IS Strategy: Architecture and Infrastructure

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OUTLINE

- Learning objectives
- From vision to implementation
- The leap from strategy to architecture to infrastructure
- Architectural principles
- Enterprise architecture
- Managerial considerations
- From strategy to architecture to infrastructure: an example
- Summary

Learning Objectives

- Understand how strategy drives architecture which then drives infrastructure
- Identify and define the three configurations for IT architecture
- Define how business goals can be translated into IT architecture and then into infrastructure
- Know the different types of frameworks used to design and build the IT architecture and infrastructure
- Understand the importance of knowing the details of the existing architecture and infrastructure of the organization

From Vision to Implementation

- Architecture translates strategy into infrastructure (see Figure 6.1).
- The architect develops plans based on a vision of the customer of the system which is a blueprint of the companies systems
- This "blueprint" is used for translating business strategy into a plan for IS
- The IT infrastructure is everything that supports the flow and processing of information (hardware, software, data, and networks)

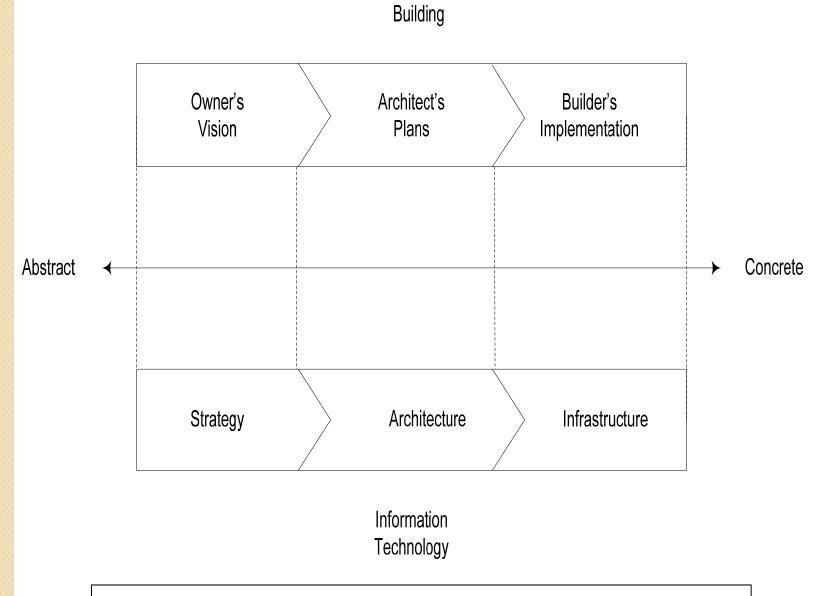


Figure 6.1 From abstract to concrete – building vs. IT

The Manager's Role

- Must understand what to expect from IT architecture and infrastructure
- Must clearly communicate their business vision
- May need to modify the plans if IT cannot realistically support them
- Manager MUST be involved in the decision making process

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From Strategy to Architecture

- Manager must start out with a strategy
- This strategy must then be used to develop more specific goals as seen in Figure 6.2
- Business requirements must be fleshed out for each goal in order to provide the architect with a clear picture of what IS must accomplish
- Figure 6.3 shows how this detailed process is accomplished

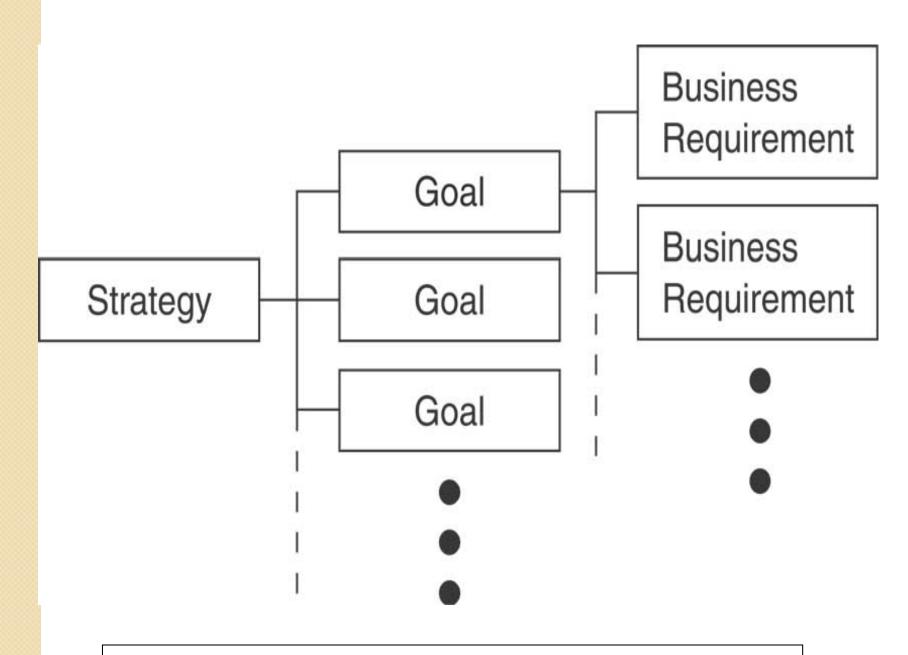


Figure 6.2 – From Strategy to Business Requirements