Two Level Flow Chart

The *Two Level Flow Chart* pattern creates elements and a diagram that model a process by describing the steps, decisions, storages and the inputs and outputs required to reach an outcome down to two levels of diagrams (for a single Process).
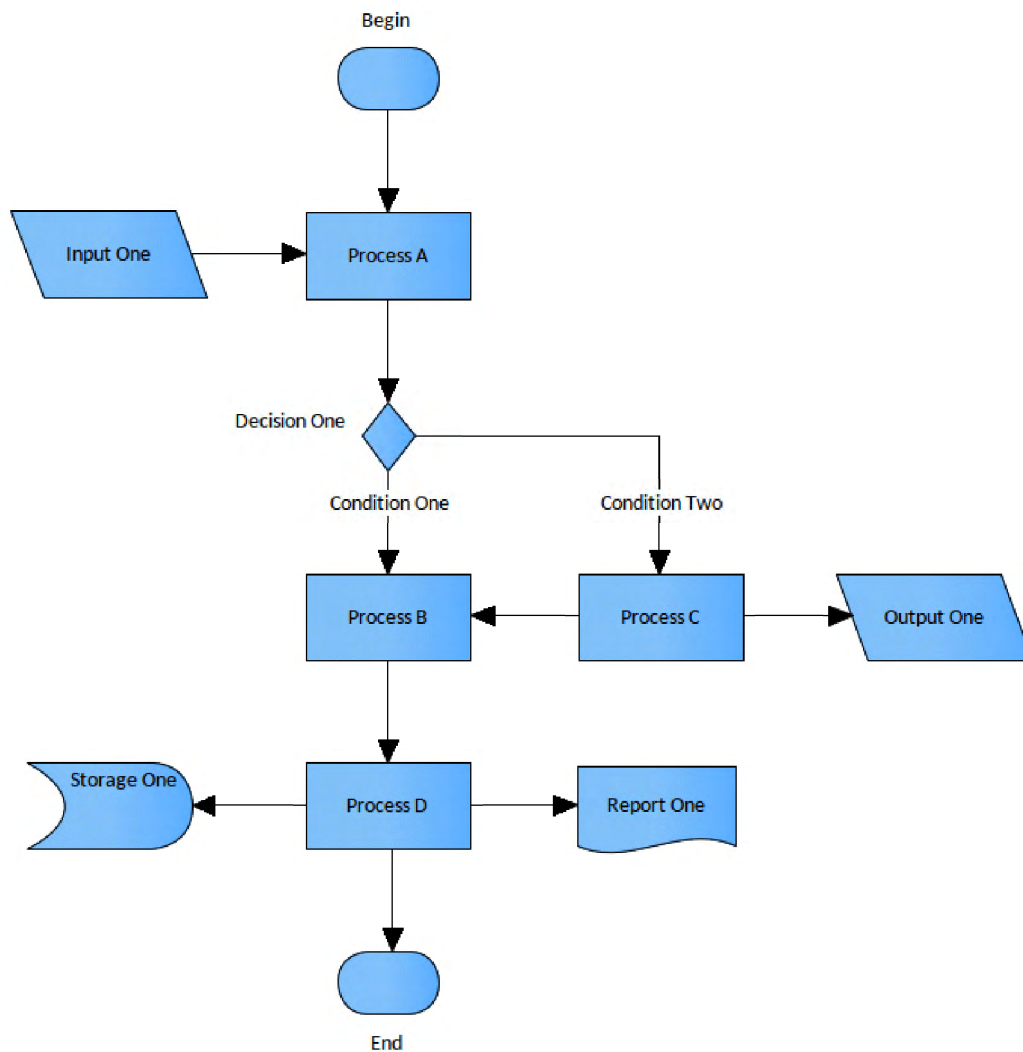

Figure 1. Shows a Flow Chart diagram that allows a process to be modeled by sequencing a number of lower level processes with decisions, inputs, outputs and storages.
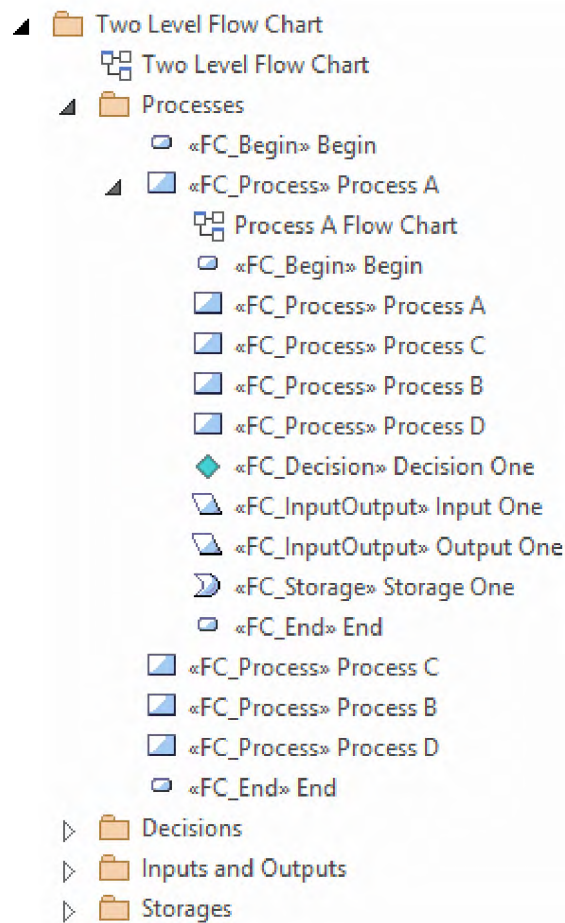
Figure 2. Shows the Project Browser structure indicating the nesting of a second level process. The top level diagram allows drill-down to the second level of diagram.

Discussion

The purpose of the pattern is to create a diagrammatic representation of a business process that acts as a strategic analysis, design or communication tool allowing stakeholders to review and comment on the important business processes. The Flow Chart has one process at the top level that is specified down to another level.

The pattern is typically used during the business or enterprise analysis phase of an initiative to create a simple but compelling view of a business process and to communicate this to other stakeholders. Its simple and direct syntactic style is often

more suitable for non-technical audiences and is often preferred to other more complex process modeling languages.

The following is a list of some things you may want to do when working with this pattern.

- · Change the name of the Package and the diagram to suit the initiative.
- · Change the name of the Processes, Inputs and Outputs, Storage sand other elements to suit the flows being modeled.
- · Change the relationships to suit the initiative.
- · Remove elements or add additional element as needed.

The following is a list of some of the next steps available when applying the pattern.

- · Extend the model by making any number of the Processes composite and assigning a child diagram that defines the next level of the model.
- · Define Trace relationships showing how the Requirements relate to up-process elements such as Strategies, Business Rules and other Requirements and down-process elements such as User Stories, Use Cases, Components, Artifacts and database tables.
- · Create high quality documentation generated automatically from the model.

Reference

Flow Chart Diagram

Flow Chart

Connector Style Options

Element Appearance

Traceability Tools

Documentation

The following are some of the tools that will be helpful when working with this pattern.

Document Generator
The Document Generator is a powerful facility in Enterprise Architect that allows a Database Engineer or other stakeholder to create high quality corporate or technical

documentation directly from the model, suitable for internal or external audiences. For more details see the Documentation help topic or the more general topic on Model Publishing.

Element Discussions

The Element Discussion facility is a fully featured collaboration tool allowing modelers and model viewers and reviewers to communicate with each other directly inside the repository. Modelers using the full client or occasional viewers using WebEA can both post and reply to discussions and communicate and engage in chat. For more details see the Element Discussions help topic.

Specification View

The Specification View can be used as a way of working with any element type in a spreadsheet or word process view. It is particularly useful when there are a large number of elements as is typically the case when describing a system of any appreciable size. For more details see the Specification View help topic.

Baseline Tool

The Baseline Tool can capture a snapshot of a selected Package at a point in time and then at a later time the repository can be compared to this (or another baseline) for the purpose of determining what has changed. Any number of baselines can be created and labeled and there is a baseline comparison tool which displays the differences between the baseline and the model and allows the modeler to revert a change in the model to a baseline at a granular level. For more details see the Baseline Tool help topic.

Relationship Matrix

The Relationship Matrix provides a spreadsheet like view of two groups of elements and the relationships that exist between them. It can be a used as a powerful analysis mechanism to visually indicate how elements are related to each other and to discover which elements are missing relationships. For more details see the Relationship Matrix help topic.

Traceability Window

The Traceability Window automatically displays the relationships that exist between Use Cases and other model elements including up-process and down-process elements. The traceability tree view can be conveniently expanded to see deeper relationships and elements displayed in the window can be located in all diagrams in which they appear. For more details see the Traceability Window help topic.

Alternate Images for Diagram Elements

Most standard elements allow an alternate image to be defined for an element that will be used in place of the graphical notation for the element either on a selected diagram or as a default on all diagrams. For more details see the Using the Image Manager help topic.

Diagram Layout

The Diagram Layout tool allows you to layout an entire diagram, selected elements or sections of a diagram to make it more visually appealing or meaningful to a particular audience. There are a wide range of layout types to choose from and some types have filters that can be applied. For more details see the Diagram Layout help topic.

Pan and Zoom

The Pan and Zoom facility is one of the tools that can be used to navigate around a large diagram. Often the resolution of a diagram must be reduced to ensure it is wholly visible but by using the Pan and Zoom window you can leave the diagram at a readable resolution and pan around to areas of interest zooming in when necessary. For more details see the Pan and Zoom help topic.