Collaborative Planning of Enterprise Architecture Models: Concepts and Implementation

Master’s Thesis Kickoff Presentation

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Administrative setup


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  • Software development and IT-projects
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What is an Enterprise Architecture (EA)?

“Fundamental organization of a system [enterprise] embodied in its components, their relationships to each other, and to the environment, and the principles guiding its design and evolution”. [ISO/IEC 42010:2007]
What is Enterprise Architecture Management?

[slide confidential]
Research motivation

Current EAM approaches provide abstract method descriptions and rough meta-models, but …

- … do not integrate solutions to handle dynamics.
- … do not provide descriptions how to act in collaboration.
- … do not implement tools for seamless strategic planning.

On the other hand, Software Engineering covers the collaborative model evolution, but …

- … does not provide implementations tailored to the specifics of EAM.

Research objective:
Design and describe a meta-model, techniques and a prototypic tool to support strategic planning with enterprise architecture models.
Research questions

The following questions should be addressed in the thesis:

**Q1** Which roles and activities concerning the collaborative and strategic planning with EA model can be identified in state-of-the-art EA management approaches?

**Q2** Which techniques are needed to support strategic planning activities and how does a meta-model for strategic planning with EA models look like?

**Q3** How does the software design of a prototypic tool supporting strategic planning with EA models look like?

- Based on current approaches.
- Focus on concepts and modeling aspects.
- Prototype application based on existing software components.
Research approach

Phases
- Introduction
- Literature research
- Requirements evaluation
- Solution design
- Realization

Artifacts
- Research objective and questions
- State of the art
- Refined requirements
- Prioritization
- Software architecture
- Metamodel
- Application prototype

Timeline
- July 15, 2012
- January 15, 2013
Current activities

First set of candidate requirements is identified

Expert interviews
Evaluation of candidate requirements
Input and experience of practitioners

Online survey
Prioritization based on experts experience
Foundation for prototypic realization

Model framework research
Preparation of following design phase

Interviews finished this week!
Survey starts this week!
Discussion starts this week!
How can strategic EA-planning look like?

Scenario A

Scenario B+C

Scenario B

Target State

Scenario C

Current State

Planned Time
What are the current candidate requirements?

R1. There exists a current model.
R2. There exist multiple planned models.
R3. There exists a target model.
R4. Each model can be rescheduled.
R5. Each model can be accessed isolated.
R6. Each model can be accessed with a certain focus.
R7. There may exist multiple versions of each model.
R8. There may exist alternative models.
R9. The differences between two models can be determined.
R10. Two models can be merged.
Questions? Remarks? Feedback?