

# Open System (glossary)

---

open system

The printable version is no longer supported and may have rendering errors. Please update your browser bookmarks and please use the default browser print function instead.

*A system which exchanges inputs and outputs with its environment. (von Bertalanffy 1968)*

## Source

von Bertalanffy, L. 1968. *General system theory: Foundations, development, applications*, Revised ed. New York, NY: Braziller.

## Discussion

Open system theory considers an organism as a complex entity composed of many parts with an overall integrity, co-existing in an environment. In an open system the organisms structure is maintained, or adapts, through a continual exchange of energy and information with its environment.

**SEBoK v. 2.11, released 25 November 2024**

---

Retrieved from

"[https://sebokwiki.org/w/index.php?title=Open\\_System\\_\(glossary\)&ol did=72728](https://sebokwiki.org/w/index.php?title=Open_System_(glossary)&ol did=72728)"

---

This page was last edited on 24 November 2024, at 18:51.