

Solution Recommendation

The *Solution Recommendation* pattern creates a Document Artifact that is part of the model and can be opened and edited inside Enterprise Architect and also saved as an external document. It can be used to describe the *Solution Recommendation* using a built-in or user defined template. Documents the recommended solution detailing the value it provides and also lists the alternate solutions and the analysis performed to arrive at the recommended solution.

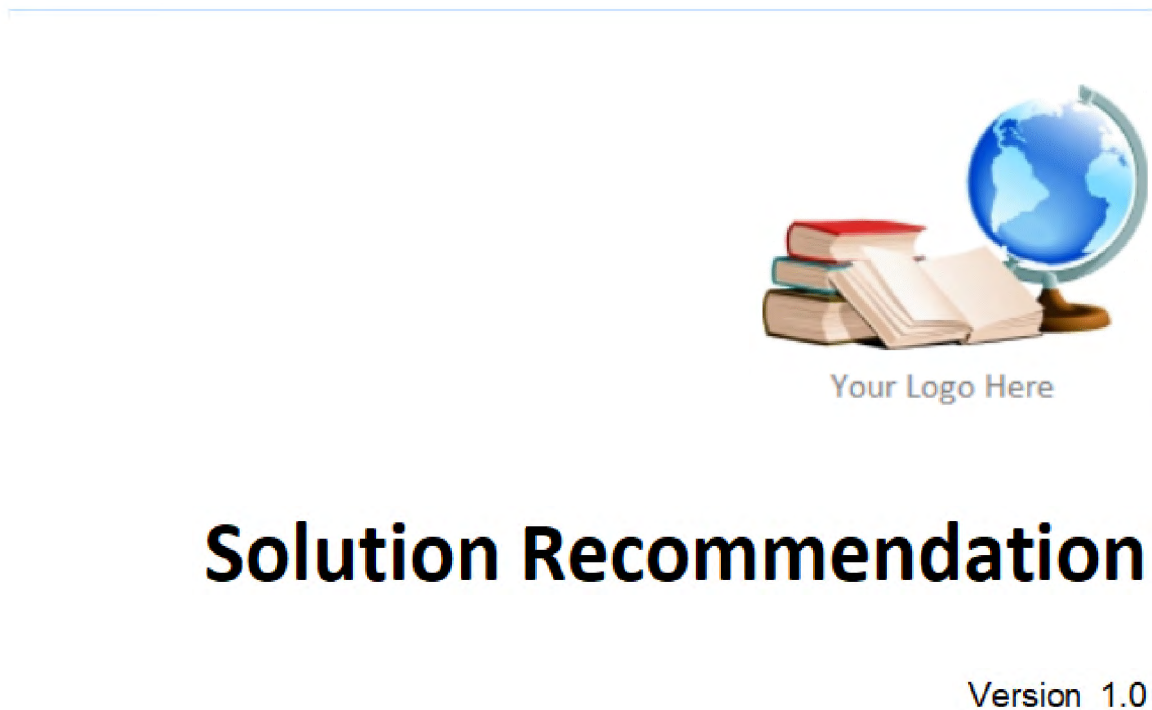


Figure 1. Shows the title page of the document allowing a company logo to be inserted.

Discussion

The purpose of the pattern is to allow Business Analysts and other stakeholders to create a document inside the repository that describes the recommended and therefore

most appropriate solution based on the analysis and evaluation of all the proposed or suggested design options. The recommended solution should be the one that ensures maximum value is provided to the enterprise.

It can be created at any point in the life cycle of a solution. It can be used to:

- Document the recommended solution including the value it provides to the enterprise.
- Describe the analysis of the proposed solution including why they were not the favored solution.

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

- Replace the Cover Page Image with a Company or Project logo.
- Create additional textual content in the document.
- Insert Tables into the document as containers for tabular information.
- Insert Headers and Footers as required.
- Use the Track Changes feature if you need to keep track of the text that is changed in the document.

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

- Create Traces to other elements - The Document is contained in an Artifact Element that can be linked to other elements in the model. A trace Relationship can be used to relate up-process or down-process elements and a name, notes or tagged value on the relationship can be used to describe the relationship to the document.
- Save the Document as an External File - The document Artifact can be saved as an external file making it available to be opened in an external editor such as a word processing tool.
- Include process diagrams that define or help describe the approach - Process Diagrams created and maintained in Enterprise Architect can be included in the document to provide a more compelling description of the approach.

Reference

The following help topics will assist you learn about how to work with this pattern.

[Edit Linked Documents](#)

[Linked Documents](#)

[Documentation](#)

[Track Changes](#)

[Artifact](#)

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

[Linked Documents](#)

Linked Documents provide a way of incorporating extensive and highly formatted documentation for an element. While an element's notes are a useful place to provide brief and visible information about an element, a Linked Document can be used to create extensive documentation for an element including all the features you available in a typical word processing tool such as: Paragraph Formatting, Header and Footers, Table Images, Tables of contents and much more. For more details see the [Linked Documents](#) help topic.

[Document Window](#)

The Document Window is a powerful tool for generating, reading and editing narrative style information for an element. There are two tabs: the Dynamic Document Tab and the Linked Document Tab. The Dynamic Document tab generates documentation automatically from element information and the Linked Document tab can be used for reading and editing an element's linked document. For more details see the [Document Window](#) help topic.

[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](#).

[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.

[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.