Software Vendors

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COSS B03

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Agenda

- 1. Products and vendors
- 2. Projects vs. product firms
- 3. The financial view
- 4. Business functions
- 5. Core business processes

1. Products and Vendors

The Main Types of Industry Players (Recap)

- Standard product providers
 - (Independent) software vendors (ISVs)
 - Produce software products ("standard software" or "commercial off-the-shelf software")
 - Software service providers (e.g. "Internet companies")
 - Operate any form of software (and hardware)
- Software consulting firms
 - Development services firms
 - Produce custom software
 - Implementation services firms
 - Configure software products for use by customers
- Non-profit organizations
 - Standards organizations
 - Regulatory bodies
 - Certification agencies

Core, Basic, and Whole Product (Recap)

Core product =

- Core software
- Additional functionality
- Complementary artifacts
- Self-help services

Basic product =

- Core product +
- Fitness for use
- Certification
- Support services

Whole product =

- Basic product +
- Training
- Consulting
- Operations

2. Product vs. Project Firms

Enterprise Software Products and Projects

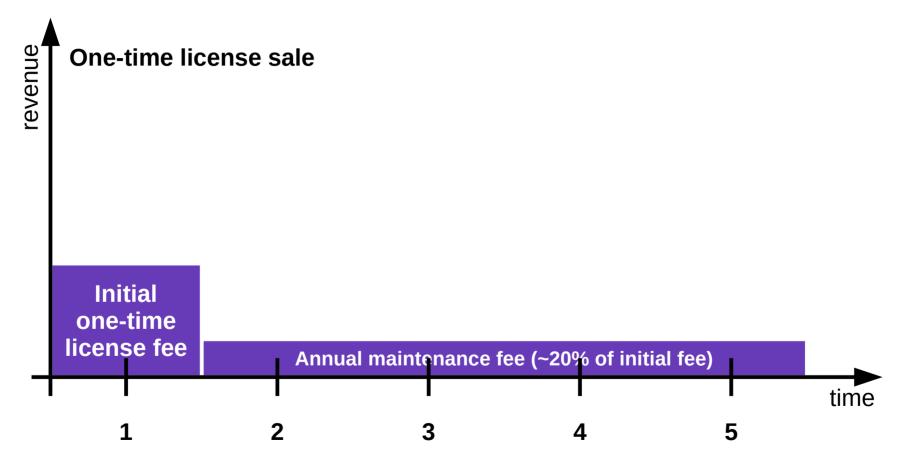




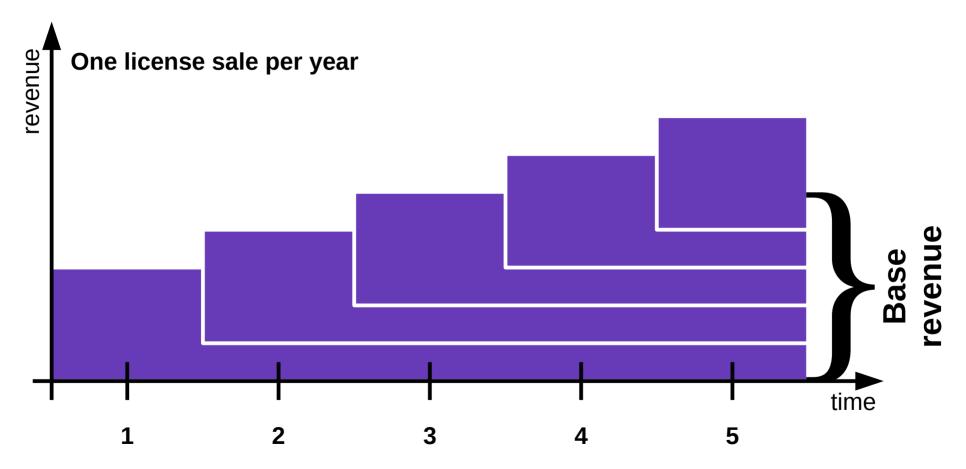




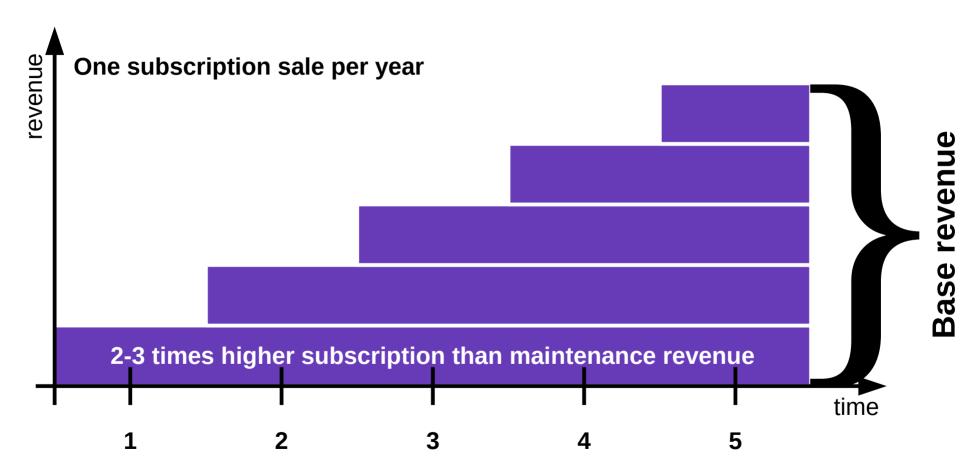
Software Product Revenue



Accumulating Traditional Software Product Revenue



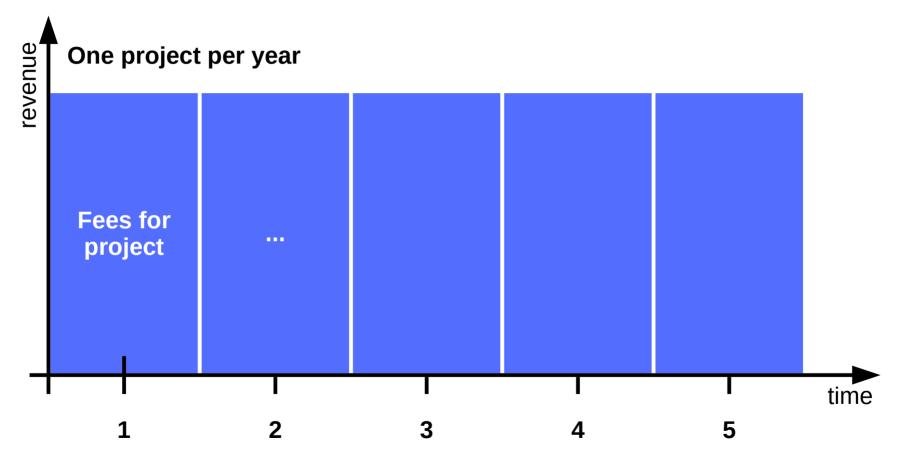
Accumulating Software Subscription Revenue



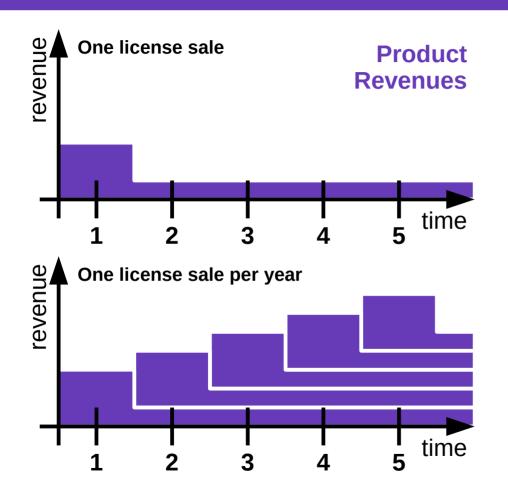
Software Projects

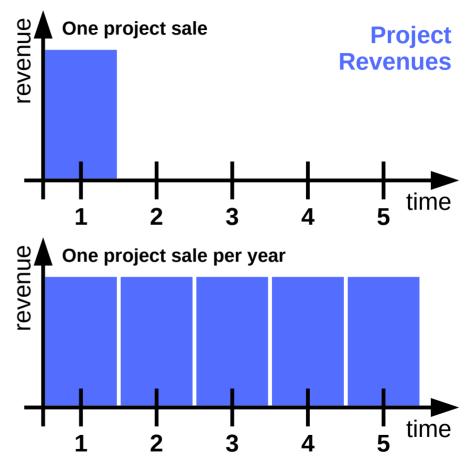
- A project is an undertaking that
 - Has a process with a defined start and a defined end
- A software project is a project where
 - Revenues correlate with performed labor
 - Fixed price vs. actual labor
 - Accounted for as revenue and expenses
- Some example projects
 - Bachelor and Master theses
 - Customizing SAP for a customer

Software Project Revenue



Software Product vs. Project Revenue





Software Product vs. Project Firms

Software vendor **Consulting firm** Predictable revenue Not capital intensive High valuation multiples Can be started easily **Advantages** Has simple pricing Hard to get started Somewhat fragile revenue Requires investment Higher business volatility **Disadvantages** Most fail, few survive Limited scalability

3. The Financial View

The Three Statements of Financial Accounting

- Balance sheet
 - A summary (annual) statement of assets, liabilities, and equity
- Income statement
 - A summary (annual) statement of revenues and expenses
- Cash-flow statement
 - A summary (annual) of flow of cash (and cash equivalents)

The Income Statement

- Basic vocabulary
 - Revenues = income (sales)
 - Expenses = costs
 - Profit (loss) = revenues expenses

Revenues	\$1.657	100%
Subscription and Support	\$1.551	94%
Professional Services etc.	\$106	6%
Cost of Revenues	\$324	20%
Subscription and Support	\$208	13%
Professional Services etc.	\$116	7%
Gross Profit (and Gross Margin)	\$1.333	80%
Operating Expenses		
Research and Development	\$188	11%
Sales and Marketing	\$792	48%
General and Administrative	\$256	15%
General and Administrative		740/
Total Operating Costs	\$1.236	74%

2011 (\$m)

Percentage

Source: Michael A. Cusumano. Reflecting on the Facebook IPO. CACM 10, 2012.

Quiz: Accenture vs. Salesforce (2019)

Metric Ratio	Accenture	Salesforce
Market capitalization	??	??
Revenue	US\$ 43 billion	US\$ 17 billion
Net income [1]	US\$ 4,5 billion	US\$ 0,1 billion
Price-to-sales ratio [2]	??	??
Gross profit margin [3]	30%	74%
Operating profit margin	15%	2,94%
Net profit margin	11%	0,74%
Revenue growth	4,4%	29%
No employees	510.000	49.000

^[1] Net income = revenue – (COGS + SGA + operating expenses + depreciation + ... taxes)

^[2] Price-to-sales ratio = market capitalization / last year's revenue

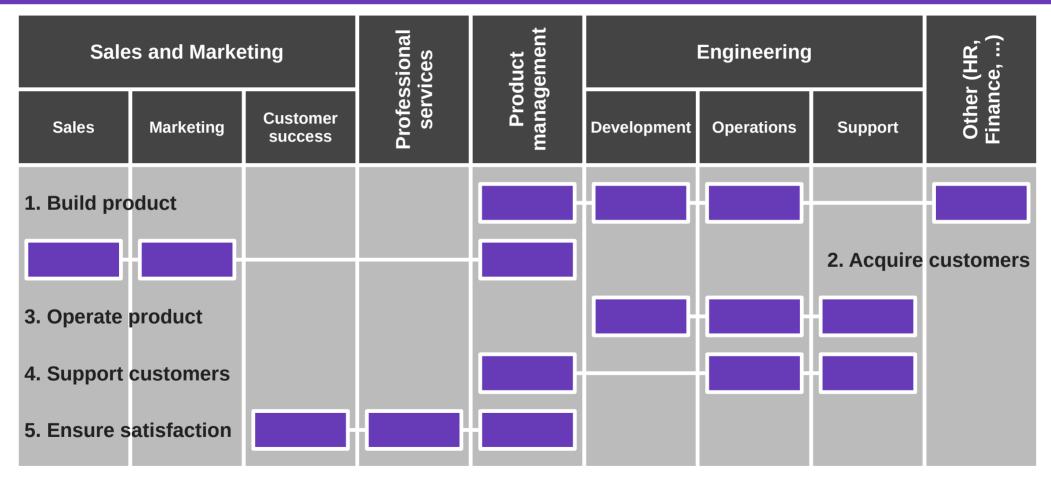
^{3]} Gross profit margin = (revenue – COGS) / revenue

Accenture vs. Salesforce (2019)

Metric Ratio	Accenture	Salesforce
Market capitalization	US\$ 134 billion	US\$ 144 billion
Revenue	US\$ 43 billion	US\$ 17 billion
Net income	US\$ 4,5 billion	US\$ 0,1 billion
Price-to-sales ratio	3,58	9,06
Gross profit margin	30%	74%
Operating profit margin	15%	2,94%
Net profit margin	11%	0,74%
Revenue growth	4,4%	29%
No employees	510.000	49.000

4. Business Functions

Key Business Functions and Processes



Product Management (Business Functions 1 / 9)

- Roles / titles
 - Chief product officer (CPO)
 - Strategic product manager
 - Technical product manager (e.g. Scrum product owner)
- Responsibilities
 - Identify and justify new business opportunities
 - Define and prioritize product vision, roadmap, and features
- Key stakeholder in
 - Build product
 - Acquire customers
 - Ensure customer satisfaction

Engineering / Development (Business Functions 2 / 9)

- Roles / titles
 - Developer / engineer
 - Software architect [1]
 - Engineering manager
- Responsibilities
 - Design, build, and evolve product
 - Provide third-level support
- Key stakeholder in
 - **Build product**

Engineering / Operations (Business Functions 3 / 9)

- Roles / titles
 - Site reliability engineer
 - Operations manager
- Responsibilities
 - Operate product
 - Provide third-level support
- Key stakeholder in
 - Operate product
 - Support customers

Engineering / Support (Business Functions 4 / 9)

- Roles / titles
 - Support engineer
 - Support manager
- Responsibilities
 - Respond to support requests
 - Build support automation
- Key stakeholder in
 - Support customers
- May overlap with DevOps

Marketing (Business Functions 5 / 9)

- Roles / titles
 - (Marketeer)
 - Marketing manager
- Responsibilities
 - Create brand awareness
 - Generate demand
 - Generate leads, qualify them
 - Make product known (campaigns, webinars, etc.)
 - Provide competitive intelligence
- Key stakeholder in
 - Acquire customers

Sales (Business Functions 6 / 9)

- Roles / titles
 - Sales person / representative
 - Pre-sales (person)
 - Sales manager
 - Account manager
- Responsibilities
 - Turn qualified leads into customers
 - Drive upsell, cross-sell, and renewals
- Key stakeholder in
 - Acquire customers

Customer Success (Business Functions 7 / 9)

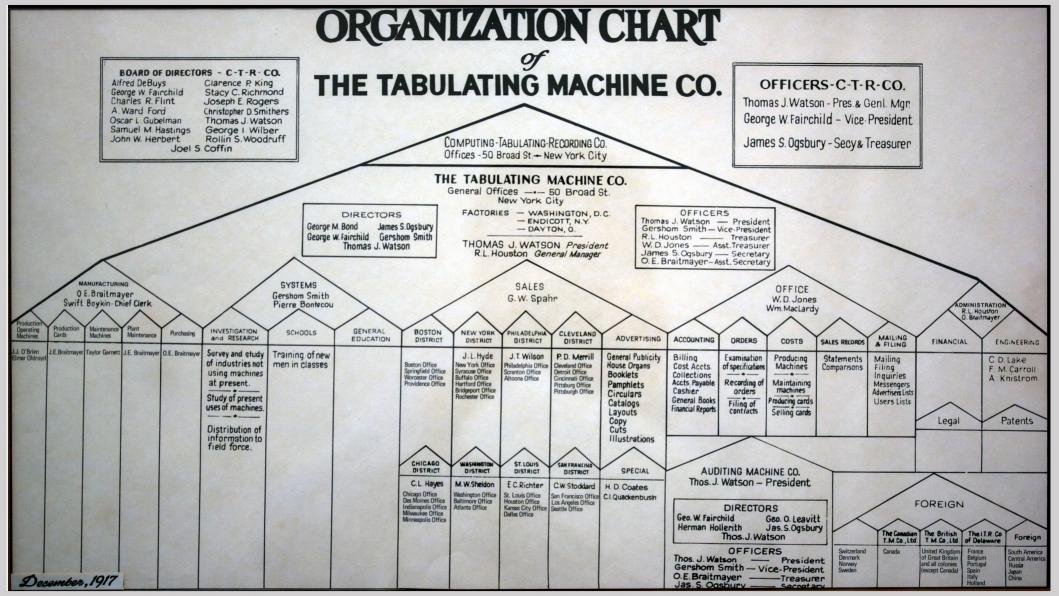
- Roles / titles
 - Customer advocate
 - Customer success manager
- Responsibilities
 - Ensure actual use
 - Improve satisfaction
- Key stakeholder in
 - Ensure customer satisfaction

Professional Services (Business Functions 8 / 9)

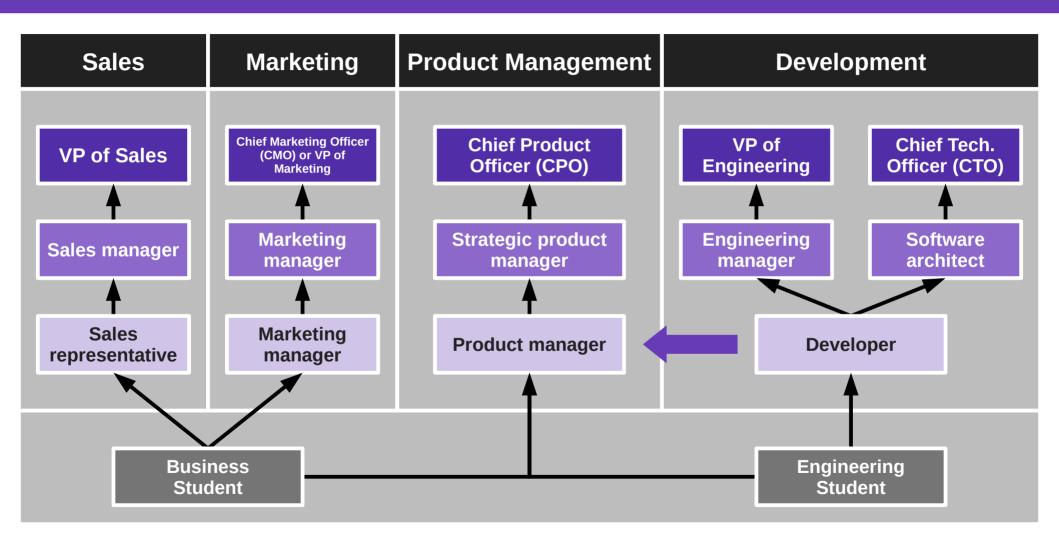
- Roles / titles
 - Consultant
 - Project manager
- Responsibilities
 - Help deploy the product ("solution")
 - Review partner consulting firm (work quality)
 - Help manage consulting ecosystem
- Key stakeholder in
 - Ensure customer satisfaction

Other (Business Functions 9 / 9)

- Human resources
 - Supports hiring
 - Ensures compliance
- Finance
 - Supports operations
 - Manages expenses / costs
 - Helps fundraising
 - Ensures compliance



Titles and Careers in a Software Company

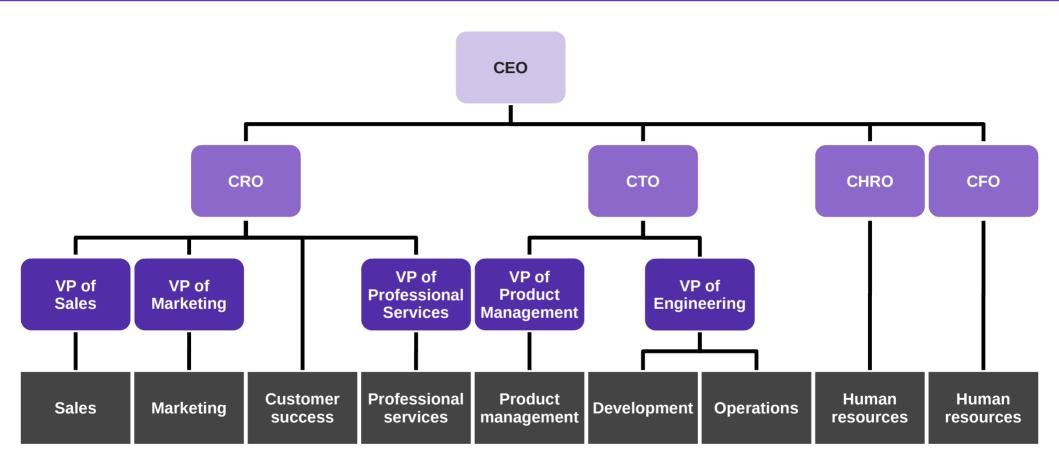


5. Core Business Processes

Profit Center vs. Cost Center

- Profit center
 - Generates revenue ("makes money")
 - Reason why company exists
- Cost center
 - Costs money
 - Needed to operate ("hygiene factor")

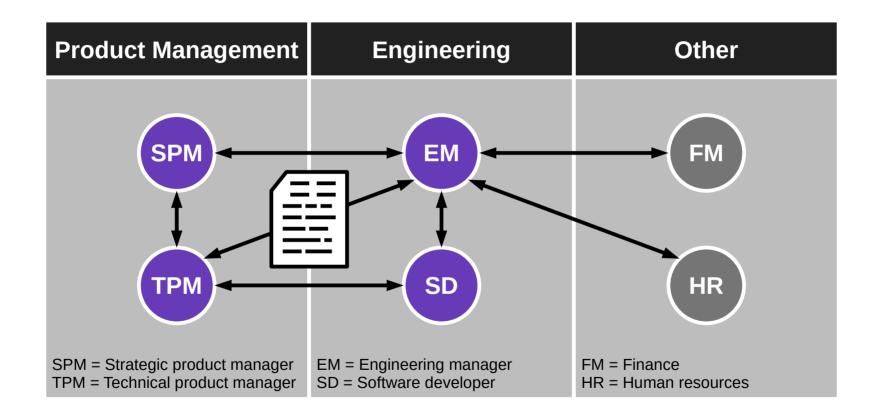
Managerial Hierarchy (Line Reporting)



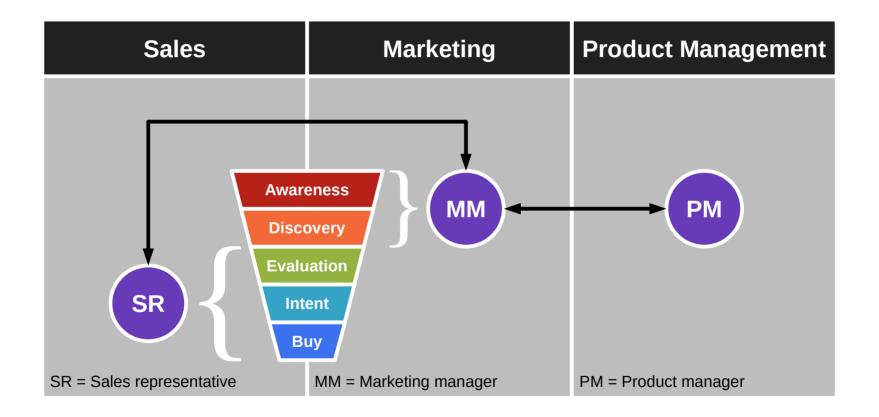
Core Business Processes

- 1. Product development ("build product")
- 2. Customer acquisition ("acquire customers")
- 3. Product operations ("operate product")
- Customer support ("support customers")
- 5. Customer success ("ensure customer satisfaction")

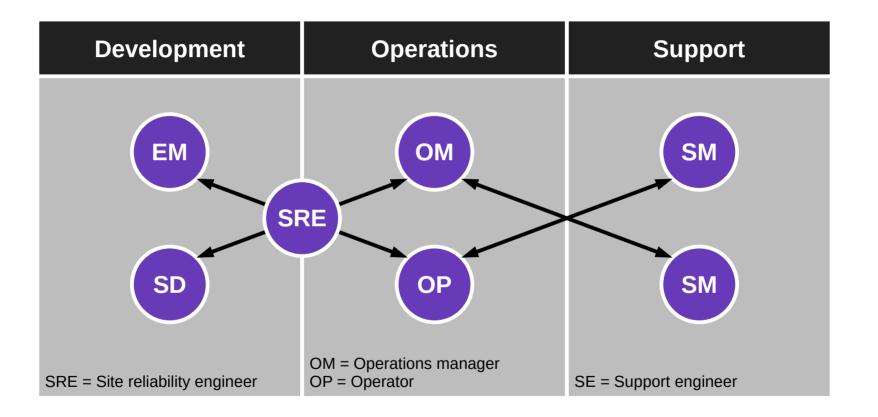
Product Development (Business Processes 1 / 5)



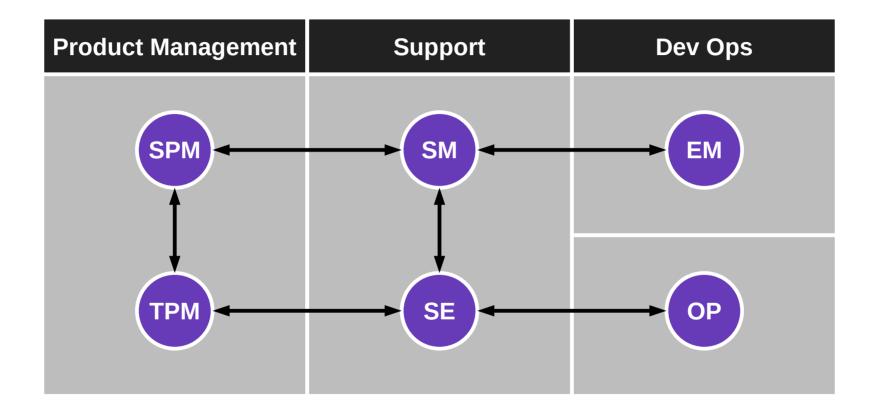
Customer Acquisition (Business Processes 2 / 5)



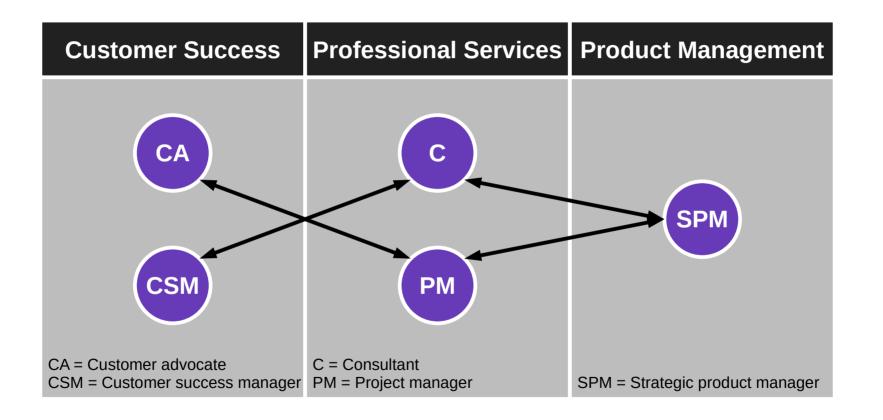
Product Operations (Business Processes 3 / 5)



Customer Support (Business Processes 4 / 5)



Customer Success (Business Processes 5 / 5)



Summary

- 1. Products and vendors
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- 3. The financial view
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Thank you! Questions?

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