

Enterprise Architecture on a Page

(A one-page aggregated view of popular EA artifacts used in organizations with their most essential properties, including their informational content, representation format, high-level structure, overall meaning, typical usage, temporal lifecycle, general role, key purpose and associated benefits)

Analytical Reports

Executive-level analyses of relevant technology trends and their potential impact on the business of an organization

Principles

Global high-level guidelines influencing all decision-making and planning in an organization

Policies

Overarching organizational norms typically of a restrictive nature providing compulsory prescriptions in certain areas

Architecture Strategies

Abstract conceptual directions for an organization from the standpoint of the relationship between business and IT

Business Capability Models

Structured graphical representations of all organizational business capabilities, their relationship and hierarchy

Process Maps

Structured graphical representations of all high-level business processes, their relationship and hierarchy

Value Chains

Structured graphical representations of the added value chain of an organization

Target States

High-level graphical descriptions of the desired long-term future state of an organization

Roadmaps

Structured graphical views of all planned IT initiatives in specific business areas having direct business value

Initiative Proposals

Very early idea-level descriptions of proposed IT initiatives and their justifications

Conceptual Data Models

Abstract definitions of the main data entities critical for the business of an organization and their relationship

Technology Reference Models

Structured graphical representations of all technologies used in an organization

Technology Inventories*

Technology	Vendor	Versions	Category	Function
Technology 1	Vendor 1	Version 1	Category 1	Function 1
Technology 2	Vendor 2	Version 2	Category 2	Function 2
Technology 3	Vendor 3	Version 3	Category 3	Function 3
Technology 4	Vendor 4	Version 4	Category 4	Function 4
Technology 5	Vendor 5	Version 5	Category 5	Function 5
Technology 6	Vendor 6	Version 6	Category 6	Function 6
Technology 7	Vendor 7	Version 7	Category 7	Function 7
Technology 8	Vendor 8	Version 8	Category 8	Function 8
Technology 9	Vendor 9	Version 9	Category 9	Function 9
Technology 10	Vendor 10	Version 10	Category 10	Function 10

Structured catalogs of currently deployed technologies describing their essential properties and features

Technology Roadmaps*

Structured graphical views of the projected lifecycles of technologies used in an organization

IT Principles

Global high-level IT-specific guidelines influencing all IT-related decisions and plans in an organization

Guidelines

IT-specific implementation-level prescriptions applicable in narrow technology-specific areas or domains

Patterns

Generic reusable solutions to commonly occurring problems in the design of information systems

Logical Data Models*

Logical or even physical platform-specific definitions of common data entities and their relationship

Landscape Diagrams*

Technical "boxes and arrows" schemes of different scopes and granularities describing the corporate IT landscape

Asset Inventories*

Structured catalogs of currently available IT assets describing their essential properties and features

System Portfolio Models

Structured high-level mappings of all core information systems to relevant business capabilities

Landscape Maps

Structured high-level mappings of key IT systems to relevant functional and organizational areas

IT Roadmaps

Structured graphical views of all planned IT initiatives of a purely technical nature having no visible business impact

Asset Roadmaps*

Structured graphical views of the projected lifecycles of IT assets existing in an organization

Enterprise Architecture

	What EA Artifacts Describe?		
	Generic		Specific
Business-Focused	Rules Considerations Content: Global conceptual rules and fundamental considerations important for business and relevant to IT Focus: Do not refer to specific points in time or focus on the long-term future Format: Expressed in brief informal formats, often as large but simple one-page diagrams Meaning: Decisions on how an organization needs to work from the business and IT perspective Usage: Developed collaboratively by senior business leaders and architects and then used to influence all architectural decisions (see Enterprise Architecture Practice on a Page) Lifecycle: Established once and then updated according to the ongoing changes in the business environment Role: Overarching organizational context for information systems planning Purpose: Help achieve the agreement on basic principles, values, directions and aims Benefits: Improved overall consistency between business and IT	Structures Visions Content: High-level conceptual descriptions of an organization from the business perspective Focus: Often focus on the long-term future up to 3-5 years ahead Format: Expressed in brief informal formats, often as large but simple one-page diagrams Meaning: Decisions on what IT should deliver to an organization in the long run Usage: Developed collaboratively by senior business leaders and architects and then used to influence all architectural decisions (see Enterprise Architecture Practice on a Page) Lifecycle: Created once and then updated according to the ongoing changes in strategic business priorities Role: Shared views of an organization and its future agreed by business and IT Purpose: Help achieve the alignment between IT investments and long-term business outcomes Benefits: Improved strategic alignment and effectiveness of IT investments	Changes Outlines Content: High-level descriptions of separate IT initiatives understandable to business leaders Focus: Usually focus on the mid-term future up to 1-2 years ahead Format: Expressed as a mix of textual descriptions and simple diagrams Meaning: Decisions on how approximately specific IT initiatives should be implemented Usage: Developed collaboratively by architects and business leaders and then used to evaluate, approve and fund specific IT initiatives (see Enterprise Architecture Practice on a Page) Lifecycle: Produced at the early stages of IT initiatives to support decision-making and then archived Role: Benefit, time and price tags for proposed IT initiatives Purpose: Help estimate the overall business impact and value of proposed IT initiatives Benefits: Improved efficiency and ROI of IT investments
	IT-Focused	Standards Content: Global technical rules, norms, patterns and best practices relevant to information systems Focus: Do not refer to specific points in time or focus on the current state Format: Can be expressed in various formats, often using strict notations Meaning: Decisions on how all IT systems should be implemented and some facts on the current approaches and technologies Usage: Developed collaboratively by architects and technical subject-matter experts and used to shape the architectures of all IT initiatives (see Enterprise Architecture Practice on a Page) Lifecycle: Established on an as-necessary basis and updated according to the ongoing technology progress Role: Proven reusable means for IT systems implementation Purpose: Help achieve technical consistency, technological homogeneity and regulatory compliance Benefits: Faster initiative delivery, reduced costs, risks and complexity	Landscapes Content: High-level technical descriptions of the organizational IT landscape Focus: Focus mainly on the current state, sometimes looking into the future Format: Expressed in strict formats, often as complex one-page diagrams using formal modeling notations, e.g. ArchiMate Meaning: Facts on the current IT landscape and some decisions on its future evolution Usage: Developed and maintained by architects and used to rationalize the IT landscape, manage the lifecycle of IT assets and plan new IT initiatives (see Enterprise Architecture Practice on a Page) Lifecycle: Created on an as-necessary basis and updated according to the ongoing evolution of the IT landscape Role: Knowledge base of reference materials on the corporate IT landscape Purpose: Help understand, analyze and modify the structure of the IT landscape Benefits: Increased reuse and agility, reduced duplication and legacy

Language: Technology-neutral business language
Domains: Business domain and other relevant domains at a high level
Format: Brief, intuitive, largely informal and include only the most essential information
Stakeholders: Business leaders and architects
Role: Communication interfaces between business and IT
Purpose: Help business leaders manage IT

Language: Technical IT-specific language
Domains: Various technical domains and sometimes also business domain
Format: Can be voluminous, formal, use strict notations and include comprehensive details
Stakeholders: Architects and other IT specialists
Role: Internal IT tools invisible to business
Purpose: Help architects organize IT