Solution Architecture

[The Open Group](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Open_Group)'s definition of Solution Architecture, as provided above, is accompanied by the following three from Scaled Agile, Gartner and Greefhorst/Proper. It is worth noting that the Open Group does not recognize the role "Solution Architect" in [its TOGAF skills framework](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Open_Group_Architecture_Framework) whilst Glassdoor advertised 55,000 Solution Architect roles in August 2020. [[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solution_architecture#cite_note-2)

* [Scaled agile](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scaled_agile_framework) (2020) *Solution Architect/Engineering is responsible for defining and communicating a shared technical and architectural vision across a "Solution Train" to help ensure the system or Solution under development is fit for its intended purpose.*[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solution_architecture#cite_note-3)
* [Gartner](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gartner) (2013) *A solution architecture (SA) is an architectural description of a specific solution. SAs combine guidance from different enterprise architecture viewpoints (business, information and technical), as well as from the enterprise solution architecture (ESA).*[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solution_architecture#cite_note-4)
* [Greefhorst](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Danny_Greefhorst) and [Proper](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Erik_Proper) (2013) *An architecture of a solution, where a solution is a system that offers a coherent set of functionalities to its environment. As such, it concerns those properties of a solution that are necessary and sufficient to meet its essential requirements*[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solution_architecture#cite_note-5)

A typical property of Solution Architecture, in contrast to other flavours of Enterprise Architecture, is that it often seeks to define a solution within the context of a project or initiative.[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solution_architecture#cite_note-6) This close association to actual projects and initiatives means that solution architecture is the means to execute or realise a technology strategy.

Coverage[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Solution_architecture&action=edit&section=2)]

According to [Forrester Research](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Forrester_Research), Solution Architecture is one of the key components by which [Enterprise Architecture](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Enterprise_architecture) delivers value to the organization. It entails artifacts such as; solution business context, solution vision and requirements, solution options (e.g. through [RFIs](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Request_for_information), [RFPs](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Request_for_proposal) or prototype development) and an agreed optimal solution with build and implementation plans ("road-map").[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solution_architecture#cite_note-7)

Since The Open Group does not recognize a unique Solution Architect role a relevant link for these mentioned artifacts can be to the [Business](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Business_analyst) and [Systems Analyst](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Systems_analyst) roles. It is also worth reminding that The Open Group does define Solution Architecture as something larger than Forrester (see aforementioned definition).

Then on, according to the 2013 paper published by the Federation of Enterprise Architecture Professional Organizations, Solution Architecture includes [business architecture](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Business_architecture), [information architecture](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Data_architecture), [application architecture](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Application_architecture), and [technology architecture](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Technology_architecture&action=edit&redlink=1) operating at a tactical level and focusing on the scope and span of a selected business problem. In contrast, enterprise architecture, which also includes the aforementioned four types of architecture, operates at the strategic level and its scope and span is the enterprise rather than a specific business problem.[[8]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solution_architecture#cite_note-8)[[9]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solution_architecture#cite_note-9)

See also[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Solution_architecture&action=edit&section=3)]

* [Architecture patterns](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Architectural_pattern_(computer_science)#Examples), hereunder enterprise architecture (EA) reference architectures
* [Segment architecture](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Segment_architecture)

References[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Solution_architecture&action=edit&section=4)]

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Further reading[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Solution_architecture&action=edit&section=5)]

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