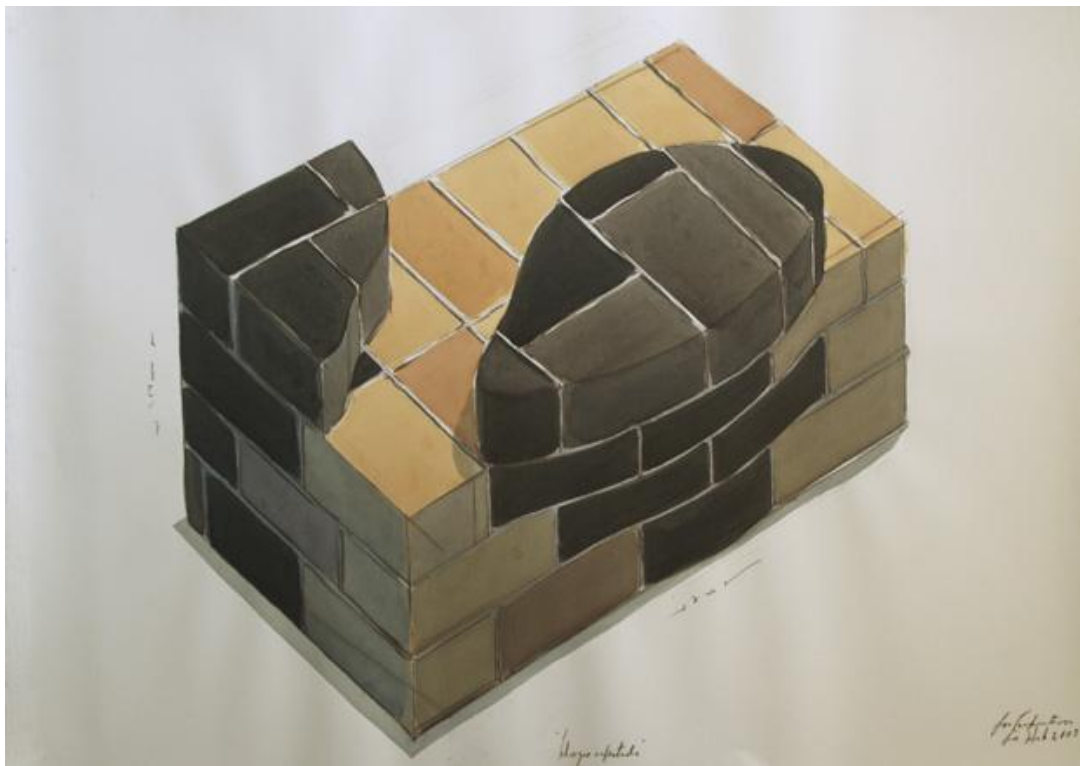




Institute For
Enterprise Architecture
Developments

Your, Return On Information SM

Enterprise Architecture Tool Selection Guide



Editorial Writer: J. Schekkerman

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Preface

An enterprise architecture (EA) establishes the organization-wide roadmap to achieve an organization's mission through optimal performance of its core business processes within an efficient information technology (IT) environment. Simply stated, enterprise architectures are "blueprints" for systematically and completely defining an organization's current (baseline) or desired (target) environment. Enterprise architectures are essential for evolving information systems and developing new systems that optimize their mission value. This is accomplished in logical or business terms (e.g., mission, business functions, information flows, and systems environments) and technical terms (e.g., software, hardware, communications), and includes a transition plan for transitioning from the baseline environment to the target environment.

If defined, maintained, and implemented effectively, these blueprints assist in optimizing the interdependencies and interrelationships among the business operations of the enterprise and the underlying IT that support these operations. It has shown that without a complete and enforced EA (Strategic) Business Units of the enterprise run the risk of buying and building systems that are duplicative, incompatible, and unnecessarily costly to maintain and interface.

For EAs to be useful and provide business value, their development, maintenance, and implementation should be managed effectively and supported by tools. This step-by-step process guide is intended to assist in defining, maintaining, and implementing EAs by providing a disciplined and rigorous approach to EA life cycle management. It describes major EA program management areas, beginning with:

1. suggested organizational structure and management controls
2. a process for development of a baseline and target architecture,
3. development of a transition plan.

The guide is especially focusing on EA tool selection requirements, as well as showing an oversight over existing products today on the market

Conclusion

The items described in this guide presents fundamental requirements for good EA tool selections.

An electronic version of this guide can be ordered at the following Internet address:
<http://www/enterprise-architecture.info>

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1. Introduction

Enterprise Architectures are an emerging approach for capturing complex knowledge about organizations and technology. Enterprise Architectural approaches range from broad, enterprise focused approaches, through to approaches aimed at specific domains.

The focus of enterprise architecture efforts is now shifting to become more holistic, thereby necessitating the use of comprehensive modeling tools to analyze and optimize the portfolio of business strategies, organizational structures, business processes / tasks and activities, information flows, applications, and technology infrastructure.

Important to adoption of an enterprise architectural approach is the availability of tools to support the development, storage, presentation and enhancement of enterprise architecture representations. As with enterprise architecture methodologies, enterprise architecture tools to support the architectural development process are still emerging.

High value is derived from consolidating this portfolio of business artifacts into a single repository in a standardized manner to support enterprise analysis and optimization.

1.1. EA Tools Review Framework

To consistently review enterprise architecture tools a review framework is defined. The review framework consists of two dimensions: the basic functionality of the tool, and the utility of the tool to different professionals.

When reviewing an EA tool's basic functionality, the reviewer has to describe how well the tool performed the different functions needed for the enterprise architecture development activity. The tools basic functionality was examined in the following areas:

- **Methodologies and Models;**
- **Model Development Interface;**
- **Tool Automation;**
- **Extendibility and Customization;**
- **Analysis and Manipulation;**
- **Repository;**
- **Deployment Architecture;**
- **Costs and Vendor Support;**
- **Architecture Results.**

The second dimension, the tool's utility to different professionals, captures the fitness for purpose of the tool, and describes how useful the tool would be to particular professionals. The types of professionals considered were:

- **Enterprise Architects;**
- **Solution Architects**
- **Strategic Planners / Management;**
- **Enterprise Program Managers**
- **Software Architects / engineers**
- **External Partners.**



EA Tools Review Framework	Enterprise Architects	Solution Architects	Strategic Planners / Management	Enterprise Program Managers	Software Architects / Engineers	External Partners	Overall Requirements List
Methodologies and Models	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	=
Model Development Interface	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	=
Tool Automation	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	=
Extendibility & Customization	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	=
Analysis and Manipulation	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	=
Repository	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	=
Deployment Architecture	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	=
Costs and Vendor Support	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	=
Architecture Results	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	Requirements	=
Weigh Factors							

1.2. Functionality Dimension

This dimension of the EA Tools review framework attempts to capture how well the tool performs the core functions needed to support the enterprise architecture development activity. This dimension breaks the functionality of an enterprise architecture tool into eight key areas.

1.2.1. Methodologies and Models

The most important feature of an enterprise architecture tool the methodologies and modeling the approaches it supports. The approaches the tool supports dictate the types of enterprise architectures the tool is capable of supporting, and to an extent, the type of analysis and manipulation functions the tool is capable of performing. As well as reviewing the methodologies and modeling approaches, this functional area also reviews how well, or how completely, the tool implements the methodologies and modeling approaches it claims to support.

For tools that are capable of supporting multiple methodologies and modeling approaches, this functional area also examines how well the different approaches are integrated. For example, when complementary methodologies and modeling approaches (for example process modeling and data modeling) are used, how well can the different approaches be used together in an overall enterprise architectural approach?

When a tool supports competing approaches (for example two approaches to data modeling) how well can the data being modeled be moved between the different perspectives offered by the competing approaches?

1.2.2. Model Development Interface

The model development interface is the most obvious part of an enterprise architecture development tool. It is the interface used to design, build, maintain



and often manipulate, the models that make up the architecture. Generally, models are built and maintained graphically, by manipulating icons and the connections between them. The tool's model development interface may also use textual interfaces to allow additional information to be appended to the graphical models.

The overall quality of the model development interface is an important characteristic of any enterprise architecture development tool. The interface must support the modeling activity well, for example by automating some of the drawing functions, by automatically laying out models, or by providing pick lists of alternative values at the appropriate places during the modeling activity. The model development interface must also be intelligently structured, make good use of limited screen space, be logical and consistent to use and navigate. The tool should ideally follow the graphical user interface conventions and guidelines that apply to its host operating system.

1.2.3. Tool Automation

Developing and populating enterprise architecture models is often the most time consuming part of the enterprise architecture development activity. By providing support for automating parts of the enterprise architecture development processes, a tool can help speed up the overall development activity.

A tool may support the creation of macros or scripts, to automate common functions or actions, or to group several functions together into one action. These may be used to automate parts of the model development activity. This feature is closely related to the tool's ability to be customized, which is described in the next section.

The tool may also provide the ability to automatically generate enterprise architecture models based on data held within the tool's repository, or have the ability to generate enterprise architecture models as a result of data manipulation functions.

1.2.4. Extensibility and Customization

This functional group captures how well an enterprise architecture tool can be modified to meet the unique enterprise architectural requirements of a unique organization. Enterprise Architecture tools may support customization by allowing users to add new modeling approaches or to modify the modeling approaches already supported by the tool. A tool may also support modification by providing a programming interface, allowing the functions of the tool to be modified, or allowing the tool to be integrated with other software products. Most enterprise architecture tools that support high levels of customization allow the underlying meta-models of the tool to be modified, and new meta-models added. Meta-models are literally models about models. They describe what entities can exist within particular models, the legal relationships between the different entities, and their properties. By modifying the existing meta-models, or adding completely new meta-models, a tool can be customized to support new modeling approaches. The ability to modify the tool via a programming interface allows the functionality and behavior of the tool to be customized to meet the unique requirements of the organization.

Programming customization may be achieved though the use of an application scripting language, for example Visual Basics for Applications (VBA), or through



support for adding external components, for example, Active X/DCOM components.

Enterprise Architecture tools may be extended by integrating them with other software products. This may be achieved via direct integration through an exposed API within the tool, or via a middleware layer, for example ActiveX/DCOM, CORBA, and so on. Integration may also be supported via importing and exporting data into and out of the tool via standard file types; for example, character delimited or fixed width delimited text files, HTML, or SYLK files and so on.

1.2.5. Analysis and Manipulation

As well as supporting the development of enterprise architecture models, an enterprise architecture tool may also provide support for analysis and manipulation of the developed models. The type of analysis and manipulation support provided by the tool is often tied to the particular modeling approaches supported by the tool. For example, Flow Analysis is often tied to process/workflow modeling.

Analysis support provided by a tool may simply examine how correct or complete the model is, relative to a particular modeling approach used. More sophisticated analysis support may allow the model to be interrogated in some way, or be subjected to particular analysis methods. Analysis support may include the ability to compare different versions of models, allowing current and to-be enterprise architectures to be compared. Manipulation functions capture a tool's ability to change the way the models are represented and viewed. This may include the ability to view models from particular perspectives, for example showing only particular classes of entities, or the ability to amalgamate separate models into a single model.

1.2.6. Repository

Most of the tools on the market make use of some kind of data repository to hold the developed models. The functions provided by the tool's repository have a significant impact on the overall functionality, scalability and extendibility of an enterprise architecture tool.

Some tools make use of commercial relational database management systems, or commercial Object Orientated or Object/Relational database systems, while others use proprietary repository systems.

A tool's repository often dictates the way users can collaborate. A repository may provide support for collaboration by supporting multiple, concurrent, users on the one repository, or by providing the ability to combine models developed by different modelers into one model.

The repository may also provide many different data management functions, including the ability to support model versioning, the ability to roll back to previous versions, the ability to lock parts of the model against change, and the ability to control access to part or the entire model.

1.2.7. Deployment Architecture

A tool's deployment architecture describes the tool's software structure and software implementation. Generally, enterprise architecture tools tend to adopt one of two deployment architectures: either a single user/single client structure, or a simple two-tier client/server structure.



Single user/single client structured tools are designed to operate on one workstation, and can generally only be used by one user at a time. Tools that implement this style of deployment architecture generally have a very tight coupling between the tool and its repository. In this type of deployment architecture, only one modeler can have access to the repository at any one time. The second common deployment architecture found within the enterprise architecture tool domain is a simple two tier client/server structure. Tools that implement this style of deployment architecture generally have looser coupling between the tool and the repository. Generally, the repository is stored on a network server, and can often be accessed by multiple concurrent users. This deployment architecture allows multiple modelers to work on the same models concurrently.

1.2.8. Costs and Vendor Support

The final functional group considered is the cost of the tool and after sales support provided by the vendor. The cost of enterprise architecture tool licenses can range anywhere from € 1,500 to € 7,000 per license, and optional extras are often available for an additional cost. Given the high costs of this type of tool, the types of licensing agreements offered by the vendor, and how they may lower the overall cost, is important. For example, does the vendor support floating licenses, allowing expensive licenses to be shared among a large group of users? Does the vendor offer discounts for bulk purchases, or site licenses? Does the vendor offer discounts to government or non-profit organizations?

Also important in the overall cost of adopting an enterprise architecture tool, are the cost and type of maintenance and/or after sales support contracts offered by the vendor. Is the vendor able to offer comprehensive, in-house training? If the vendor is a foreign company, do they have an Australian representative available to provide training? Does the vendor offer free technical support? Is the vendor able to offer free or heavily discounted upgrades? How does the vendor address software faults discovered by the user? What is the yearly maintenance costs associated with the tool?

1.2.9. Architecture Results

Essential results are those required for all enterprise architectures, while supporting results *may* be necessary to fulfill specific informational needs. Only those supporting results that portray the desired characteristics should be created. The required results should help formulate the selection of a framework and associated toolset.

It is essential that the Chief Enterprise Architect guide the development of the EA views and landscapes **to meet the needs of the Business & IT**, especially in the desired level of detail needed in the EA results. If the content is at too high level of abstraction, it may not be sufficiently useful to guide decision-making. If the content is too detailed, it may be difficult to oversee the impact and the risks.

Essential results — the graphics, models, and/or narratives that every enterprise architecture description must include, to support the scope and characteristics of the EA.

Supporting results — the graphics, models, and /or narratives that may be needed to further elaborate on essential products or to address particular domain



Define and select your own visualization / modelling techniques to visualise the context, landscape models and diagrams to meet your stakeholder's demands. Our experience is that visualizing the EA results in the format of large photographic / picturized posters that are coloured in line with the organizations house style is very effective. So define upfront what kind of models, languages and visualizations do you expect from the support of a tool.

1.3. Different Professionals Dimension

The evaluation of the tools considered their suitability for use by different professionals. The needs of other groups, such as software architects, are not considered in this EA tools selection framework.

1.3.1. Enterprise Architects

Enterprise Architects investigate all aspects of enterprise architectural approaches and methodologies. This can involve researching different representations and enterprise architectural structures, including the development and investigation of alternative modeling approaches. As such, the requirements for a tool to support enterprise architectural research are quite challenging. The over-arching requirement is flexibility in defining and adapting modeling approaches. However, a robust tool is also required to develop large-scale demonstrators to investigate, and promote these alternative approaches.

1.3.2. Solution Architects

Solution Architects are focused at the Solution level and working with the developing vendor to design and implement the Solution. Solution Architects report frequently to Project Managers, but have a dotted-line responsibility to the Enterprise Architects in order to maintain consistency and interoperability across Business & IT. Therefore their needs for tooling support are different from the Enterprise Architect.

1.3.3. Strategic Planners / Management

Strategic planners, including executive management and innovating staff, use the enterprise architectures results for strategic decision making. They need to be assembled and modified quickly, and should be based on current (or planned) future capability.

Strategic planners need a tool that is easy to use. It is highly desirable that local support is available when required. The tool should have strong drawing and reuse facilities including support for multiple, related, configurations within a single architecture. Quick, automated, analysis and consistency checking is highly desirable. Integration with existing data sources is essential, particularly when implementing planning facilities.

1.3.4. Enterprise Program Managers

Enterprise Program Managers as well as domain program managers and often project managers supports the enterprise architecture program in order to support the implementation and transformation phase. The enterprise architecture tools should be able to capture current and future resources (such as platforms, assets and components), organizations, people, information exchanges, tasks or activities, and processes and their relationships as well as program planning facilities.



Enterprise Program managers need a tool that is easy to use, with support available when required. Local support is desirable, but probably not essential providing it is very responsive. The tool should have a strong planning and analysis capability and allow reuse between enterprise architectures for different activities undertaken at different times.

1.3.5. Software Architects / Engineers

A Software Architecture relates requirements, fixed system hardware, and infrastructure (i.e., COTS or GOTS) to software structures in order to demonstrate software effectiveness, therefore their needs for tooling support are different from the Enterprise and Solution Architect.

1.3.6. External Partners

As earlier mentioned Solution Architects and Software Architects are often working together with Vendors / Partners. Sometimes these partners have different demands from results supported by tools. Therefore it is interesting to know their specific needs / demands.



2. Enterprise Architecture Modelling & TOGAF¹

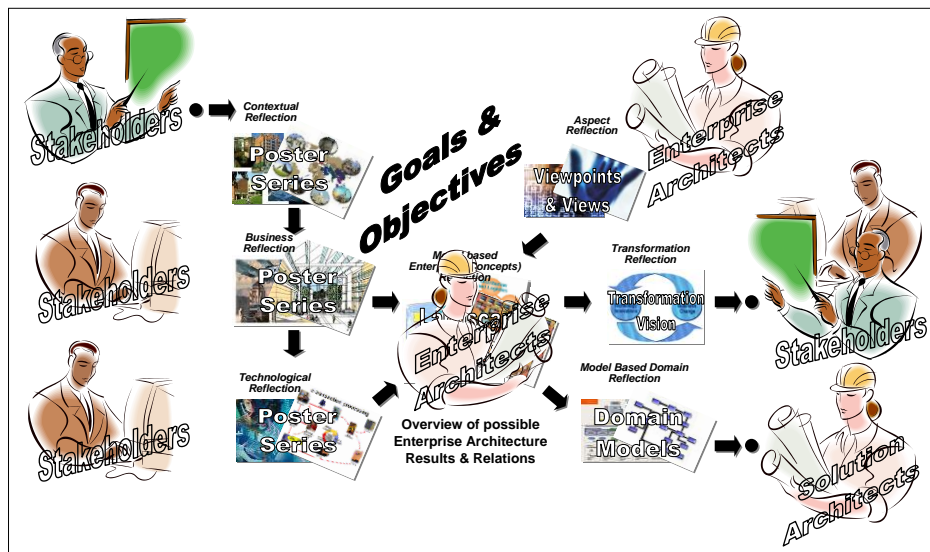
A coherent description of enterprise architectures provides insight, enables communication among different stakeholders and guides complicated (business and IT) change processes.

Unfortunately, so far no enterprise architecture description language exists that fully enables integrated enterprise modelling. In this chapter the focus is on the requirements and design of such a language. This language defines generic, organization-independent concepts that can be specialized or composed to obtain more specific concepts to be used within a particular organization. It is not the intention to re-invent the wheel for each enterprise architectural domain: wherever possible there will be a conformation to existing languages or standards such as UML. Then these standards will be complemented with missing concepts, for example focusing on concepts to model the relationships among enterprise architectural domains. The concepts should also make it possible to define links between models in other languages. The relationship between enterprise architecture descriptions at the business layer and at the application layer (business-IT alignment) plays a central role.

Changes in an organizations strategy and business goals have significant consequences for the organization structure, processes, software systems, data management and technical infrastructures. Organizations have to adjust processes to their environment, open up internal systems and make them transparent to both internal and external parties. Enterprise architectures are a way to chart the complexity involved. Many enterprises have recognized the value of architectures and to some extent make use of them during system evolution and development. Depending on the type of enterprise or maturity of the architecture practice, in most cases a number of separate enterprise architectural domains are distinguished such as business, information, application and technology infrastructure domain. For each enterprise architectural domain architects have their own concepts, modelling techniques, tool support, visualization techniques and so on. Clearly, this way of working does not necessarily lead to a coherent view on the enterprise. Enterprises want to have insight into complex change processes.

The development of coherent views of an enterprise and a disciplined enterprise architectural working practice significantly contribute to the solution of this complex puzzle. Coherent views provide insight and overview, enable communication among different stakeholders and guide complicated change processes. Unfortunately there is a downside to this euphoria. So far no enterprise architecture description language exists that fully enables integrated enterprise modelling. There is a need for an enterprise architecture language that enables coherent enterprise modelling. Enterprise architects need proper instruments to constructs architectures in a uniform way. The next figure illustrates the scope of such an integrated set of enterprise architecture results.

¹ Source: Article: 'Towards a Language for Coherent Enterprise Architecture Descriptions'; Authors: Henk Jonkers, René van Buuren, Farhad Arbab, Frank de Boer, Marcello Bonsangue, Hans Bosma, Hugo ter Doest, Luuk Groenewegen, Juan Guillen Scholten, Stijn Hoppenbrouwers, Maria-Eugenia Iacob, Wil Janssen, Marc Lankhorst, Diederik van Leeuwen, Erik Proper, Andries Stam, Leon van der Torre, Gert Veldhuijzen van Zanten; 2003



Scope of Enterprise Architecture Results

Important elements of such an approach include:

- The development of a coherent enterprise modelling language.
- Development of specialized views and visualization techniques in order to provide insight for different stakeholders.
- Development of analysis techniques that aid in understanding the complex models.

By using a uniform modelling language enterprise architects can avoid a Babel-like confusion. At the same time an architectural modelling language should allow the development of specialized visualization techniques for different stakeholders, such as business managers, end-users, project managers, system developers, etc. After all, enterprise architectures are the means by which enterprise architects communicate with the different stakeholders, and this communication works best if it is tailored towards the specific concerns and information needs that they have. Additionally, analysis techniques, for example, impact-of-change analysis, provide ways to study the properties of an integrated model in more detail. In this way enterprise architecture provides the desired insight and overview, which allows a well-organized change process.

2.1. The ArchiMate Modelling Language^{2,3}

By realizing that multiple languages and dialects will always exist, striving for one unique language would be like chasing windmills. Therefore, the flexibility to use other languages is recognized, and is addressed by means of a specialization and generalization requirement of the language itself. In the view of the ArchiMate project a well-defined enterprise architecture language forms the core of such an architecture approach. In this chapter the focus is on the requirements and a first design of such a language. It is not the intention to re-invent the wheel for each architecture domain. When possible standards will be followed, such as UML, as closely as possible. The focus is on the identification of specific relationship concepts and the definition of cross-domain relations. In order to arrive at a

² <http://www.opengroup.org/archimate/> The ArchiMate Forum of The Open Group is the platform for everyone involved with the use and evolution of ArchiMate.

³ Sources: “Enterprise architecture modelling – the issue of integration” (Advanced Engineering Informatics 18, 2004) and en “Concepts for modelling enterprise architectures” (Int’l J. Cooperative Information Systems, 13(3), 2004).



coherent architectural description, several architectural domains and layers as well as their relations must be modelled. This chapter describes the first steps towards a language to support this. The relations between the business and application layer, which play a central role in this version of the language, are a first contribution to the solution of the business-ICT alignment problem that ArchiMate try to tackle.

For the state of the art in enterprise modelling, languages have to consider for organisation and process modelling and languages for application and technology modelling.

Although there is a trend towards considering the relationship between the organisational processes and the information systems and applications that support them (often referred to as "business-IT alignment), modelling techniques to really express this relationship hardly exist yet.

A wide variety of organisation and process modelling languages are currently in use: there is no single standard for models in this domain. The conceptual domains that are covered differ from language to language. In many languages, the relations between domains are not clearly defined. Also, most languages are not really suitable to describe *architectures*: they provide concepts to model, e.g., detailed business processes, but not the high-level relationship.

Some of the most popular languages are proprietary to specific software tools. Relevant languages in this category include:

- The Business Process Modeling Notation (BPMN) is a standard for business process modeling, and provides a graphical notation for specifying business processes in a *Business Process Diagram* (BPD), based on a flowcharting technique very similar to activity diagrams from Unified Modeling Language (UML). The objective of BPMN is to support business process management for both technical users and business users by providing a notation that is intuitive to business users yet able to represent complex process semantics.
- IDEF originating from the US Ministry of Defence is a collection of 16 (unrelated) diagramming techniques, three of which are widely used: IDEF0 (function modelling), IDEF1/IDEF1x (information and data modelling) and IDEF3 (process description).
- ArchiMate as an Enterprise Architecture modelling language, originally developed as an initiative of a consortium of Dutch organisations and the Telematica Institute, today ArchiMate is part of the Open Group set of Standards.

2.2. TOGAF 9

TOGAF Version 9 Enterprise Edition ("TOGAF 9" for short) is a detailed method and set of supporting resources for developing an Enterprise Architecture. Developed and endorsed by the membership of The Open Group's Architecture Forum, TOGAF 9 represents an industry consensus framework and method for Enterprise Architecture.

As a comprehensive, open method for Enterprise Architecture, TOGAF 9 complements, and can be used in conjunction with, other frameworks that are more focused on specific aspects of architecture or for vertical sectors such as Government, Defense, and Finance, therefore the support of tools is important.



3. Overview of Enterprise Architecture Tools (2)

3.1. Overview of vendors & Tools. (3)

Institute For Enterprise Architecture Developments		Risk / Strategy / Enterprise / Solution Architecture Tools Overview - 2011 v6.3							(C) Copyrights IFEAD 2001 - 2011
Supplier	Tool	Governance, Risk, Compliance	Program Management	Enterprise / IT Portfolio management	Business/IT Strategy	Enterprise Architecture	Solution Architecture	Software Engineering	Yellow = leaders, Orange = visionaires, Blue = challengers, Green = niche players according to Gartner 2010 & Forrester 2011. More Information
Acceptsoftware	Accept 360								http://www.acceptsoftware.com/index.html
Adaptive	Enterprise Architecture Manager, IT Portfolio Manager, Metadata Manager								http://www.adaptive.com
Atol Technologies	SAMU	Gartner							http://www.atollgroup.eu/en/products/samu-suite/
Alfabet	Planning IT	Gartner						Forrester	http://www.alfabet.de/
Avolution	Abacus	Gartner						Forrester	http://www.avolution.com.au/index.html
Bizzdesign	Bizzdesign Architect, Bizzdesigner, Riskmanager	Gartner						Forrester	http://www.bizzdesign.com
BoC-Group	ADOit								http://www.boc-group.com/de/produkte/adoit/
Casewise	Corporate Modeler Enterprise Edition	Gartner						Forrester	http://www.casewise.com
CACI International	SimProcess								http://www.caciasl.com/
Enterprise Elements	Data Tracton; Elements Repository	Gartner							http://www.enterprise-elements.com/product.html
Forsight	Modeling & Validation Tool set								www.foresightsystems-mands.com
Future Tech Systems, Inc	ENVISION® VIP	Gartner							http://www.future-tech.com/index.htm
IBM - Rational	System Architect Family + Rhapsody	Gartner						Forrester	http://www-01.ibm.com/software/awdtools/systemarchitect/
Intelligie Corporation	MAP Suite + ITAA								http://www.intelligie.com/
Knotion Consulting	UDEF Explorer								http://www.knotion.net/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=68&Itemid=76
Méga International	Méga Suite	Gartner						Forrester	http://www.mega.fr/en/c/product
Open Source (Iteratec)	Eclipse Agile EA								http://www.agileea.com/portal/index.php
Iteraplan	Iteraplan								http://www.iteraplan.com/
OpenText	Metastorm Enterprise Products	Gartner						Forrester	http://www.metastorm.com/default.asp http://www.corbussoftware.com/enterprise-architecture/iserver/enterprise-
Orbus Software	iServer 2011								
Palisade	Risk & Decision Analysis								http://www.palisade-europe.com/
Pro-mis	EVA Netmodeler	Gartner							http://www.pro-mis.com/eva-netmodeler.html
QPR	QPR ProcessGuide Xpress								http://www.qpr.com/products/process-modeling-software.htm
Qualiware	Qualiware Product Suite	Gartner							http://www2.qualiware.com/
Salamander Organisation	MooD Platform	Gartner						Forrester	http://www.tsorg.com/salamander_technologies_mood_with_modaf.htm
Select Business Solutions	Select Solution Factory								http://www.selectbs.com/products/products.htm
SOA Software	Repository Manager								http://www.soa.com/products/repository_manager/
Software AG	ARIS Business Performance Edition	Gartner						Forrester	http://www.softwareag.com/us/products/aris_platform/default.asp
Sparx Systems	Enterprise Architect	Gartner							http://www.sparxsystems.com.au/ http://m.sybase.com/products/modelingdevelopment/pow erdesigner/modelingofenterprisearchitecture
Sybase (SAP)	Pow erdesigner								
Troux	Troux Transformation Platform	Gartner						Forrester	http://www.troux.com/products/troux_g/
Visible	Visible Advantage								http://www.visible.com/Products/Advantage/overview.html



4. Candidate Tool Requirements Checklist

First and foremost, objectives for acquiring and using a comprehensive modeling tool must be articulated and agreed to by all stakeholders.

Since this tool is to support enterprise architecture, enterprise-level objectives must be included. Once that is accomplished, the objectives must be translated into requirements for both vendor presence and performance.

Also, architectural principles both high-level conceptual and domain-level detailed must be included as screening criteria. Principles can either be converted into requirements or left as-is, requiring vendors to demonstrate their support of such principles.

The functional requirements of a tool must be understood prior to embarking on a selection. Only the functionality that is currently required of the tool or that which will be realistically necessary in the future should be selected.

The next list is a candidate listing of requirements and specifications. Enhance this list for your own specific situation.

Only the functionality that is currently required of the EA tool, or that which will be realistically necessary in the future, should be selected.

4.1. Candidate list of EA Tool Requirements & Specifications

1	Operational & Technical Fit
1.1	Platform Environment
1.1.1	Can the client software be installed on MS Windows 7 (32 bit)?
1.1.2	Can the client software be installed on MS Windows 7 (64 bit)?
1.1.3	Can the client software be installed on Linux?
1.1.4	Can the server component be set up on MS Windows 2011 Server?
1.1.5	Can the server component be set up on Oracle Solaris?
1.1.6	Can the server component be set up on Linux Servers?
1.1.7	Can the server component be set up on Unix Servers?
1.1.8	Can the repository be set up using the latest versions of Oracle DB? Which Versions?
1.1.9	Can the repository be set up for SQL Server? Which Versions?
1.1.10	Can the web client be set up for MS Internet Explorer? Which Versions?
1.1.11	Are there specific requirements or specifications to setup the repository? Which?
1.2	Performance & Availability
1.2.1	Can additional licenses be added dynamically without the need to affect users PC's?
1.2.2	Can the tool still operate for a period of time if the server holding the licenses fail, e.g. crashes?
1.2.3	Does the tool handle extreme amounts of data e.g. millions of records?
1.2.4	Does the tool operate at the same performance if there are 100 users accessing the same repository?
1.2.5	Offers the tool facilities to monitor its performance?
1.2.6	Is remote access feasible and practical (e.g. via GPRS/notebook)?
1.2.7	Can the tool perform several tasks at the same time? (e.g. run a report in the background)?
1.2.8	Does the tool have a simultaneous update of open views without user interaction?
1.3	Security (User Admin)
1.3.1	Is the user required to log on every time he uses the tool?
1.3.2	Is it possible to authorize the user at the level of objects?
1.3.3	Is it possible to authorize the user at the level of class properties?



- 1.3.4 Does the tool support role based user management?
- 1.3.5 Does the tool support check-in/check-out items of repository?
- 1.3.6 Does the tool support read only access?
- 1.3.7 Does the tool support management of user groups?
- 1.3.8 Does the tool support more than 100 simultaneously logged on users?
- 1.3.9 Assuming there are licenses, can any number of users access the repository at the same time?
- 1.3.10 Are there at least four different user profiles which can have hierarchical relationships to each other?
- 1.3.11 Does the tool record the full history of changes to objects?
- 1.3.12 Does the tool run reports on utilization of its licenses?
- 1.3.13 Does the tool support external Accountancy Audits?
- 1.3.14 Does the tool stamp all changes done to objects with a time-user stamp?
- 1.3.15 Is it possible to define own user profiles?
- 1.3.16 Is it possible to (explicitly) lock models or parts of models?

1.4 Software Distribution

- 1.4.1 Is a central shared installation possible, which allows users to access the tool without local installation procedures?
- 1.4.2 Does the tool support shared installation of upgrades?
- 1.4.3 Are upgrades possible without a system (esp. server) shutdown?
- 1.4.4 Does the tool support shared initial installation? (I.e. can the tool be site-installed and the installation shared by users)?
- 1.4.5 Are bug fixes distributed in the form of patches?
- 1.4.6 Are patches freely available?
- 1.4.7 Can patches be downloaded from the Internet?
- 1.4.8 Do you have less than three releases a year with well before published release plans?

1.5 Release Management

- 1.5.1 Does the tool support rollback?
- 1.5.2 Does the tool support replication/synchronization mechanisms?
- 1.5.3 Is it possible to replicate parts of the repository to local repositories?

1.6 Tool Architecture

- 1.6.1 Does the tool have a client / server architecture?
- 1.6.2 Does the tool provide a thin client?
- 1.6.3 Does the tool provide a thick client?
- 1.6.4 Does the tool provide standalone usage?

1.7 Technical and Operational Requirements

- 1.7.1 Does the tool have below or average requirements on operational memory? Please define.
- 1.7.2 Does the tool have below or average requirements on CPU? Please define.
- 1.7.3 Does the tool have below or average requirements on external memory (disks)? Please define.
- 1.7.4 Does the tool use a standard RDBMS? Please define.

2 Vendor Support

2.1 Help Desk Support

- 2.1.1 Can help desk support be offered in English or other languages?
- 2.1.2 Can you offer time to repair guarantee?
- 2.1.3 Do you provide standard escalation procedures for problem resolution?
- 2.1.4 Is a log of all known bugs, including date of first occurrence, status and date of closure, available on-line for at least the last 6 months?
- 2.1.5 Can these resources be contacted by phone and e-mail?
- 2.1.6 Does the help desk have a list of all customizations/work carried out by consultants on the clients site?
- 2.1.7 Can the tool be installed without training?
- 2.1.8 Does the tool provide interactive help?
- 2.1.9 Is the interactive help comprehensive and easy to navigate?
- 2.1.10 Does the tool have an online tutorial?
- 2.1.11 Does the tool have tutorial/help on features?



- 2.1.12 Does the tool have online documentation?
- 2.1.13 Do you run a global bulletin board for raising bug enquiries?

2.2 Training

- 2.2.1 Do you have dedicated in-house product trainers?
- 2.2.2 Do you provide training specifically for Enterprise Modelers?
- 2.2.3 Can the training be conducted in other languages than English? Which languages?
- 2.2.4 Do you publish regular training schedules?
- 2.2.5 Do you provide formal training of the product?
- 2.2.6 Is courseware available for purchase?
- 2.2.7 Do you provide web based training /e-learning?
- 2.2.8 Do you offer on-site trainings all over the world?

2.3 Professional Services (Migration)

- 2.3.1 Do you provide consulting services?
- 2.3.2 Do you offer tools for (assistance with) a one-off conversion of documents from Excel, Visio, Word or other format to your tool?

2.4 Documentation

- 2.4.1 Will you provide us with a full comprehensive set of documentation covering all aspects of the tool?
- 2.4.2 Are changes made available on the Web?
- 2.4.3 Are all documents made available in both hard and soft format?
- 2.4.4 Is the documentation available other languages than English? Define
- 2.4.6 Is there additional documentation available for purchase?

2.5 Local Support

- 2.5.1 Do you offer local support in Europe?
- 2.5.2 Do you offer guaranteed reaction times?

2.6 Newsgroups

- 2.6.1 Is there a user group for your product?
- 2.6.2 Do they meet regularly?
- 2.6.3 Do they have a website?
- 2.6.4 Do you run a global newsgroup for discussion?

3 Functional Fit (Specific)

3.1 Support Analysis

- 3.1.1 Does the tool search enterprise architecture design patterns in order to suggest a possible solution?
- 3.1.2 Does the tool support the process of enterprise architecture requirement analysis and the process of generating architecture design?
- 3.1.3 Does the tool offer consistency checking and quality checks for designed architectures in accordance to architecture principles and rules?
- 3.1.4 Does the tool support impact analysis at all levels?
- 3.1.5 Does the tool support delta analysis at all levels?
- 3.1.6 Are there syntax checks through the given data?
- 3.1.7 Are there semantic checks through the given data?
- 3.1.8 Can new consistency checks be defined at any time?
- 3.1.9 Does the tool support bottleneck analysis?
- 3.1.10 Does the tool offer a common meta-model?
- 3.1.11 Does the tool offer mean to force mandatory inputs?
- 3.1.12 Does the tool support the structured access to stored objects and attributes (trees, hierarchy)?

3.2 Support of Enterprise Architecture Frameworks

- 3.2.1 Delivers the tool Support for Zachman Framework?
- 3.2.2 Delivers the tool Support for FEAF (Federal Enterprise Architecture Framework)?
- 3.2.3 Delivers the tool Support for E2AF (Extended Enterprise Architecture Framework)?
- 3.2.4 Delivers the tool Support for DoDAF?
- 3.2.5 Delivers the tool Support for TOGAF v9 ADM?
- 3.2.6 Delivers the tool Support for a custom or proprietary enterprise architecture framework?
- 3.2.7 Can the tool handle references to an external custom enterprise architectural framework?
- 3.2.8 Does the tool aid user with navigation in a custom enterprise architecture framework?



3.3 Support of Enterprise Architecture Program (Time)

- 3.3.1 Does the tool have a timeline marking of objects (e.g. objects valid from..to..)?
- 3.3.2 Does the tool handle different stages of existence of objects (e.g. under discussion, valid, in operation, discarded)?
- 3.3.3 Can the tool produce time-related output? (e.g. to show the enterprise architectural landscape at a specific date (to any freely chosen date)?)
- 3.3.4 Does the tool support current state and future state architectures as well as intermediate states?

3.4 Simulation

- 3.4.1 Does the tool support simulation of alternative enterprise architecture scenarios?
- 3.4.2 Can the tool generate landscapes of (selected) objects of one or more classes?
- 3.4.3 Can the tool generate a landscape of objects which existed on a certain date or over a certain period if time in the past?
- 3.4.4 Is it possible to generate a to-be landscape of objects planned for certain dates?
- 3.4.5 Does the tool simulate impact of changes in a scenario?
- 3.4.6 Does the tool support hierarchy?
- 3.4.7 Has the tool the ability to support discrete simulation?
- 3.4.8 Has the tool the ability to perform Monte Carlo simulation?
- 3.4.9 Have the tool facilities to graphical simulation of processes to demonstrate bottlenecks?

3.5 Repository management

- 3.5.1 Does the tool support Enterprise Architecture Diagrams?
- 3.5.2 Does the tool have Business Architecture Diagrams?
- 3.5.3 Does the tool have Application Architecture Diagrams?
- 3.5.4 Does the tool have Information Architecture Diagrams?
- 3.5.5 Does the tool have IT Architecture Diagrams?
- 3.5.6 Does the tool fully support Custom Type Diagrams (e. g. Management Dashboard View)?
- 3.5.7 Does the tool support workflow?
- 3.5.8 Does the tool have process modeling functionality i.e. process decomposition and process charts?
- 3.5.9 Does the tool support enterprise architecture design diagrams as standard or can be customized to support this, with the ability to reuse applications and system interfaces from the application architecture diagrams?
- 3.5.10 Does the tool support logical models?
- 3.5.11 Does the tool support physical models (system level)?
- 3.5.12 Does the tool support data flow diagrams?
- 3.5.13 Can the user reuse all objects/definitions (metadata items)?
- 3.5.14 Can the user define and reuse applications within the tool?
- 3.5.15 Can the user define and reuse system interfaces?
- 3.5.16 Can the user define and reuse data flows?
- 3.5.17 Can the user define and reuse functions?
- 3.5.18 Can the user define and reuse technology?
- 3.5.19 Can the user define and reuse requirements?
- 3.5.20 Can the user define and reuse business processes?
- 3.5.21 Can the user define and reuse goals?
- 3.5.22 Is the user able to view the architecture through a function view?
- 3.5.23 Is the user able to view the architecture through an information view?
- 3.5.24 Is the user able to view the architecture through an integration view?
- 3.5.25 Is the user able to view the architecture through a distribution view?
- 3.5.26 Can the user define and reuse location?
- 3.5.27 Can the user define and reuse roles?
- 3.5.28 Does the tool support organization models?
- 3.5.29 Can the user have an is-a relationship between a class of objects and its objects within the tool?
- 3.5.30 Can the user have a belong to relationship between some defined object class?
- 3.5.31 Does the tool support extensibility of repository?
- 3.5.32 Does the tool support different abstraction levels (level of detail)?
- 3.5.33 Can the tool generate diagrams using objects, their properties and relationships out of the



- repository?
- 3.5.34 Has the tool the ability to create / design network & hardware systems diagrams / models?
- 3.5.35 Has the tool the ability to create / design communication diagrams / models?
- 3.5.36 Has the tool the ability to scan networks and build network systems topology?
- 3.5.37 Has the tool the ability to create an enterprise meta data dictionary?
- 3.5.38 Does the tool support the incorporation of service level agreements?
- 3.5.39 Has the tool the ability to support Business & IT strategy definitions?
- 3.6 Validation of Models**
- 3.6.1 Does the tool support a goal model, showing business goals?
- 3.6.2 Does the tool support hierarchy and linking of goals?
- 3.6.3 Does the tool support linking of goals to other categories of objects?
- 3.6.4 Does the tool support polymorphism?
- 3.6.5 Does the tool support inheritance?
- 3.6.6 Does the tool support encapsulation?
- 3.6.7 Does the tool have automatic parsing of requirements? (e.g. by keywords Note: Requirement means anything to comply with , e.g. business rules, IT Strategy etc.)
- 3.6.8 Does the tool have a text and graphical interface to follow the links?
- 3.6.9 Does the tool support versioning of requirements, history of requirement changes, log of modifications etc?
- 3.6.10 Does the tool ensure compliance to defined meta model at all levels?
- 3.6.11 Does the tool ensure that involved responsible users for certain objects (e. g. systems) must agree when changes to interfaces between objects will be done? (workflow)
- 3.6.12 Has the tool the ability to do impact analysis?
- 3.6.13 Has the tool the ability to trace inconsistencies over models?
- 3.6.14 Has the tool the ability to trace incompleteness?
- 3.7 Support of Standard modeling languages, methods and techniques**
- 3.7.1 Does the tool support UML?
- 3.7.2 Delivers the tool Support for MDA (i.e., Model Driven Architecture, OMG)?
- 3.7.3 Delivers the tool Support for BPML (i.e., Business Process Modeling Language)?
- 3.7.4 Delivers the tool Support for BPEL 2.0 (i.e., Business Process Execution language)?
- 3.7.5 Delivers the tool Support for BPMN (i.e., Business Process Modeling Notation)?
- 3.7.6 Delivers the tool Support for ADML (i.e., Architecture Description Markup Language, Open Group)?
- 3.7.7 Does the tool support the Yourdon methodology?
- 3.7.8 Does the tool support the Archimate Modeling language?
- 3.7.9 Does the tool support SSADM (i.e., Structured Systems Analysis & Design Methodology)?
- 3.7.10 Does the tool support modeling processes with a swim-lane diagramming approach?
- 3.7.11 Has the tool the ability to develop IDEF0 diagrams?
- 3.7.12 Has the tool the ability to develop IDEF1 diagrams?
- 3.7.13 Has the tool the ability to perform IDEF 1X data modeling?
- 3.7.14 Has the tool the ability to develop IDEF 3 diagrams?
- 3.7.15 Does the tool support for IDL (IDEF Interchange Definition Language)?
- 3.7.16 Does the tool support a Six Sigma approach?
- 3.7.17 Does the tool support ISO 900x methodology?
- 3.7.18 Has the tool the ability to develop ANSI standard flowcharts?
- 3.7.19 Does the tool Support for ABC (i.e., activity based costing)?
- 3.7.20 Has the tool the ability to create UML v 2.4 diagrams (e.q., use cases, state diagrams sequence diagrams, etc)?
- 3.7.21 Has the tool the ability to create IE entity relationship (ER) diagrams?
- 3.7.22 Does the tool support for cardinal notation to create up to fifth normal form ER diagrams?
- 3.7.23 Has the tool the ability to associate multiple attributes per entity (e.q., >25)?
- 3.7.24 Has the tool the ability to generate physical data models (e.q., DDL)?
- 3.7.25 Has the tool the ability to create DFDs (i.e., data flow diagrams)?
- 3.7.26 Does the tool support for Jackson use cases?



3.8 Support for Enterprise Architecture Review Management

- 3.8.1 Does the tool support identification of components where counter steering is required?
- 3.8.2 Does the tool provide information objects to store, access review reports and results in a structured manner?

4 Functional Fit (General)

4.1 User Interface

- 4.1.1 Can the user decide on what level to navigate through the tool?
- 4.1.2 Does the tool navigate through a browser?
- 4.1.3 Does the tool support drill down/drill up between levels of detail?
- 4.1.4 Does the tool support undo/redo functionality?
- 4.1.5 Can any number, without a limit, of levels of diagrams be attached to a top level diagram?
- 4.1.6 Does the tool support navigation between the graphical tool and the database in both directions?
- 4.1.7 Does the tool have a search engine for structured and unstructured information?
- 4.1.8 Does the tool have a database of patterns?
- 4.1.9 Does the tool have a database of customizable examples / solutions?
- 4.1.10 Does the tool have a framework of orientation within the whole projects?
- 4.1.11 Is there a common look and feel across all products?
- 4.1.12 Do all elements of your product employ similar usability functions?
- 4.1.13 Can the system use graphical and 3D graphical user interfaces?
- 4.1.14 Is the use of either interchangeable?
- 4.1.15 Can drag & drop be used in the graphical user interface?
- 4.1.16 Does the tool support the definition of specific views for defined objects through all levels?
- 4.1.17 Does the tool model connection between objects as own objects with attributes?
- 4.1.18 Can attributes of connections be displayed automatically?
- 4.1.19 Can the visualization of connections be changed manually/automatically?
- 4.1.20 Has the tool the ability to mine for patterns within multiple models?

4.2 Customization

- 4.2.1 Can the user create new diagram types?
- 4.2.2 Can the user create new definitions?
- 4.2.3 Can the user create custom visualizations (symbols) for objects?
- 4.2.4 Can the user create new matrices (relations)?
- 4.2.5 Can the user create new properties for existing definitions?
- 4.2.6 Is possible to create custom queries/filters?
- 4.2.7 Is there no limit to the amount of diagrams, definitions, objects and matrices that can be created?
- 4.2.8 Are the reports easy configurable (i.e. with little coding or very little with the help of examples and tutorials)?
- 4.2.9 Can the user define custom views?
- 4.2.10 Does the tool support aggregation of information in order to create one big picture (Overview)?
- 4.2.11 Has the tool the ability to spell-check?
- 4.2.12 Has the tool the ability to find and replace?

4.3 Import/Integration

- 4.3.1 Are there interfaces to other DB programs like: OracleX, MS SQL Server, MS Access, DB2, other?
- 4.3.2 Does the tool import/export using XML?
- 4.3.3 Does the tool integrate with Eclipse Workshop?
- 4.3.4 Does the tool integrate with Oracle Designer?
- 4.3.5 Does the tool integrate with the IBM Rational Rose family?
- 4.3.6 Has the tool the ability to support/export to a certain ERP solution?
- 4.3.7 Has the tool the ability to support/export to certain CRM solution?
- 4.3.8 Has the tool the ability to support/export to a certain SCM solution?
- 4.3.9 Has the tool the ability to generate WFSL?
- 4.3.10 Has the tool the ability to import models and diagrams from other tools (e.g., Visio, etc)?
- 4.3.11 Has the tool the ability to import from CSV (i.e., comma delimited ASCII)?
- 4.3.12 Has the tool the ability to import / export from/to XML (XSD/XSL) files?



- 4.3.13 Has the tool the ability to publish models in Microsoft Word
- 4.3.14 Has the tool the ability to maintain model relationships in HTML via hyperlinks
- 4.3.15 Has the tool the ability to export to Microsoft Project?
- 4.4 Reporting**
- 4.4.1 Is it possible to generate, to save and to export user defined reports and graphics?
- 4.4.2 Is it possible to generate HTML output, including diagrams?
- 4.4.3 Is it possible to export to MS WinWord?
- 4.4.4 Is it possible to export to MS Excel?
- 4.4.5 Can the tool produce a summary in MS WinWord to give a summary of the architecture landscape?
- 4.4.6 Can the tool produce a summary in MS WinWord or Excel to give a picture of the mappings and how it fits together?
- 4.4.7 Can the MS WinWord templates/reports be changed through GUI ?
- 4.4.8 Does the tool support drill down reporting?
- 4.4.9 Does the tool support summary reporting?
- 4.4.10 Does the tool support queries?
- 4.4.11 Is it possible to export to MS Visio?
- 4.4.12 Is it possible to import from MS Visio?
- 4.4.13 Is it possible to export to MS Powerpoint?
- 4.4.14 Is it possible to print all generated reports, graphics to standard output formats (DIN A0-A4), PDF?
- 4.4.15 Is it possible to publish defined information automatically based on predefined states, events or time?
- 4.5 Version Management**
- 4.5.1 Is there a version mechanism within the tool?
- 4.5.2 Can the tool provide several versions of one metadata object?
- 4.5.3 Is it possible to compare models within a repository?
- 4.5.4 Can the tool handle conflicts on import and merge commands?
- 4.5.5 Does the tool allow multiple versions of an object?
- 4.5.6 Does the tool support comparisons between versions of objects?
- 4.5.7 Does the tool support migration of individual objects/components through development phases?
- 4.5.8 Does the tool support resolution of migration conflicts during the migration of multiple releases?
- 4.6 Documentation Management**
- 4.6.1 Does the tool produce documents in industry standard formats (ISO, IEEE ...)?
- 4.6.2 Does the tool support generating of presentations?
- 4.6.3 Does the tool support WYSIWIG preview of output documents and presentations?
- 4.6.4 Does the tool support concurrent review, markup and comment of documents, designs, etc?
- 4.7 Help and Tutorials**
- 4.7.1 Installation: Can the tool be installed without vendor's assistance?
- 4.7.2 Installation: Can the tool be installed without training?
- 4.7.3 Can the tool be configured without vendor's assistance?
- 4.7.4 Can the tool be configured without training?
- 4.7.5 Does the tool have interactive help?
- 4.7.6 Is the interactive help comprehensive and easy to navigate?
- 4.7.7 Does the tool have an online tutorial?
- 4.7.8 Is the online tutorial comprehensive and easy to navigate?
- 4.7.9 Does the tool have a tutorial/help on features?
- 4.7.10 Does the tool have online documentation?
- 4.8 Libraries, as in Customization**
- 4.8.1 Can the user extend the supplied graphical library?
- 4.8.2 Can the user extend the supplied graphical library with inheritance?
- 4.8.3 Does the tool have a branch / market specific library?
- 4.9 Code Generation**
- 4.9.1 Has the tool the ability to generate code in Java, J2EE?
- 4.9.2 Has the tool the ability to generate code in C++?
- 4.9.3 Has the tool the ability to generate code in C#?



4.9.4 Has the tool the ability to generate other codes? Which?

5 Commercial & Credibility

5.1 Financial Status of Vendors

- 5.1.1 Do you have sufficient cash reserves to fund operations for the next financial year?
- 5.1.2 Do you have any joint ventures or do you plan any?
- 5.1.3 Can you confirm that you are not aware of any attempts to acquire your company?
- 5.1.4 Has your company been in the business for longer than 10 years?
- 5.1.5 Has your company been in the business for longer than 5 years?
- 5.1.6 Is your company making profit?

5.2 Experiences (within Branches / Markets)

- 5.2.1 Have you previously delivered solutions to specific branches / markets? Which?
- 5.2.2 Have you previously delivered solutions to system integrators & consultancy firms? Which?
- 5.2.3 Which markets perform a significant portion of your revenue stream?
- 5.2.4 Are you building branch specific functionality?
- 5.2.5 Can you provide references in specific branch / market environments?
- 5.2.6 Are these references available in Europe?
- 5.2.7 Are these references available in the USA?
- 5.2.8 Can you provide contacts of references?
- 5.2.9 Do you have a list of the number of licenses that are active?
- 5.2.10 Do you sell and support your products globally?
- 5.2.11 Do you sell your products via resellers?
- 5.2.12 Do you have an aligned vision of the tool developments?
- 5.2.13 Is the products commercial release 3 or higher?
- 5.2.14 Do you have more than 1000 licensed customer sites
- 5.2.15 Do you have more between 500-1000 licensed customer sites?
- 5.2.16 Do you have more than 10000 product licenses active?
- 5.2.17 Do you have between 5000-9999 licenses active?

5.3 Sharing Risks and Revenues

- 5.3.1 Are you willing to negotiate fixed prices for any customization/integration work?
- 5.3.2 Are you prepared to undertake the proof of concept free of charge?
- 5.3.3 Are you willing to incur missed target penalties?
- 5.3.4 Has your product been on the market for how many years?
- 5.3.5 Is enterprise architecture a core competency of your product portfolio?
- 5.3.6 Do you support old versions for at least two years?
- 5.3.7 Are any significant changes to your product portfolio planned?
- 5.3.8 Are you willing to allow customers to influence your product roadmap?
- 5.3.9 Do you actively participate in forums for defining industry standards?
- 5.3.10 Do you conduct research for long term requirements?
- 5.3.11 Are new releases backward compatible?
- 5.3.12 Can you offer a warranty?

5.4 Strategic Partnership

- 5.4.1 Do you have any strategic alliances with other companies? Which?

5.5 Capital Expenditure

- 5.5.1 Is the software priced on an enterprise basis?
- 5.5.2 Is the software priced on a registered user pricing model?
- 5.5.3 Is the software priced on a concurrent user pricing model?
- 5.5.4 Can you provide a standard price list?
- 5.5.5 Can you provide a detailed cost breakdown?

5.6 Operational Expenditure

- 5.6.1 Do you have support packages available?
- 5.6.2 Do you charge runtime fees?



- 5.6.3 Are licenses based on user rather than on installation? (i.e. can I access from my PC or my notebook on one license?)
- 5.6.4 Do you charge maintenance costs based on purchase price?
- 5.6.5 Are there additional costs related to the use of your product (DB licenses...)?
- 5.6.6 Would you support potential customers to calculate a detailed TCO scenario?

These requirements should be weighted in importance relative to one another. This will enable the selection of the tool with the best functional fit. However, all modeling efforts within the enterprise and their functional requirements should be considered. A desired outcome is to minimize the number of modeling tools and repositories.

Each of the aforementioned criteria under presence and performance must be decomposed into related sub criteria and weighted or ranked. In addition, the content for the enterprise technical architecture must be included in the decision criteria.

Selecting a comprehensive modeling tool that violates the enterprise technical architecture of the enterprise erodes the credibility of the tool and the EA team.

4.2. The purpose of adopting an EA Tool?

Supporting decision making of management requires another level of detail in models and diagrams than supporting application development. One of the common mistakes in using EA tools is to spend too much time at details that are not relevant for decision making. While supporting application development requires enough details in the models and diagrams for developers to continue their work. So decide up front what kind of activities must be supported and check which tools support your requirements.



Appendix A: References

1. Report, 'A Review of Architecture Tools for the Australian Defense Force', DSTO-TR-1139, 2001
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3. Enterprise Architecture Tools Evaluation Section, Institute For Enterprise Architecture Developments, 2011 (http://www.enterprise-architecture.info/EA_Tools.htm)
4. Book, 'Enterprise Architecture Good Practices Guide', by Jaap Schekkerman, Trafford Publishing, Canada, 2008; ISBN 142515687-8 (<http://www.trafford.com/07-2553>)