



# ALFABET

## ENTERPRISE ARCHITECTURE

### Is your enterprise architecture program delivering results?

Learn how Alfabet from Software AG is helping chief architects get on top of their Enterprise Architecture (EA) data and processes in order to deliver measurable outcomes.

The organization expects the chief architect and his EA team to provide valuable input and plans on how to use IT to achieve mission strategy. At the same time, the chief architect has to ensure that the current and planned IT landscape is cost effective and well positioned for future needs. Unfortunately, instead of delivering on these goals, the EA program is often sidelined by day-to-day business needs and considered a police force by IT. The result: The chief architect is under constant pressure to justify the value of the program to the agency.

Help is here: Chief architects of leading enterprise organizations are using integrated IT Portfolio Management (ITPM) and EA capabilities to ensure that EA programs become a valuable asset to the organization. Interested in knowing how?



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Alfabet, the market-leading solution for ITPM and EA, assures EA teams are successful and deliver measurable outcomes.

## The challenges of getting the EA program to work

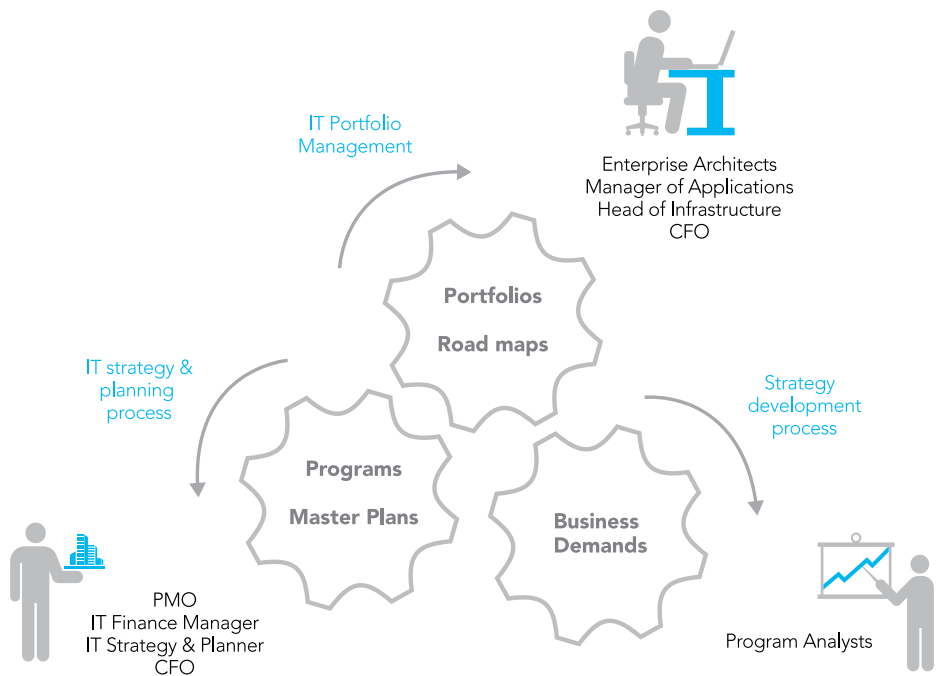
As a chief architect in charge of the EA program, you need to understand the state of the current architecture in order to be able to develop strategies and plan future changes to support the mission. This requires EA data to be up-to-date and reliable. Also, you have to be able to understand where the organization is going: its goals and strategies. With this intelligence, you can develop scenarios and road maps that deliver on mission goals. It sounds easy. There are, however, several challenges that need to be overcome.

Are business models, strategies, goals, capabilities and processes understood in common terms? Are gaps in IT support formulated as demands? If not, you cannot align IT to the mission.

Do you have the processes and governance in place to ensure that the necessary information on the architecture—the applications, processes, technologies, costs, etc.—is being captured and managed within the normal IT management and planning processes? If not, your data will not be reliable.

Is there an IT planning process in place to ensure that projects are architecturally aligned and executable? Does it integrate stakeholders, e.g., program analysts, the PMO and your architects? If not, expensive project errors will occur.

Are application and technology portfolios being proactively managed to ensure that IT is agile, cost effective and risk free? Are processes in place to ensure that these portfolios are in line with standards and policy? If not, you won't deliver on cost, risk and agility.



To overcome the challenges of getting the EA program to work, CIOs and program managers need to integrate people, processes and information to introduce the necessary governance and transparency into the business-IT relationship.

## Meeting these challenges

With ITPM and EA, best-in-class chief architects implement the necessary processes and governance into the business-IT relationship and into IT planning and management. By doing so, they support different stakeholders with core capabilities to meet the challenges of getting the EA program to work: Is IT aligned to mission strategy? Is architecture governance part of IT planning? Are IT investments and running costs optimized? Can you be sure that the EA program will not fail? These key questions are answered by the following essential capabilities.

### Strategic planning

This capability gives architects the tools to express mission strategies, business models, processes and required business capabilities in a structured and analyzable form.

### Business-IT relationship management

This provides a process-supported and architecture-based single point of business demand capture, enabling analysis of overlaps and conflicts. This is the foundation for optimum business-IT alignment.

### IT planning

IT planning converts organizational demand into executable and funded IT programs. It enables target architectures

and scenarios to be iterated with the business and broken down into roll-out plans and project milestones. The roadmapping features support the business in deciding on roll-out strategies, and they make planned changes transparent to the organization.

### Meta-model and process-based platform

The pre-defined and TOGAF®/DoDAFcompliant meta-model is the most comprehensive and proven available. This, along with the methodologies for business relationship management, IT planning and enterprise architecture management, gives the EA program a kick-start so that it delivers value quickly. The process- and role-based platform also ensures that stakeholders can do their job, delivering reliable EA data and IT road maps.

### Enterprise architecture management

Enterprise architecture management supports implementing the standards and governance needed to optimize applications and technology portfolios. Further, it provides analytical insight into the strengths and weaknesses in current support, thus enabling mid- and long-term IT improvement.

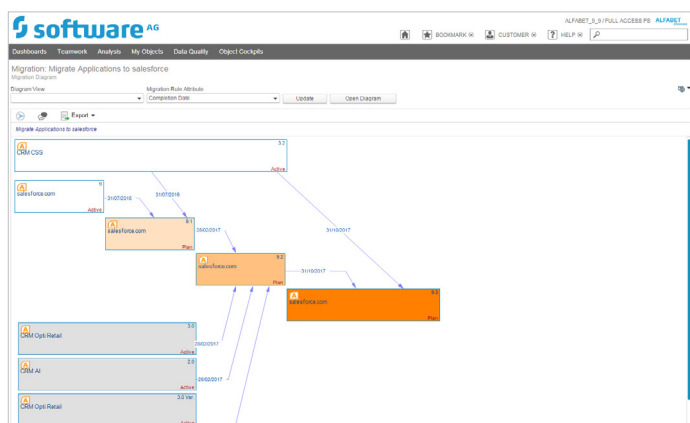
### TBM standardization

Alfabet is a TBM system that helps organizations understand the value of IT in support of their mission. Including

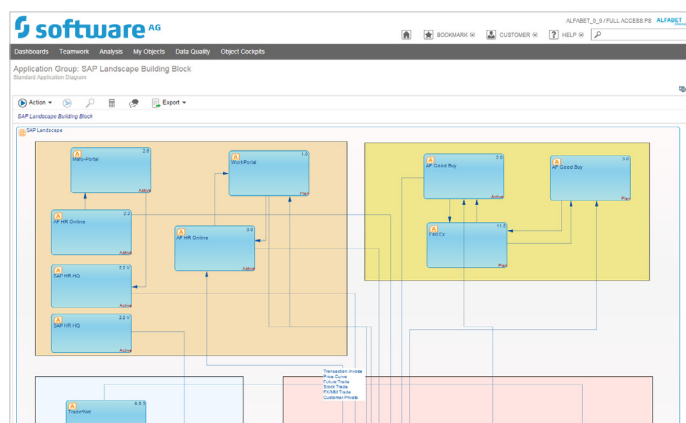
the TBM taxonomy of cost pools and IT towers, Alfabet supports standardized categorization of IT spend and apples-to-apples comparison across agencies. Portfolio managers, enterprise architects and CIOs can make effective IT spending decisions based on alignment with agency strategies and key performance indicators supported by a data-driven system.

### Agile development methodology support

Feature planning and management is core to Agile development. In Alfabet, features are derived from demands, thereby linking them to strategy. This provides insights that facilitate planning and assessment of the application, project and demand portfolios. To further support the execution of a “building for change” approach, Alfabet integrates with operational change management systems such as Jira® to ensure that operations follows strategy and strategy is informed by operations—effectively closing the strategy to execution gap.



Road-map application consolidation.



Understand the IT landscape.

## Leader in ITPM and EA

Internationally renowned companies such as BMW, Continental, Credit Suisse and Evonik use the market-leading solution for ITPM and EA—Alfabet. The platform provides a set of core capabilities to sustainably manage and ensure IT's contribution to the business value. Essentially, ITPM and EA aim at planning and monitoring the performance of IT support throughout its entire life cycle—ensuring that business strategy and demands are completely understood, prioritized and executed on and that the costs, quality and risks to IT support are known and considered during decision making.

## About Alfabet

Alfabet is a leading enterprise platform with standard modules that support effective ITPM and EA, offering:

- More than 1,500 standard reports
- Best-practice ITPM and EA processes
- A single, central repository
- Role-based access
- Workflow engine
- Integration to other management systems, including Apptio®
- Support for federated enterprises

*“IT organizations can achieve efficiency gains and improved governance from Alfabet. By involving senior business managers initially and ongoing, organizations can derive additional business benefit.”*

— **Mark Blowers** | Technology Audit: planningIT, Ovum



With Software AG's solution Alfabet, essential EA and ITPM capabilities are integrated for optimal results.

### ABOUT SOFTWARE AG

Software AG (Frankfurt TecDAX: SOW) helps companies with their digital transformation. With Software AG's Digital Business Platform, companies can better interact with their customers and bring them on new 'digital' journeys, promote unique value propositions, and create new business opportunities. In the Internet of Things (IoT) market, Software AG enables enterprises to integrate, connect and manage IoT components as well as analyze data and predict future events based on Artificial Intelligence (AI). The Digital Business Platform is built on decades of uncompromising software development, IT experience and technological leadership. Software AG has more than 4,500 employees, is active in 70 countries and had revenues of €879 million in 2017. To learn more, visit [www.softwareag.com](http://www.softwareag.com).

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