

Business Process and SOA Assessment

Identify high-impact processes for automation that will generate fast payback

Business Challenge

Business processes are in the critical path of progressive business change. The speed at which you can combine your capabilities into new business processes defines your organization's ability to succeed. Many companies are leveraging service-oriented architecture (SOA) principles to improve their agility and interoperability and create an environment whereby applications can change as quickly as business processes change.

When organizations treat SOA as a single project and deliverable, they almost always fail to deliver a positive return on their investment. These big projects are often made irrelevant by changes in economic or competitive situations before any value is delivered.

A more practical approach is to take an iterative approach to SOA implementation by focusing on a set of specific business problems whose automation and prospect for reuse offers a compelling return on investment. Small projects with short delivery cycles are the best way to ensure that business needs are met and real business value is delivered. The result is a higher success rate, broader SOA adoption, and elimination of long infrastructure efforts that get out of sync with continuously changing business needs.

Service Offering

EMC® Business Process and SOA Assessment Service provides a clear vision of how your business can benefit from using an SOA and automating critical processes. We assess your current IT environment and determine what processes should get the highest priority for service enablement based upon associated risks and benefits. We then develop a roadmap with clear, focused recommendations for critical initiatives that can be implemented incrementally over a period of less than six months. The methodology includes:

- **A review of your business goals and desired end state**

By conducting interviews and working sessions with key staff and through a review of available documentation, EMC identifies your organization's business objectives, its critical business processes, and the main sources of information (internal and external) for those processes.

- **An examination of existing systems and processes**

The current IT systems architecture is captured by reviewing the systems and applications currently supporting the business processes, including applications, servers, databases, middleware, and networks.

- **Identification of high payback processes**

EMC identifies your essential business processes and the associated future-state architecture. The key area of focus is on those processes that have the greatest potential for improvement by adopting an SOA.

The output of the assessment is a detailed written report and a presentation and interactive discussion of the findings to key stakeholders. The assessment deliverable includes:

- Information technology systems architecture (current state)
- High-level business process inventory (current state)
- Relationships between processes and systems
- Concerns and limitations that are risks to the organization's stated goals
- Conceptual architecture supporting the business processes
- Roadmap that outlines and prioritizes the critical initiatives that will generate payback the most quickly ranked according to risks, benefits, business value, need for an SOA architecture, complexity, and project dependencies
- Estimates for a suggested first SOA project for planning purposes, as appropriate

Why EMC

EMC combines vertical industry, technology, and multi-platform expertise to bridge the gap between IT and lines of business, to clarify business requirements, and to develop SOA strategies for you.

Our strengths include:

- **Business-oriented approach**

We believe that automation is fundamentally a business initiative, not simply a technology initiative. EMC takes a blended, holistic approach, believing that any successful initiative requires alignment of strategy, processes, people, architecture, and technology to deliver the expected benefits. Our unique critical-thinking processes clearly identify and prioritize the opportunities for innovation through the phased deployment of technology capabilities in support of your overall business strategy and corporate priorities.

- **Methodology**

We have developed a complete, proven methodology for rapidly performing assessments and identifying incremental approaches that minimize risk. Our consultants collaborate with you to ensure success.

- **Enterprise architecture expertise**

We bring a background and expertise in enterprise architectures to ensure that our recommendations are sound and can evolve with the needs of your business. Our architects bring extensive best practices and enterprise architecture patterns for integrating business processes across disparate legacy, custom, and packaged applications. This expertise enables us to recommend solutions which will provide your business with the flexibility needed to meet your strategic objectives.

Summary of Benefits

A Business Process and SOA Assessment provides the roadmap that enables you to focus on a set of specific business problems that offer a compelling return on investment. Executing the steps on the roadmap can jumpstart building an SOA architecture that focuses on business value. It can reduce or eliminate inefficient and redundant business processes and enable more efficient use of organizational resources and assets. You will be able to leverage an SOA to improve agility and interoperability while eliminating long development efforts. The result is a higher rate of success and broader support for SOA adoption within your organization.

EMC Consulting

As part of the world's leading developer and provider of information infrastructure technology and solutions, EMC Consulting transforms information into business results. Our consultants bring a unique mix of industry, business, and technology expertise to solve today's toughest challenges. We use field-tested tools, proven methodologies, best practices, and industry standards to minimize risk and optimize time-to-value in our engagements. We provide a full range of consulting, design, implementation, and support services.



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