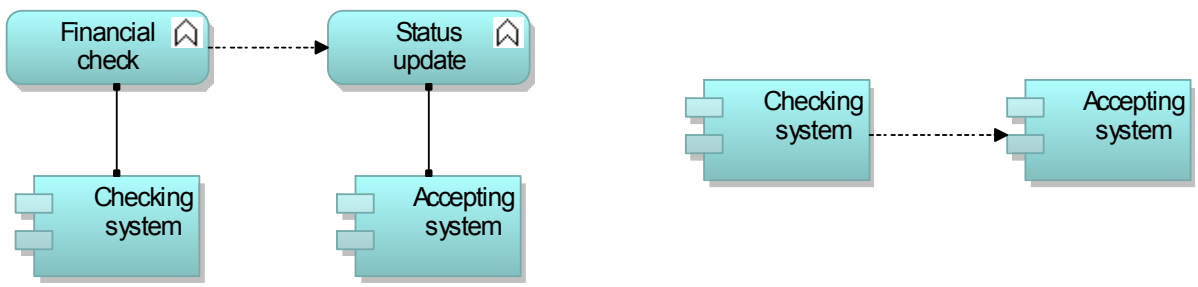

Figure **Fout! Geen tekst met opgegeven opmaakprofiel in document.**-2: Example of an indirect relationship

A triggering- or flow relationship between behavioral elements may be redirected to the services that they realize.