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SIA102

**What are Enterprise Architecture Artifacts?**

EA, also known as Enterprise Architecture, practice implies developing and using specific EA documents (artifacts) to facilitate information systems planning (Kotusev, S. 2017).

**Enumerate and discuss the 6 general types of EA artifacts.**

**Considerations.** Considerations are business-focused rules. It identifies in organizations include principles, policies, maxims, core drivers, architecture strategies, conceptual data models, governance papers, position papers, strategy papers and white papers (Kotusev, S. 2017).

**Standards.** Standards are IT-Focused Rules. EA artifacts related to this general type identified in organizations include guidelines, standards, patterns, IT principles, data models and reference architectures as well as technology, application, infrastructure, platform and security reference models (Kotusev, S. 2017).

**Visions.** Visions are Business-Focused Structures. EA artifacts related to this general type identified in organizations include business capability models, value reference models, business context diagrams, business reference architectures, business activity models, enterprise process maps, future state architectures and all sorts of roadmaps (Kotusev, S. 2017).

**Landscapes.** Landscapes are IT-Focused Structures. EA artifacts related to this general type identified in organizations include platform architectures, relational diagrams, application portfolios, integration contexts, system interaction diagrams, inventories, asset registers, IT systems value maps, one page diagrams, enterprise technology models and all sorts of technology roadmaps (Kotusev, S. 2017).

**Outlines.** Outlines are Business-Focused Changes. EA artifacts related to this general type identified in organizations include conceptual architectures, solution overviews, conceptual designs, solution briefs, preliminary solution architectures, solution outlines, idea briefs, solution proposals, initiative summaries, investment cases, options papers and solution assessments (Kotusev, S. 2017).

**Designs.** Designs are IT-Focused Changes. EA artifacts related to this general type identified in organizations include detailed designs, solution definitions, full solution architectures, highlevel designs, solution specifications, integrated solution designs, physical designs, solution blueprints and technical designs (Kotusev, S. 2017).

**Briefly define the eight essential EA artifacts and give one example for each artifact?**

1. Principles - high-level policy declarations that have a big impact on business and IT, like the one stating that users should only need to sign on once to access all services offered.

- Example: All services must support single sign-on (SSO) for users.

1. Technology Reference Models (TRMs) - Standardized frameworks that categorize and define the technologies to be used across the organization. They help ensure consistency and compatibility across IT projects.

- Example: Categorizes technology into domains such as networking, storage, and middleware.

1. Guidelines - Detailed prescriptions or best practices related to specific IT areas, offering precise instructions on technology usage to ensure consistency and compliance.

- Example: A guideline specifying that AES-256 encryption must be used for all sensitive data.

1. Business Capability Models (BCMs) - Visual maps that represent the core capabilities an organization needs to achieve its business objectives, often aligned with strategy and future investments.

- Example: A BCM for a bank may include capabilities like Loan Processing.

1. Roadmaps - Strategic plans that outline the timeline and sequence of IT investments or initiatives, often aligned with business goals and capability development.

- Example: A digital transformation roadmap for a manufacturing company that outlines the timeline of creation.

1. Landscape Diagrams - High-level diagrams showing the connections and relationships between various IT systems, applications, and platforms within the current IT environment.

- Example: A landscape diagram depicting how a company’s ERP systems interact with each other.

1. Solution Overviews - High-level summaries of IT projects, including their objectives, expected business value, costs, risks, and timelines, typically used to help stakeholders make investment decisions.

- Example: A solution overview for a new e-commerce platform that outlines the architecture.

1. Solution Designs - Detailed technical documents that describe the architecture and implementation specifics of IT projects, including all necessary details to guide the development team.

- Example: A solution design for a new mobile banking app, detailing its architecture, integration points, data flow, and security protocols.

**What is CSVLOD Model?**

The CSVLOD Model stands for Conceptual, Standards, Visions, Landscape, Outlines, Designs and it is a framework used in enterprise architecture and data management to define and understand the different levels of abstraction for data within an organization. CSVLOD helps organizations systematically approach data architecture, ensuring that data is consistently defined, stored, and accessed in a way that aligns with both business and technical requirements.

References:

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