

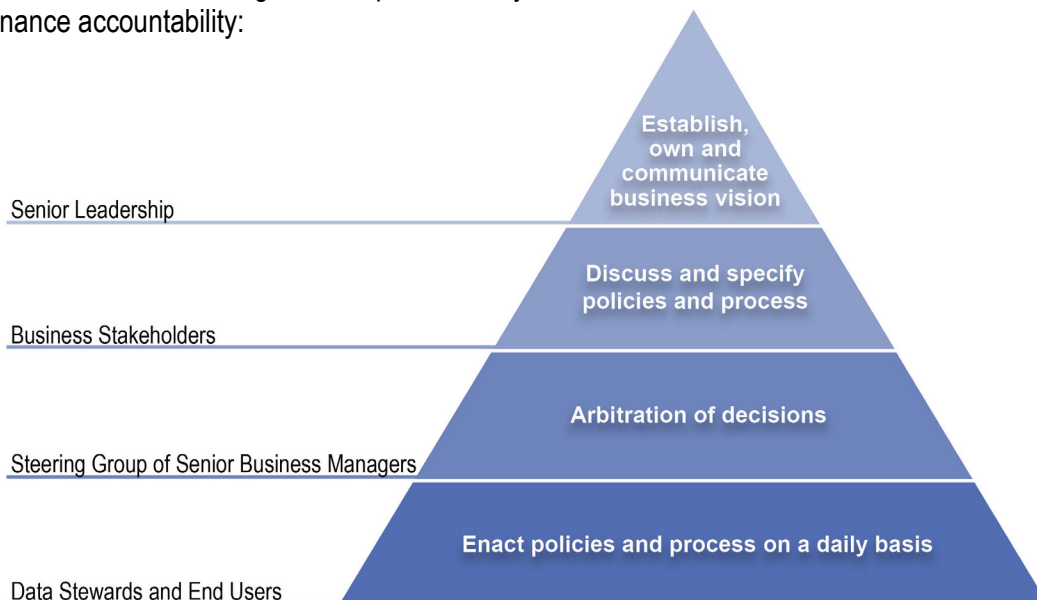
The Role of **Governance** in Master Data Management (MDM)

– By Mike Cardillo, Enterprise Architecture Practice Lead

I have to admit that a few years ago when someone mentioned the word “Governance” I would cringe. My experience repeatedly taught me that governance was accompanied by “red tape”, “delay”, “hassle” and “bureaucracy”. What good could possibly come from Governance?

Well, when it comes to master data management, the answer is: “all kinds of good can come from it.” Most organizations suffer from information issues that are the result of *ineffective* governance. The odd thing is that many companies have too much governance yet not enough *effective governance*.

In our approach to Master Data Management, we recognize governance as an essential component of success. We help companies build an accountability framework for master data that ensures quality across the entire information cycle. We recommend focusing on a simple hierarchy of governance accountability:



This approach creates an end-to-end governance model for a company’s master data. For each subject area, identify the individuals accountable for each level of decision and educate them on their responsibilities. The result will be effective master data governance – one of the key elements of a [7-Point Master Data Management Framework](#) (Vision, Strategy, **Governance**, Organization, Process, Technology and Metrics).

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About Leveraging Technology: We are a business consulting firm that fully understands how all aspects of the information technology lifecycle can impact business results. We employ a practical approach to transforming the design and architecture of your information technology environment to drive business performance.