

Module Objectives

- To provide an introduction to the Enterprise Continuum.
- The Purpose of the Enterprise Continuum
- · The constituent pieces of the Enterprise Continuum
- To explain high-level issues with Tool Standardization

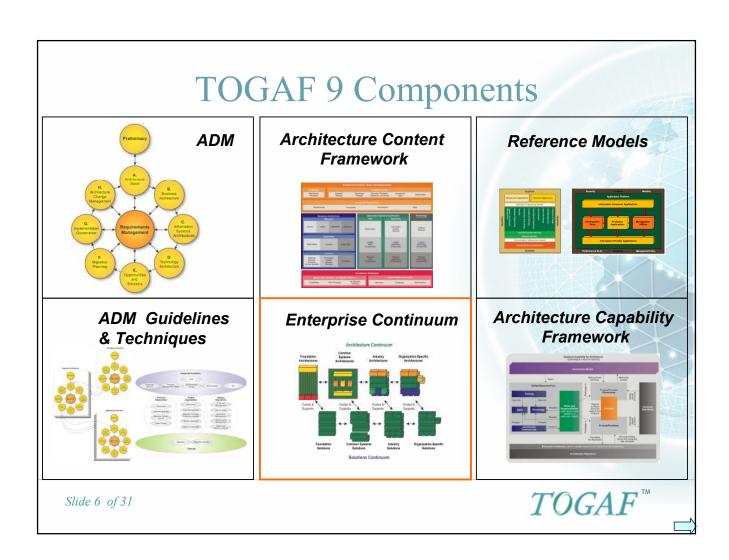
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Definition of 'Continuum'

 Noun: a continuous extent of something, no part of which is different from any other

Source: Wiktionary.org

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Overview

- A model for structuring a virtual repository and methods for classifying architecture and solution artifacts
- Based on architectures and solutions:
 - Models, patterns, architecture descriptions
 - Deliverables produced in this iteration of the ADM
 - Deliverables produced in other iterations of the ADM
 - Assets from the industry at large
 - Showing how artifacts evolve
- The practical implementation of the Enterprise Continuum takes the form of an Architecture Repository

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Overview (Cont'd)

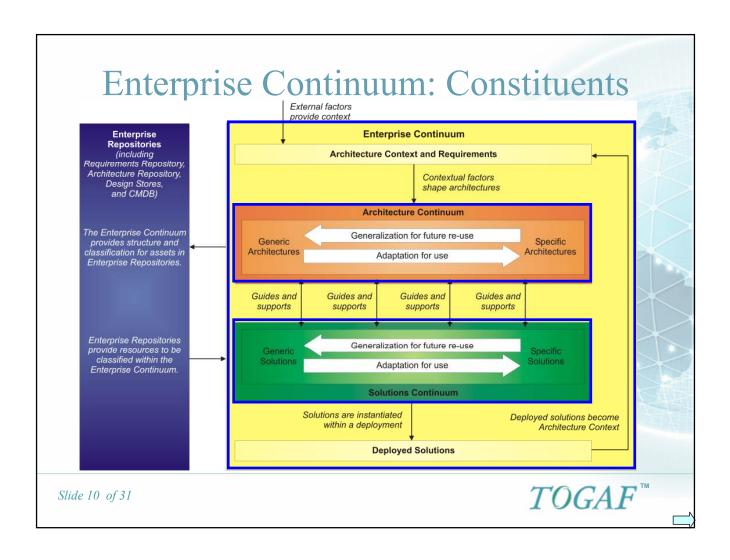
- The Enterprise Continuum is a combination of two complementary concepts: the Architecture Continuum and the Solutions Continuum.
- It enables effective use of COTS products.
- It improves engineering efficiency.
- It aids organization of reusable architecture and solution assets.
- It provides a common language:
 - Within enterprises
 - Between customer enterprises and vendors

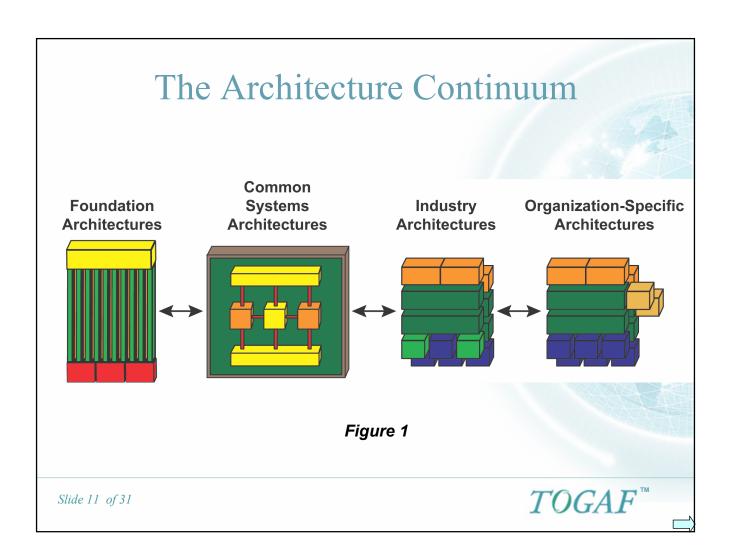
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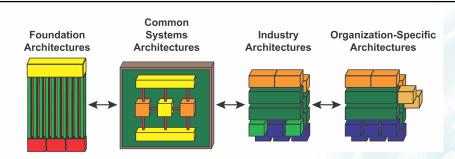
Architecture Reuse

- The Enterprise Continuum is a view of the repository of all architecture assets: models, patterns, architecture descriptions, etc.
- External architecture assets include:
 - Generic reference models (eg TOGAF's TRM, Zachmann...)
 - IT-specific models (eg a web services architecture)
 - Information Processing-specific models (eg e-Commerce, supply chain management ...)
 - Vertical-Industry-specific models (eg TMF, ARTS, POSC...)
- The architecture governance function decides which assets an enterprise considers part of its own Enterprise Continuum

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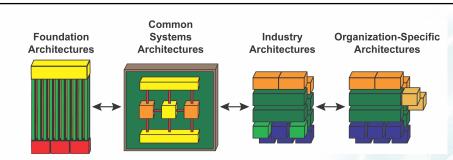






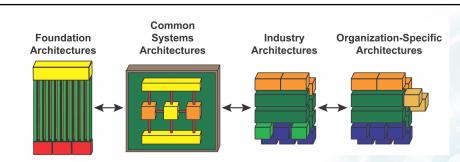
- Architectures range from Foundation Architectures through Common Systems Architectures, and Industry Architectures to an enterprise's own Organization-Specific architecture
- Arrows represent bi-directional relationship between the different architectures
 - Left to right: meeting enterprise needs and business requirements
 - Enterprise needs and business requirements increase in detail from left to right
 - Right to left: leveraging architectural components and building blocks

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- The architectural elements furthest left are the most reusable
- Requirements for missing elements are passed to the left of the continuum for inclusion.
- Enterprises can use the same continuum models, specialized for specific businesses.
- Figure 1 shows the different architectures that may be developed:
 - these are not fixed stages in a process
 - different architectures may exist as well.

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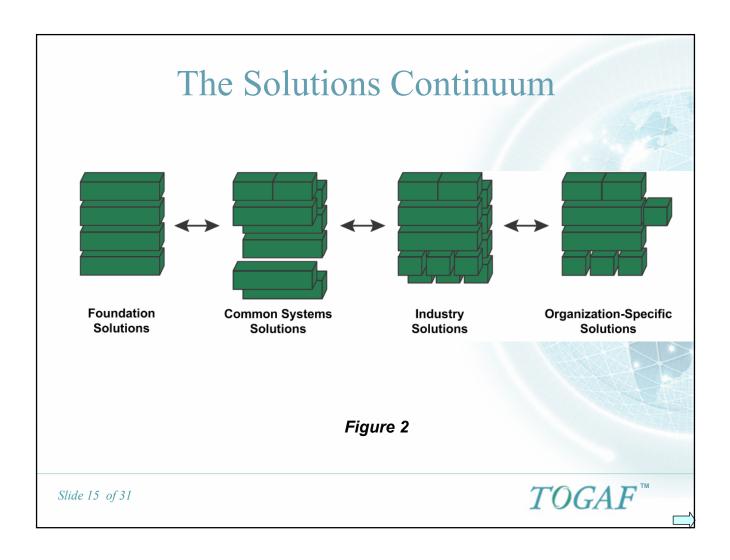


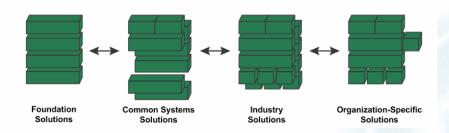
- Figure 1 does not represent a formal process but represents a progression occurring at several levels:
 - − Logical Physical
 - Horizontal (IT technology-focused)

 Vertical (business-focused)
 - Generalization
 Specialization
 - Taxonomy Architecture Specification
- At each point, an architecture is designed in terms of the design concepts and building blocks available.

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- The most specific architectures are on the right:
 - Foundation solutions help to create common systems solutions
 - Common systems solutions are used to create industry solutions
 - Industry Solutions are used to create organization-specific solutions
- · The most generic concepts are on the left.
- The entire spectrum is important when balancing cost and value.

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The Solutions Continuum:

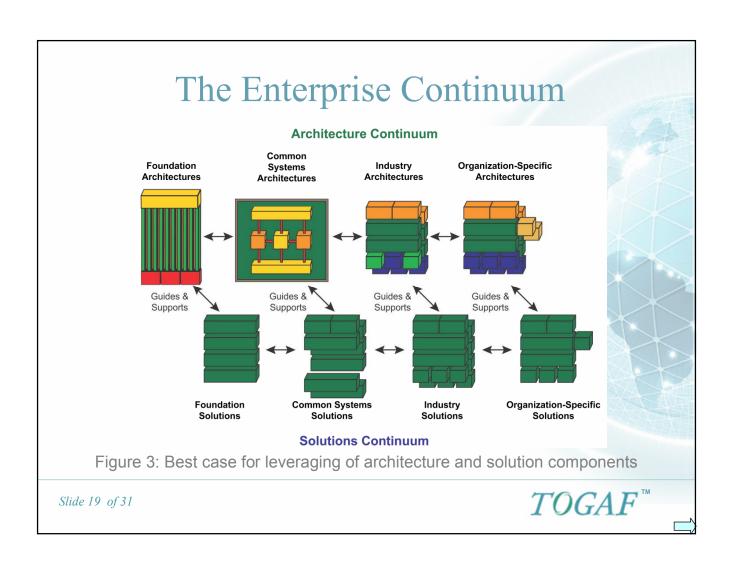
- Represents the implementations of the architectures at the corresponding levels of the Architecture Continuum
- Is a population of the architecture with Solution Building Blocks, either purchased products or built components, that represent a solution to the enterprise's business need
- Forms a Solutions Inventory or Reuse Library, which adds significant value to the task of managing and implementing improvements to the IT environment

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Relationships

- The Architecture and Solutions Continuum are related by guidance, direction, and support.
- E.g. the Foundation Architecture:
 - is an architecture of building blocks and corresponding standards
 - supports all the Common Systems Architectures and, therefore, the complete enterprise operating environment
- The Open Group's Foundation Architecture consists of the TRM
- The Open Group's III-RM is an example of a Common Systems Architecture

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Using the Continuum

- The TOGAF ADM describes the process of developing an enterprise-specific architecture by adopting and adapting generic architectures and solutions
- The Continuum:
 - contains complete and work-in-progress solutions
 - is a "framework-within-a-framework"
 - has few internal assets, at first
 - grows by adding reusable building blocks

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Relationships

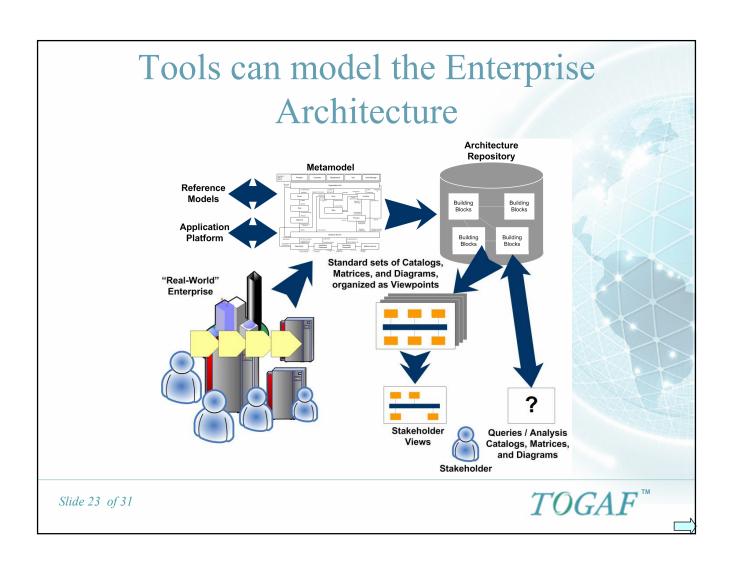
- The Solutions Continuum assists understanding of products, systems, services, and solutions
- The Enterprise Continuum improves productivity through leverage
- The Enterprise Continuum does not represent strictly chained relationships:
 - enterprise architectures may have components from a Common Systems Architecture
 - enterprise solutions may contain a product or service

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The need for Tools

- Tools are needed to manage and control the artifacts within the Enterprise Continuum
 - To promote re-use
 - To enable sharing of architecture information within an organization
 - To facilitate easier maintenance of the architecture
 - To ensure common terminology is used
 - To provide stakeholders with relevant models

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Issues in Tools Standardization

- A single "one size fits all" tool versus multiple tools
- Can a single tool address all needs, all maturity levels?
- TOGAF recognizes the complexity in this area and provides a set of Evaluation Criteria and Guidelines

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Tools Evaluation Criteria

- Functionality
 - Key features and Functions
 - Ease of Use factors
 - Organizational Compatibility Factors
 - Tool Capacity/Scalability Constraints
- Architecture of the tool
 - Repository based? Version control support? Backwards compatibility with previous versions etc
- Full Lifecycle Support
- Interoperability Factors
- Financial Considerations
- Vendor Factors

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Summary

- The Enterprise Continuum is
 - a model for structuring a virtual repository and methods for classifying architecture and solution artifacts
 - It enables the organization of reusable architecture and solution assets.
 - It is also an aid to communication between all architects involved in building and procuring an architecture by providing a common language and terminology.
 - This in turn enables efficiency in engineering and effective use of COTS products.

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Summary

- The Enterprise Continuum
 - provides an overall context for architectures and solutions and classifies assets that apply across the entire scope of the enterprise.
- The Architecture Continuum
 - provides a classification mechanism for assets that collectively define the architecture at different levels of evolution from generic to specific.
- The Solutions Continuum
 - provides the classification for assets to describe specific solutions for the organization that can be implemented to achieve the intent of the architecture.

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Summary

- Tools are needed to manage artifacts within the Enterprise Continuum
- There are a number of issues that should be considered when adopting tools
- TOGAF provides guidelines and evaluation criteria for tools selection

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Test Yourself Question

- Q. According to TOGAF, all the following statements apply to the Enterprise Continuum, except _____:
- A It is a virtual repository of all known architecture assets and artifacts in the IT industry
- B It is a virtual repository of all architecture assets and artifacts which the enterprise is considering in its own architecture project
- C It provides a taxonomy for classifying architecture assets
- D Its is an important aid to communication for architects on both the buy and supply side
- E It helps to organize reusable and solution assets

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Test Yourself Question

- Q. According to TOGAF, all of the following are examples of 'assets within the IT Industry at large' from the Architecture Continuum, except _____
- A The TOGAF TRM
- B The Zachman Framework
- C IT-specific models, such as web services
- D The ARTS data model
- E Deliverables from previous architecture work

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