Leveraging TECHNOLOGY
Strategic by Design

For Agility and Efficiency, Use an Integration Factory

Companies face a number of ongoing IT integration challenges that will continue to increase as integration needs grow. As businesses require application diversity and faster time to value, efficient integration becomes critical. How does IT remain agile and maintain this essential competency? According to Gartner, successful integration development must deliver actionable patterns, repeatable processes and frameworks.

Leveraging Technology has taken it a step further, combining an Integration Framework with an Integration "Factory" approach to development.

Companies find the factory model more efficient because integration developers are not locked into specific projects and there is less internal project management with an integration partner who manages the work and deliverables with accurate timing and cost estimated for every integration deliverable.

Things to consider:

Common IT integration challenges:
- Providing adequate capacity for projects.
- Finding talent and qualified resources.
- Maintaining the right skills and competency over time.
- Delivering integration that is agile and highly re-usable.

Benefits of using an Integration Framework:
- Robust and flexible approach.
- Covers integration from end-to-end.
- Enables work and transaction management, tracking and analytics.

Integration Problems to be Solved:
- 70% of the IT work in most companies is integration.
- Despite the promise of a Service Oriented Architecture (SOA) and the Enterprise Service Bus (ESB), many companies still struggle with integration and service development.
- Expected flexibility and re-use is not being realized.
- Integration and maintenance costs continue to rise.
- The business is dissatisfied with time to market on projects and implementations.
- Mobile applications and expanding information opportunities (Big Data) are adding further complexity to the integration space.

Best Practice: A framework coupled with a "factory" approach for agile, efficient integration:
- ☑ Use an integration partner to design, build, test and support integration flows in a highly efficient and predictable manner.
- ☑ Flexible staffing model supports client needs with a mix of resources and skill levels.
- ☑ Proven process for highly reliable estimates of cost and delivery time.
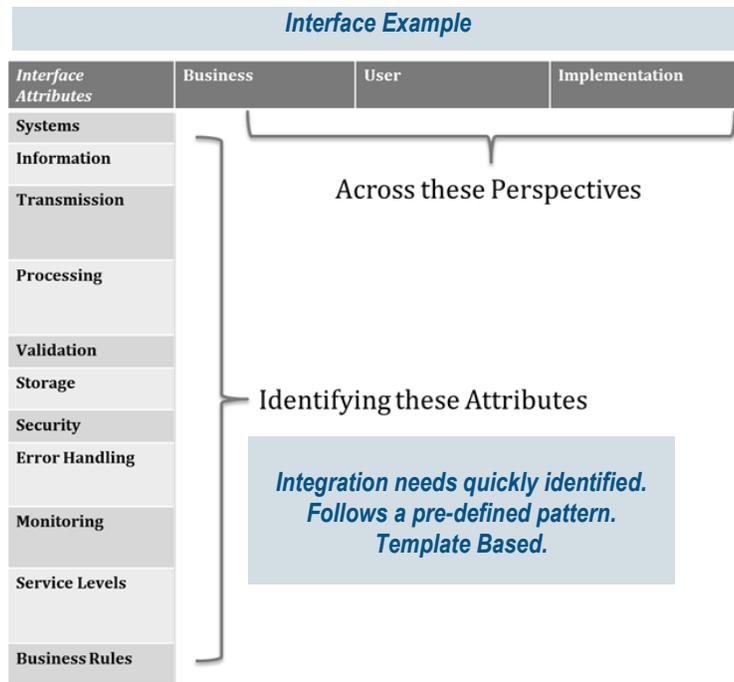- ☑ Quality and agility at a lower cost than alternatives.

The process to implement an Integration Factory:

1. Client's project teams deliver integration requirements/specifications in a predefined format.
2. Within two business days we provide a cost and date for delivery of that integration flow.
3. Work is *guaranteed* to be built and unit-tested on the specified date.
4. Integration goals achieved with efficiency, reliability and high quality.

Plus: We also have skills to help teach your teams to collect integration requirements and link them to a documented pattern adding more speed to the process.

Top 10 Reasons Why an Integration Factory is Effective:

1. The approach to requirements and integration is template-based.
2. Our acceleration techniques move client project teams to fast results.
3. Requirement needs are quickly focused on the deliverable.
4. We link the approach to client's design patterns to further speed the process.
5. Cost and timing for each integration is known up front and guaranteed.
6. Reduces variability in project implementations: efficiency, quality, on-time delivery, consistent design, proven flexibility and increased reusability.
7. Admin support costs are also reduced from less costly upgrades to new releases of tools and technologies.
8. We use a mix of resources for a very attractive cost model (ensure quality by engaging senior integration developers where necessary and lower cost resources where possible).
9. QA and integration testing price included to fit client environment and needs.
10. We manage resources and demand across projects, and scale up and down based on project pipeline and expected demand.

Interface Example

Interface Attributes	Business	User	Implementation
Systems			
Information			
Transmission			
Processing			
Validation			
Storage			
Security			
Error Handling			
Monitoring			
Service Levels			
Business Rules			

Across these Perspectives

Identifying these Attributes

Integration needs quickly identified. Follows a pre-defined pattern. Template Based.

Leveraging Technology has successfully planned and implemented a wide variety of integration projects. We have consolidated that knowledge into a framework that aligns people, process and technology to efficiently meet the goals of the organization. Our framework includes quick start assets for designs, standards and patterns, and code templates to shorten delivery time.

Contact: To learn more about our approach to integration, call or email us today: Info@leveraging.com 585.454.4250 x100.

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.

Customers have counted on our agile development and disciplined project management since 1998 because our frameworks and proprietary methodologies are proven to get results. Customers also recognize that our people drive success by mapping projects back to business strategy at virtually every stage -- from assessment, planning and design, to delivery and management.

We start with our **Integration Architecture Framework**: a robust, flexible approach that covers integration end-to-end.

Integration Business Drivers

Integration Goals & Objectives   Integration Principles

Business Architecture
- Business Channels
- API's
- Business Services
- Supporting Process
- Supporting Applications

Transaction Management
- Transaction Metadata
- Lifecycle Management
- Business Rules
- Process Management
- Transaction Repository
- Standards & Compliance

Integration Architecture
- Zone Architecture
  - Edge Zone/Edge Gateway
  - Integration Zone/ESB
  - Operations Zone/System Adapters
- Integration Capabilities & Patterns

Applications & Data
- Master Data & System of Record
- Information Governance
- Data Access Rules
- Canonical Formats

Management
- Governance & SDLC Impacts
- SvDLC
- Service Catalog/Registry
- Staffing Models
- Growth & Capacity Planning

Infrastructure   Resiliency & Scalability Standards and Patterns   Event Architecture Exception Handling   Monitoring/Escalation Security

Cross Cutting Concerns