

Fast and flexible adapting to changing customer needs and company goals is of vital importance to a growing number of companies. As a consequence, the changes in product, process, organization, application and infrastructure are large, and need to be made clear upfront. Increasingly, enterprise architecture is used at the strategic and tactical levels of an organization. But what is the best way to start using enterprise architecture and prevent a 'confusion of tongues' within your organization? The ArchiMate® language has been developed as a standard for modeling and visualizing enterprise architectures. With BiZZdesign Architect and ArchiMate® you can quickly and effectively get started with your enterprise architecture.

Does this sound familiar to you?

Do you recognize one of the following situations? If so, it is time to use Architect and ArchiMate for your Enterprise Architecture:

- ▶ Different architecture domains are being created by different people using different tools resulting in isolated 'silos' of information within your organization.
- ▶ Inconsistencies, duplications and unclear relationships exist between different architectural domains.
- ▶ Problems remain unsolved concerning the alignment of business and IT.
- ▶ It is hard to communicate your enterprise architecture to stakeholders in the organization.
- ▶ The enterprise architecture is not perceived to help your organization to achieve its management goals, and to provide a valuable framework for strategic decisions on improving the business and investing in new technology.

Starting with Enterprise Architecture

ArchiMate®

ArchiMate supports an enterprise architect in describing and visualizing relationships between the various architectural domains. At its core, ArchiMate is an enterprise architecture language for modeling the business and IT views of your organization in a coherent and holistic way. This provides you with a new structure for architecture deliverables that mean an end to the large unstructured 'silos' of information that are so difficult for all your stakeholders to understand. ArchiMate offers a range state-of-the-art information on techniques for visualizing, analyzing, designing and using enterprise architecture. ArchiMate has been developed by a consortium of large companies and research institutes and is becoming a standard for enterprise architecture modeling.

Enterprise architecture:

A consistent set of principles, methods and models that are used for the design and realisation of products and services, organisation, processes, information, applications and technology.

Building strong organizations



Road map for EA

The following road map gives an outline of a way to start using enterprise architecture, supported by ArchiMate and BiZZdesign Architect.

Consolidate the use of EA within your organization

Make someone responsible for enterprise architecture. Make ArchiMate and Architect the standard language and tool for describing enterprise architecture. Adjust your design processes to ensure that new designs are always be checked against the enterprise architecture and the architectural principles of your organization.

Step 4

Use architecture for future scenarios

When architects have gained some experience modeling the current enterprise environment with ArchiMate and Architect, they should start modeling the future, to-be or target vision. Changes within the organization can be checked against the future target enterprise architecture. The feasibility of proposed business or IT changes should be analyzed using BiZZdesign Architect's powerful visualization and views, so that the impact of the changes are assessed before they are actually implemented.

Step 5

Means and goal

Watch out! The use of ArchiMate and Architect is not a goal in itself. They are just means to help you achieve goals like:

- ▶ Creating an coherent overview of all the different architecture domains in your organization (like business processes, application architectures, information architecture, technology architecture);
- ▶ Steering strategic changes in the organization;
- ▶ Analyzing current and future scenarios and proposed changes;
- ▶ Creating a better alignment between business and IT.

Methods, training, consultancy

BiZZdesign Architect is supported with effective methods and techniques for enterprise architecture, practical training and consultancy.

More information?

For more information on Architect® and ArchiMate® and the other products and services of BiZZdesign, please contact BiZZdesign

Step 1

Start an enterprise architecture pilot

Start with a short pilot case. This should aim at realizing a quick win, like giving insight into an urgent problem, or visualizing the current developments within your organization. Demonstrate clearly that a small investment in enterprise architecture, ArchiMate, and Architect will create added value for your organization. A one or two days training course in ArchiMate and Architect should be part of this pilot. Help to create a clear vision of the purpose and need for enterprise architecture.

Step 2

Sharing the vision and describing your current EA

When the pilot case is finished successfully, you have to ensure that different groups within your organization start using the same modeling concepts to describe their architectures. Training and coaching is necessary to achieve this. Some coaching by an experienced ArchiMate and Architect consultant is advisable in order to use ArchiMate and Architect in a clear and efficient way. In this phase it is often useful to describe the current (as is) environment, to get familiar with the ArchiMate language, and to use this language throughout the whole organization to demonstrate short term wins. The use of Architect enforces uniform and unambiguous descriptions of the enterprise architecture.

Step 3

Ensure coherence within the EA

The next step is to model the relationships between the multiple parts (or domains) of the enterprise architecture. For instance, one can start modeling business processes, followed by modeling the applications and services used by these processes. Based on these applications, the required infrastructure can be modeled. Modeling these elements in Architect enables you to create visualizations of the enterprise architecture as a whole, and to ensure the consistency between the different architecture domains.

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