

A Developer & IT Admin's View

TechSmart Alumni CE – 3/29/2017

Speaker

- Doug Hoff, Centriq Training
 - Java, JavaScript, C#, php
 - business, architecture, programming, analysis, testing, web frameworks
- dhoff@centriq.com
- Twitter: @doug hoff
- Blog: http://socialitoutbursts.com/



Why do people run a business?

- A car manufacturer
- A technical school
- A grocery store
- An internet provider
- A clothing store
- A software developer
- A restaurant
- A government



...to provide a service/product

- The customer creates demand
 - by having a problem
- The services create supply
 - to provide solutions
- A business exchanges the service for some value
 - the business model



Business uses IT to increase value

- collect data for reporting
- enforce consistent rules
- eliminate labor costs
- reduce supply costs
- increase communication speed
- create higher quality services/products

Getting more value with IT

- Use the best IT service management processes
 - Measure your current value
 - Recommend process improvements for more value
 - Implement the improved version
 - Measure the difference in value



An example of value in management

- Cooking management
 - does it benefit you?
 - who uses it?
 - can you implement cooking?
 - are there multiple best practices of processes?
 - cooking documentationfood science principles
 - processes for memy cookbook
 - value after one implementation = cooked meal



Another example of value in management

- Gravity management
 - when does it benefit you?
 - can you implement gravity?
 - Would a book "101 processes using gravity" help you?
 - it's a start
 - Would "How my job should use gravity?" be better?
 - write it yourself, no one else can
 - improve it every day



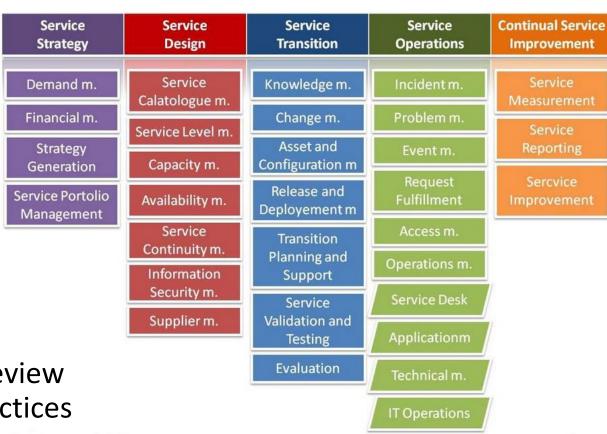


- background
- general business management of IT
- processes organized in 4
 project phases
 - strategy
 - design
 - operation
 - transition
- and one about quality



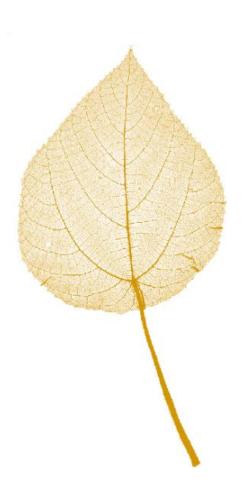
ITIL management processes

- High level thinking for business
 - not a project management methodology
 - not an IT development workflow
 - checklists to review for all best practices



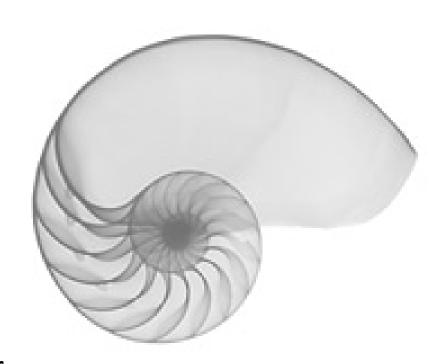
Strategy

- Understanding, finding, and maintaining big picture value
- Value comes from services
- Services are anything a customer would pay for
 - products
 - activities
 - guarantees of quality
- Roles
 - executives, upper level managers, enterprise consultants



Design

- Planning to add value that you know is there
- Documentation of
 - service development
 - architecture
 - validation of value
 - security
- Roles
 - lower level managers, senior technical staff, business analysts



Transition

- Navigating through change to get value
 - keeping risk low
- Maintaining records
- Build and deploy
- Tracking
- Testing
- Roles
 - technical management and staff



Operation

- Getting feedback and ensuring quality of value
- Service desk
 - incidents
 - problems
 - events
 - security



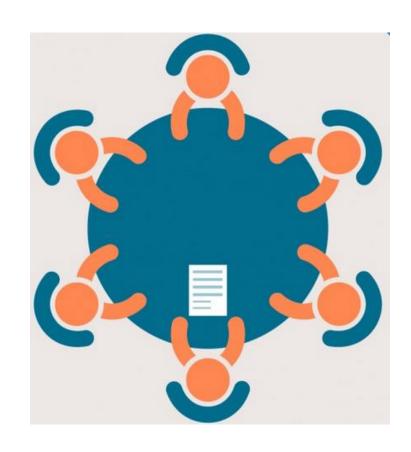
Continual Service Improvement

- How to improve anything
 - know where you are
 - know where you are going
 - collect data, process it, analyze it, report it
 - correct as necessary
 - know what is success
- Making it "Agile"



Projects need...

- high-level support and leadership
 - the project owner
- requirements
 - service level requirements
 - the service design package
- consistent project management processes
 - the process owners
 - the process managers





Design – actions

- At initial outset
 - add to total set of services (Service Portfolio) for planning while in design
 - derive capacity from requirements
 - set new budgets now
 - do business impact analysis and risk assessments for disaster recovery, availability and capacity
 - alert service desk
 - start planning development, testing, and deployment
 - set up new suppliers



Design – solution parts

- all business processes
- service itself
 - the requirements
- infrastructure
 - environment for infrastructure
- data
- applications
- support services
- OLAs and contracts intra-departmental agreements, legal agreements
- support teams
- suppliers



Design – goals

- satisfy business objectives for value
- design for ease and efficiency of development, short maintenance cycles, reduction of long-term costs
- design great processes especially for lifecycle of service
- manage risk early
- design securely and resiliently
- design methods to measure good metrics
- create plans, policies, standards
- enhance skills, capabilities



Design – a balance of...

- functionality (scope)
- resources
 - people
 - technology
 - money
- schedule



Design – four domains

- infrastructure
 - hardware and networks
- environmental
 - physical space, power, cabling, physical security
- data
 - control, access, test data
- applications
 - software, off-the-shelf and in-house



Design – aspects

- the solution itself
 - requirements docs (use cases)
- development tools
 - project management, and full view of all services
 - https://www.thoughtworks.com/radar/tools
- development processes
 - https://www.thoughtworks.com/radar/techniques
- architecture and tools
 - https://www.thoughtworks.com/radar/platforms
 - https://www.thoughtworks.com/radar/language s-and-frameworks
- measurement systems and metrics
 - know what success looks like!
 - correct it early, if it's not in



Design – lifecycle

- Business requirements
 - outline, change request
 - defined use cases
 - analyzed prioritized
 - approved
- Customer & support team viewable
 - chartered resources & budget allocated
 - designed
 - developed / built
 - tested
 - released
 - operational
 - retired



Design – architectures

- Service architecture
 - applications, infrastructure, organization, APIs, support → services
- Application architecture
 - business functional needs → applications
- Data architecture
 - logical models, physical data
 - warehouses, datamarts, data lakes
- IT infrastructure architecture
 - hardware/software location, communications
- Environmental architecture
 - environment controls



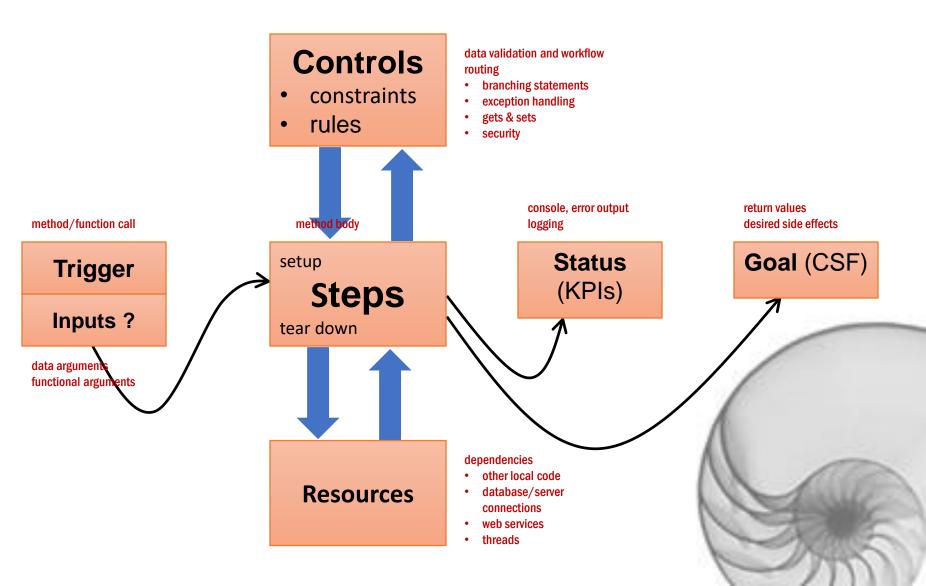
Design – service catalogs

- the business catalog
 - what does the user see?
 - what do they want to do?
- the technical catalog
 - what are the key functions of the back end?
 - how are they technically managed?
 - mapped to what business service they support



Design - process model

the process parts in computer language



Design - processes

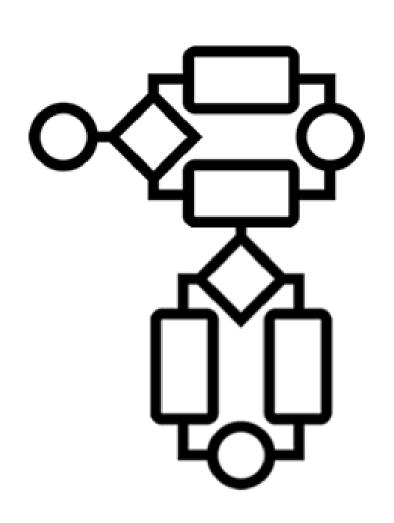
- Updating documentation
 - service catalog management
- Communicating with stakeholders
 - service level management
 - Agile product managers, sales reps
- Understanding scope
 - capacity management
 - availability management
 - IT service continuity management
 - information security management
- Managing external resources
 - supplier management





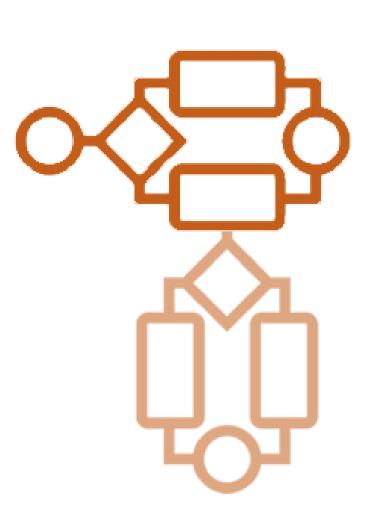
Transition processes - general

- Knowing what you have
 - Service asset management
- Tracking and approving changes
 - Change management
- Knowing what you did
 - Configuration management
- Organizing data
 - Knowledge management



Transition processes – specific

- Project management
 - transition planning and support
- Development
 - release management
- DevOps
 - deployment management
- Testing
 - service testing and validation
- Lessons learned
 - evaluation



Transition – policy

Principles

• Be clear, align with governance, show commitment by management, integrate teams, address deployment early in design.

Best practices

 Transition policy is signed off from management, sponsors, and decision makers.



Transition – change

Principles

 Single point of change control, no authority for prod=no access, increase prod environment knowledge, use RFCs, use the CMS

- Define change, internal and external
- Justify by business case (value to business)
- Plan, predict and compare results
- Management shows commitment
- CM Audit for unauthorized changes
- NO acceptance of late changes



Transition – standards

Principles

- reusable processes and systems, industry best practices, use CMS, conduct regular reviews and audits
- Best practices
 - publish the standards
 - design a framework for measuring capability and risk profile before and after
 - automate standard processes to reduce adoption resistance
 - derive changes through business case
 - know management commitment
 - encourage buy-in improvement on standards

Transition – re-use

Principles

- re-use processes and systems where possible
- capture data from original sources
- develop reusable models (flow charts...)
- use industry standards for better integration

- use project management practices
- use existing communication channels
- follow current HR, training, finance & facilities management practices
- design transition for customization
- design transition for consistency with variations

Transition – business alignment

Principles

 set user expectations for performance now, let them know how to integrate, check constraints, give users feedback often, monitor and measure in deployment, compare results

- use project management best practices
- provide clear and full plans for changes later
- keep stakeholders involved

Transition – stakeholders

Principles

 set expectations for how business will change, communicate changes to all, provide info on how to find transition details

- verify stakeholders can use it
- share build, test, and deployment plans and changes
- work with business level management (executives, marketing) and service level management (sales reps, liasons) to build customer trust

Transition – controls

Principles

 maintain integrity of assets and configurations, automate audits to use more, define accountability and roles at handoff points, use transaction style records for audit trails

- map roles to processes
- record role assignments for visibility
- verify requirements can be done
- ensure staff making changes is competent
- make audits

Transition – data management

Principles

 right time to right people, train users, improve data, improve business and technical docs, provide easy access, know definitive source of data, show consolidated release data

- use good presentation and reporting tools
- vary GUIs by role
- publish variance reports with risk levels
- allow access to transition data by service desk, operations, support teams

Transition – plan releases

Principles

 everyone is in agreement, coordinated, planned for best use and integrity, risk measured for backing out

- all updates are recorded
- definitive versions are stored before test
- keep a release calendar for planning
- document prerequisites and co-requisites and communicate to relevant parties

Transition – expect corrections

Principles

 communicate that changes will happen, empower that application, learn from the past, use lessons learned sessions

- use project management for corrections
- document and control without too much paperwork
- document changes after baseline
- involve stakeholders for changes but manage risks and issues internally as appropriate

Transition – manage resources

Principles

 recognize resources, skills, and knowledge, assemble teams, use dedicated resources for critical activities, share resources, automate repetitive or error-prone tasks

- work with HR and supplier management
- use any competent resource even non-IT
- proactively handle delays if possible in resource contention
- measure dedicated vs non-dedicated resources impact on delays



Transition – early warnings

- Principles
 - detect errors as early as possible, prevent resources from being used if wasteful
- Best practices
 - involve customers in design, test planning
 - use testing on how users really use it, not how designers think it's used
 - use past projects for help
 - show value as soon as possible
 - use design audits for risk assessment

Transition – quality assurance

Principles

 verify the changes can be made correctly, know what customers really want, test and assess risk thoroughly, make test environment as real as possible, developers and designers should not test

- understand the customer
- involve the stakeholders
- know differences between dev, test, and prod environments
- test environments are under change control
- start with a baseline

Transition – proactive quality

- Principles
 - detect and resolve incidents early
- Best practices
 - start comparing expectations to results with pilots and early life support
 - do risk evaluation independently
 - use risk evaluation for risk based tests
 - test support tools for good and easy messaging/logging feedback
 - encourage transition & operations communication
 - fix errors by priority
 - document resolutions
 - analyze root causes
 - measure number and impact of incidents per release in test, deploy, and production stages, use to fix underlying problems
 - update incident and problem fix processes

Questions?

