

## Business Architecture Practice

### Experience, innovation and a practical approach to ensure successful outcomes

Business architecture (BA) is a growing competency in the marketplace, with firms such as Gartner emphasizing the benefits to enterprises that adopt and embrace the practice. Leveraging Technology's business architects have decades of experience helping corporations in a range of sizes and industries turn business strategies into executable projects and improve business performance. Our experience and practical application enable us to continually refine our methods and tools so that our clients see quick results.

#### Why Business Architecture?

The majority of companies struggle with:

- Lack of a clear and actionable business strategy
- Lack of vision as to the processes needed to support the strategy
- Complexity of information sources and quality

Business architecture (BA) improves business performance in the areas above by guiding business change. BA activities include creating deliverables that guide people, process, and organizational change in response to disruptive forces and toward desired business outcomes. Leading business architects leverage a variety and a combination of techniques, tools and practices to develop deliverables that address their clients' critical business and IT objectives.

The Leveraging Technology team has extensive expertise applying our toolbox of techniques in these key areas:

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|  | <p><b>Strategic and Initiative Planning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Align your strategy to your investments.</li> <li>• Create a feasible plan that is actionable.</li> <li>• Ensure your execution team is setup for success.</li> </ul>   |
|  | <p><b>Relationship Management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Move beyond IT alignment and ensure that IT is integrated into the rest of the business.</li> <li>• Use Business Architecture and facilitated workshops to establish and nurture relationships.</li> </ul>  |
|  | <p><b>Business Process Management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create and maintain a process framework that helps your entire organization understand how they fit.</li> <li>• Define and improve the efficiency of your organization.</li> <li>• We can use any process method you prefer (BPM, LSS, Agile Playbook, SAP Blueprinting, etc.)</li> </ul>   |
|  | <p><b>Organizational Development and Change</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any change in an organization is only as good as the people who implement it.</li> <li>• When people are not ready, willing and able to enact the desired change, it cannot be successful.</li> <li>• Ensure that your people have the tools, preparation and motivation to ensure your change is a success.</li> </ul>                           |
|  | <p><b>Requirements Engineering</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our requirement factory is a supercharged way to get your requirements done in record time.</li> <li>• We can also help you bring your requirements competency to the next level and help you achieve your objectives.</li> <li>• Our requirements methods are tightly integrated to smart designs, meaning your efforts are immediately effective.</li> </ul> |
|  | <p><b>Vendor Selection</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Choosing the right vendor for your software solution is about more than putting out an RFP.</li> <li>• Leveraging Technology has methods for both user-facing and infrastructure software vendor selection.</li> <li>• Our method will help you make an objective decision for all stakeholders.</li> </ul>  |

## Leveraging's Flexible Engagement Model:

Working with Leveraging Technology is different than working with other consulting firms because we look at each client's organization and not just the technologies in place. We partner with clients in unique ways to help them design and build internal capabilities, and will complement or supplement the specific competencies in the most cost-effective ways.

For example, our Business Architecture practice provides services such as these to clients:

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| Architect in Residence                                   | An experienced business architect embedded and part of your internal team working to achieve your business goals.  |
| Capability Assessment and Improvement Program Definition | Our team will assess your focal capability area or team, identify weaknesses or gaps and help you build a roadmap to achieve the desired competency.   |
| Capability Development                                   | May be part of the roadmap, helping your internal team further develop skills or competency.   |
| Training and Mentoring                                   | Focused effort to grow the architecture skills of your staff – for example, requirements engineering training to develop deliverables that meet upstream and downstream stakeholders' needs. |
| Staff Augmentation                                       | Our team member(s) work as part of your team at your direction.  |
| Requirement "Factories"                                  | Think of it as a SWAT team that brings our proven tools and methods and works with your team to generate business requirements for a set of programs or projects quickly and consistently.   |

Leveraging architects and consultants can also help you make the case for adopting business architecture practices in your organization. Consider these best practices:

### Gartner's Best Practices for Supporting Business Architecture:

1. Work with your EA team to understand the role of business architecture within your business overall and within their EA efforts
2. Define and socialize how business architecture can be used to focus business and IT efforts
3. Focus on actionable, diagnostic, and measurable deliverables that can drive business change
4. Use business architecture to create a business-driven "line of sight" back from processes and information to business strategy
5. Don't limit business architecture to just business processes; consider investments, people, and organization changes
6. Use business capability modeling to illustrate business process change and increase stakeholder buy-in

## Contact

Sandy Kleinberg, Business Architecture Practice Leader, [skleinberg@leveragingtechnology.com](mailto:skleinberg@leveragingtechnology.com) 585.454.4250x145

## About Leveraging Technology

We are a business consulting firm founded in 1998 that fully understands how all aspects of the information technology lifecycle can impact business results. We employ a practical, partnering approach to transforming the design and architecture of your business and information technology environment to drive business performance.