<Company Name>

<IT Architecture Project Name>
Technical Perspective

Version 1.0

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Revision History

Date	Version	Description	Author
16 November 2013	1.0	New	<name>

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Technical Perspective

1. Introduction

*[The introduction of the **Technical Perspective** document provides an overview of the entire document. It includes the purpose, scope, definitions, acronyms, abbreviations, references and overview.]*

1.1 Purpose

This document provides a comprehensive architectural overview of the business, using a number of different architectural models to depict different aspects of the business. It is intended to capture and convey the significant architectural decisions that have been made.

*[This section defines the role or purpose of the **Technical Perspective** document, in the overall project documentation, and briefly describes the structure of the document. The specific audiences for the document should be identified, with an indication of how they are expected to use the document.]*

1.2 Scope

*[A brief description of what the **Technical Perspective** document applies to; what is affected or influenced by this document.]*

1.3 Definitions, Acronyms, and Abbreviations

*[This subsection provides the definitions of all terms, acronyms, and abbreviations required to properly interpret the **Technical Perspective** document. This information may be provided by reference to the project's Business Glossary. Include the definitions of **Technical Entity Model**, and **Technical Process Model**, **Technical Locations Model** and **Technical Roles Model** if applicable.]*

1.4 Inputs and Constraints

[The Business Perspective is formed by considering what is needed to improve, or re-engineer, the key business processes and key business entities. These processes are represented by business activities. Important inputs are the business strategy and goals along with its current situation (i.e. current systems). It is not necessary to describe all the business inputs here -- only the architecturally significant ones. A business input is architecturally significant if:

It is critical for the long-term success of the enterprise;

It greatly influences the business strategy;

It will not be achieved with current process, resources, and infrastructure;

Changing it would have sweeping effects on the business;

It is defined to address external influences over which the business has no direct control.

However, these are not the only influences on the Business Perspective. Constraints imposed by the environment in which the business operates, the existing systems, and the imposition of various standards, regulations, and laws are all important inputs.

***"Architectural drivers"** is the collective name given by some organizations for this collection of architectural **inputs** and **constraints**. Architectural inputs describe a desire (requirement) on the business architecture, while an (architectural) constraint imposes a restriction. A clear and considered understanding of both will result in a more lasting architecture that better meets the needs of the business.*

*Not necessarily key to the definition of the Business Perspective, but **very** important in the long run are non-functional requirements. This information should be gathered as part of the effort to define the Business Perspective, but will be of most use when defining the Logical and Technical Perspectives. This information includes:*

- *Transaction volumes and a characterization of frequencies;*
- *Performance requirements such as latencies;*
- *Long-term volume and performance predictions;*
- *And many other non-functional requirements.*

If there are a large number of references, structure the section in subsections, for example:

- *External documents*
- *Internal documents*
- *Government documents*
- *Non-government documents]*

2. Context and Objectives

2.1 Context and Objectives

[This section describes context and objectives for the architecture as extracted from the Context and Objectives document.]

2.2 Context Diagram

*[This section shows the system in the context of its environment, including partners and suppliers. The **business context diagram** from the Business level is included here.]*

3. Technical Entity Model

[This section describes the major concepts and information structures to be found within the system. This view is mandatory. These concepts and information structures (technical entities) and their relationships should be shown in class diagrams. Ensure that each entity has a description.]

3.1 Overview

[This subsection names and defines the various model layers and their contents, the rules that govern the inclusion to a given layer, and the boundaries between layers. Include a component diagram that shows the relations between layers.]

3.2 Layer <xyz>

[For each model layer, include a subsection with its name, an enumeration of the aspects located in the layer, and diagram.]

4. Technical Process Model

*[This section describes activities from the model if they represent some **significant**, central capability of the final business, or if they have a large architectural coverage — they exercise many architectural elements or if they stress or illustrate a specific, delicate point of the architecture.]*

4.1 Overview

[This subsection names and defines the various model layers and their contents, the rules that govern the inclusion to a given layer, and the boundaries between layers.]

4.2 Layer <xyz>

[This section shows the business activities. Include a diagram showing these activities in relation to the select entities and provide the description and flow of events of each of the business activities.]

4.2.1 Technical Activities and Entities

[This section illustrates how the organization performs the architecturally significant business activities by showing how business activities and business roles and entities interact.]

4.2.2 Technical Activity/Process <xyz>

[This section shows the architecturally significant business activities. Include a diagram showing these business activities in relation to the business actors and provide the description and flow of events of each of the business activities. Architecturally significant business activities are those business activities that provide broad functional coverage and/or exercise a critical part of the business. Core business activities typically provide broad coverage.]

5. Technical Locations Model

[This view describes the geographic distribution of the organization structure, activities and resources. This view is mandatory. Provide a diagram showing the physical locations at which the business has some sort of presence. These locations can be addresses within the same city, different cities or different countries. Mobile or portable facilities can also be counted as physical locations.

This view provides also provides a topological overview of communication pathways within the business. Use a deployment diagram to indicate locales along with the communications between them. Associations between the 'nodes' indicate the existence of a communication link. The properties of each link can be described. Consider the subject, medium (verbal, email, video-conferencing), frequency, effectiveness, cost, direction (unidirectional or bi-directional), value and risk (impact of being intercepted/misused).]

5.1 Overview

[This subsection names and defines the various model layers and their contents, the rules that govern the inclusion to a given layer, and the boundaries between layers. Include a component diagram that shows the relations between layers.]

5.2 Layer <xyz>

[For each model layer, include a subsection with its name, an enumeration of the aspects located in the layer, and a diagram.]

6. Technical Roles Model

[This view describes the actors/roles within the system, the activities that they interact with and any role/actor structures discovered. Provide a diagram showing role interactions with business activities. Also diagram any roles structures.]

6.1 Overview

[This subsection describes the overall roles/actor model, including a diagram.]

6.2 Detail <xyz>

[For each role detail model (i.e., a process model with roles added), include a subsection with its name, an enumeration of the aspects located in the layer, and a component diagram.]

7. Architectural Trade-offs

[This section of the document describes the how the IT architecture realizes the architectural goals and constraints (architectural drivers) described near the beginning of the document. It is an overview of the rationale underlying architectural decisions (Note: the complete rational is documented within each Architectural Decision). Most, or at least many, architectural drivers are conflicting, and the business architecture must therefore provide an optimal solution that satisfies the greatest number of conflicting drivers to the greatest possible extent. This implies that tradeoffs and decisions will have to be made. It is these decisions and tradeoffs that are described here.

Many conflicts and tradeoffs will surface only after the application architecture or technical architecture is considered. It is essential that the consequences of these decisions be clearly understood and documented (i.e., in Architectural Decisions).]