iServer 2012

Modeling Enterprise Architecture at Different Levels of Abstraction

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Agenda

1. Introductions
2. What is Abstraction?
3. Iteration and abstraction
4. Examples
5. Conclusions

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Introductions

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(Producer of iServer EA modeling software)

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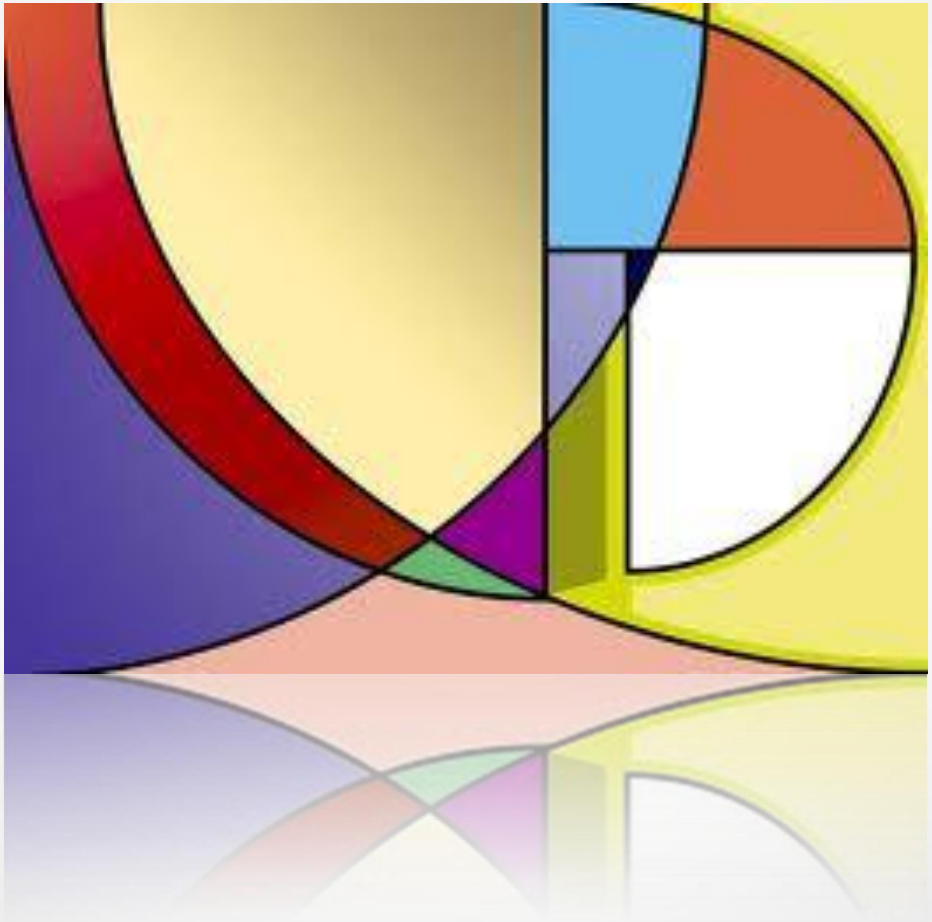
What is abstraction?



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Abstraction - Definitions?

3.1 Abstraction

The technique of providing summarized or generalized descriptions of detailed and complex content.

Abstraction, as in "level of abstraction", can also mean providing a focus for analysis that is concerned with a consistent and common level of detail or abstraction. Abstraction in this sense is typically used in architecture to allow a consistent level of definition and understanding to be achieved in each area of the architecture in order to support effective communication and decision-making. It is especially useful when dealing with large and complex architectures as it allows relevant issues to be identified before further detail is attempted.

- TOGAF 9.1 specification

Abstraction is a process by which higher concepts are derived from the usage and classification of literal ("real" or "concrete") concepts, first principles, or other methods. "An abstraction" is the product of this process – a concept that acts as a super-categorical noun for all subordinate concepts, and connects any related concepts as a *group*, *field*, or *category*.

- Wikipedia

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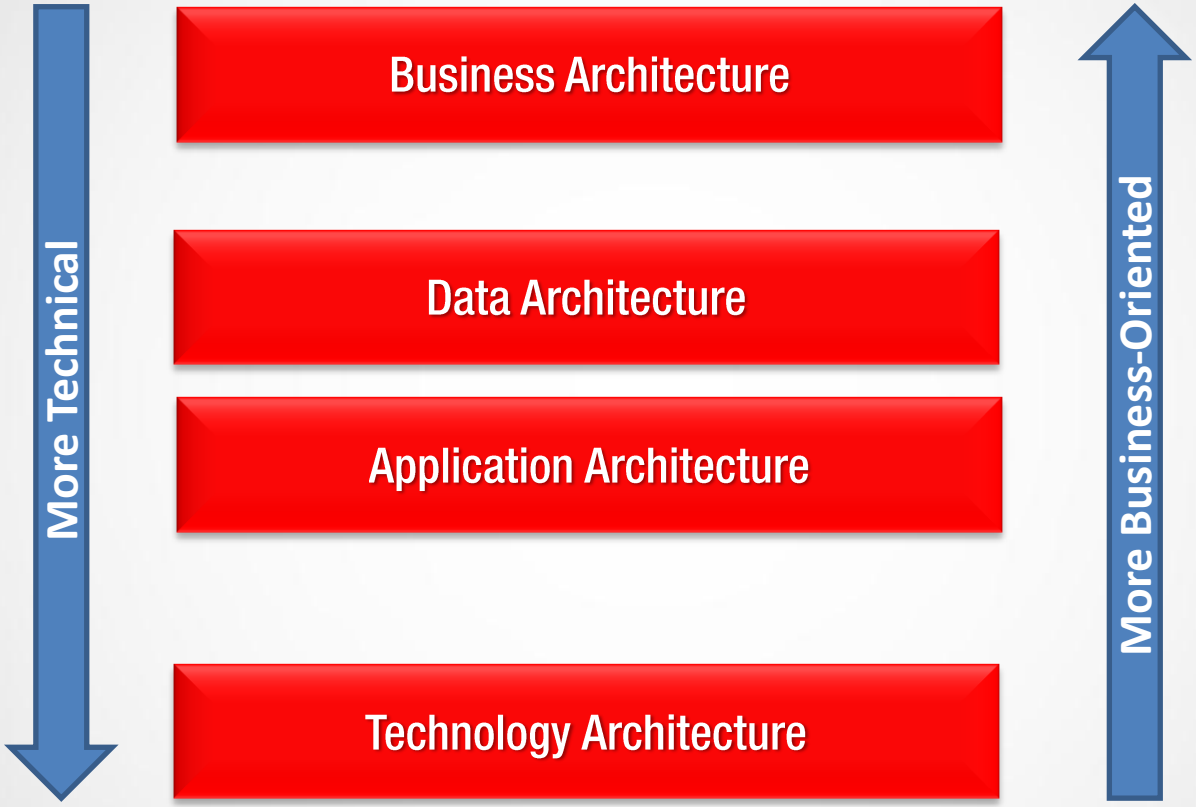
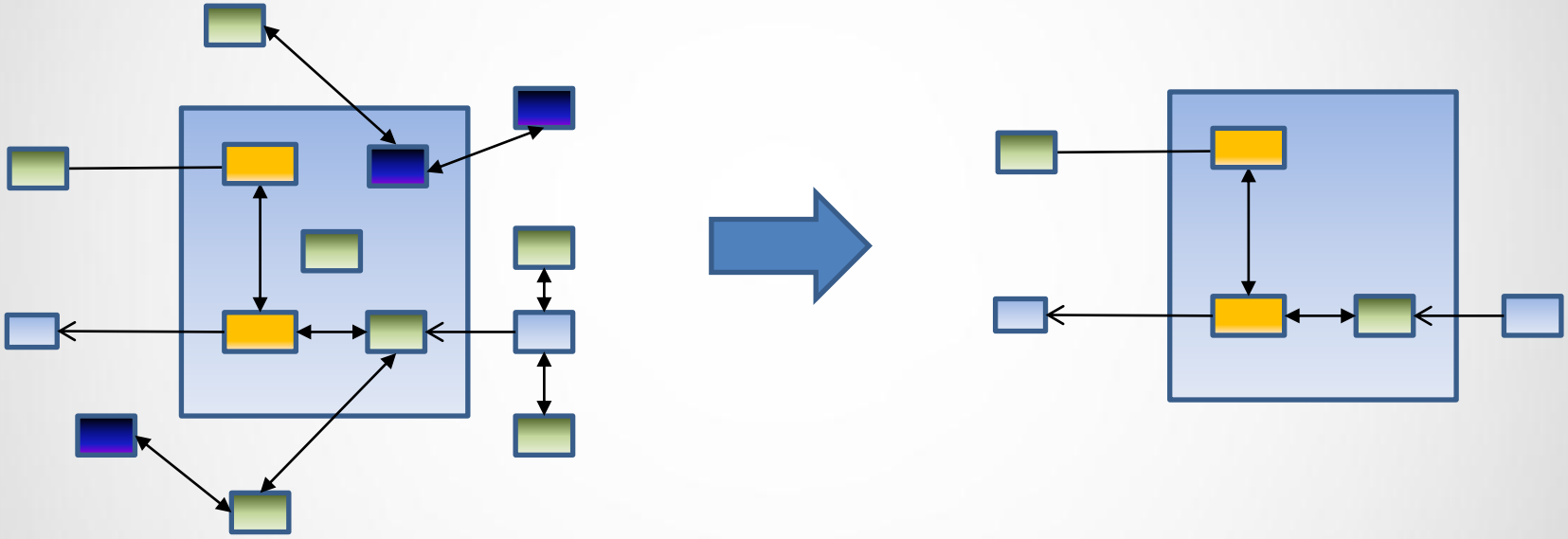
Abstraction in EA Modeling – Layers



Abstraction in EA Modeling – Removing Details

Strip down to only that which is relevant



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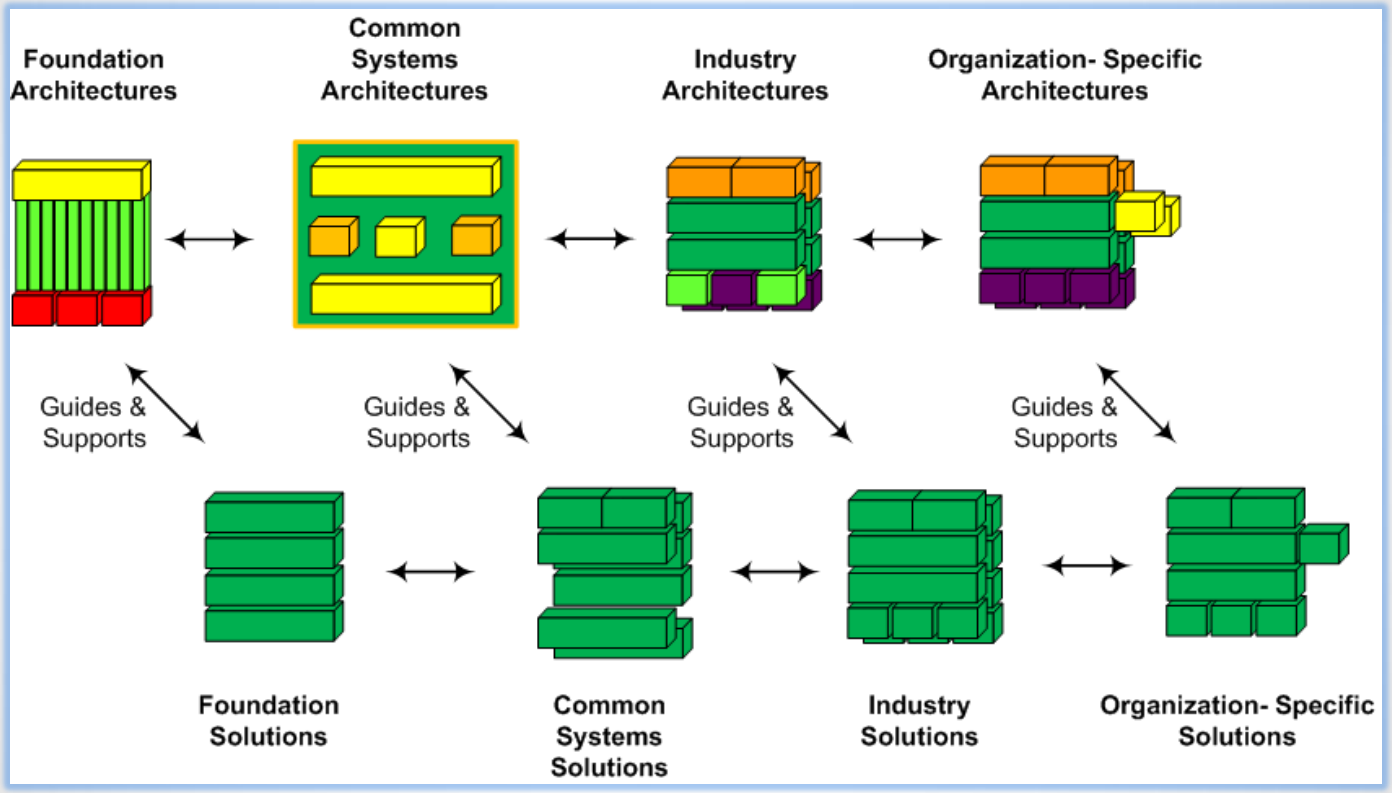
Abstraction in EA Modeling – The Enterprise Continuum

ARCHITECTURE CONTINUUM



SOLUTIONS CONTINUUM

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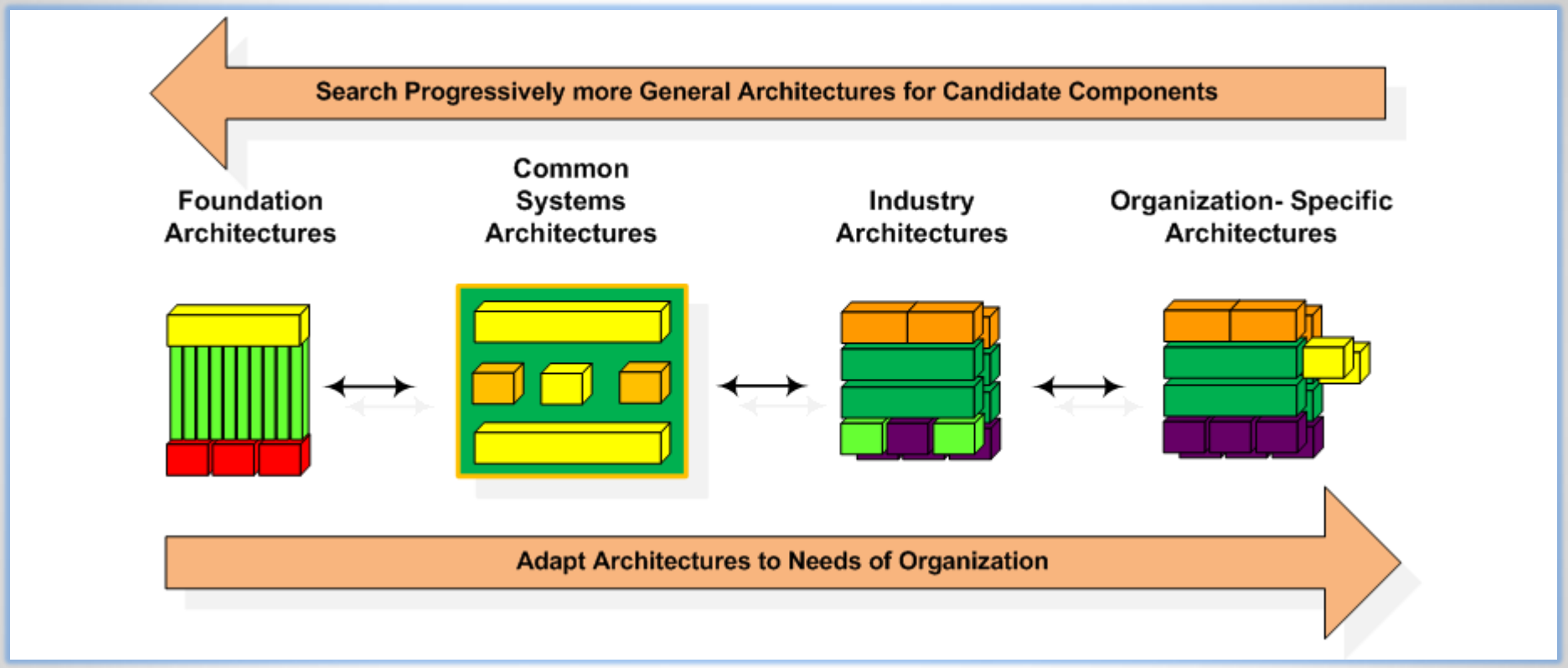
The Architecture Continuum



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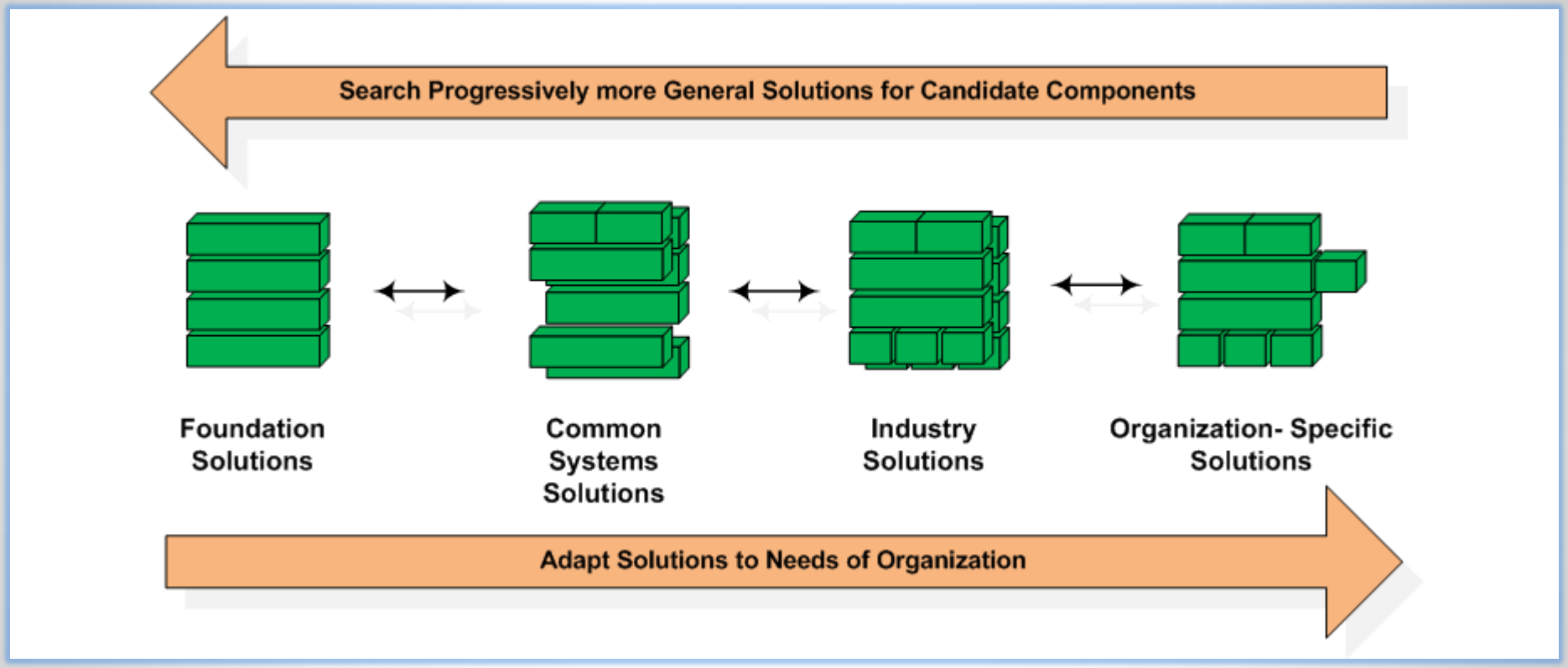
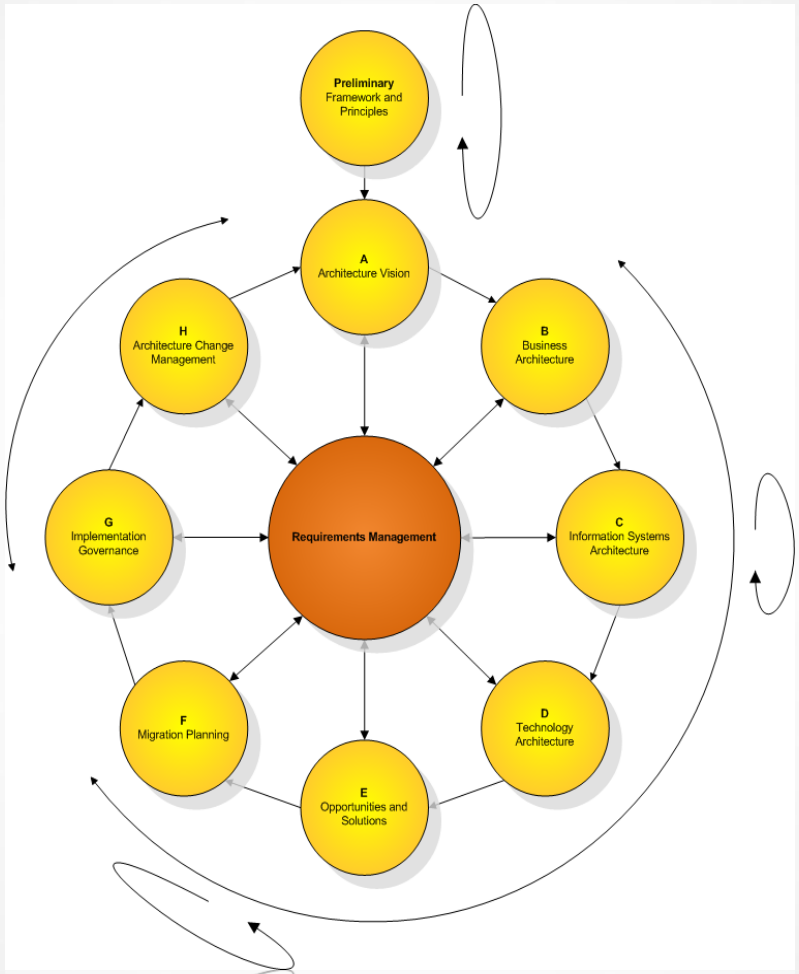
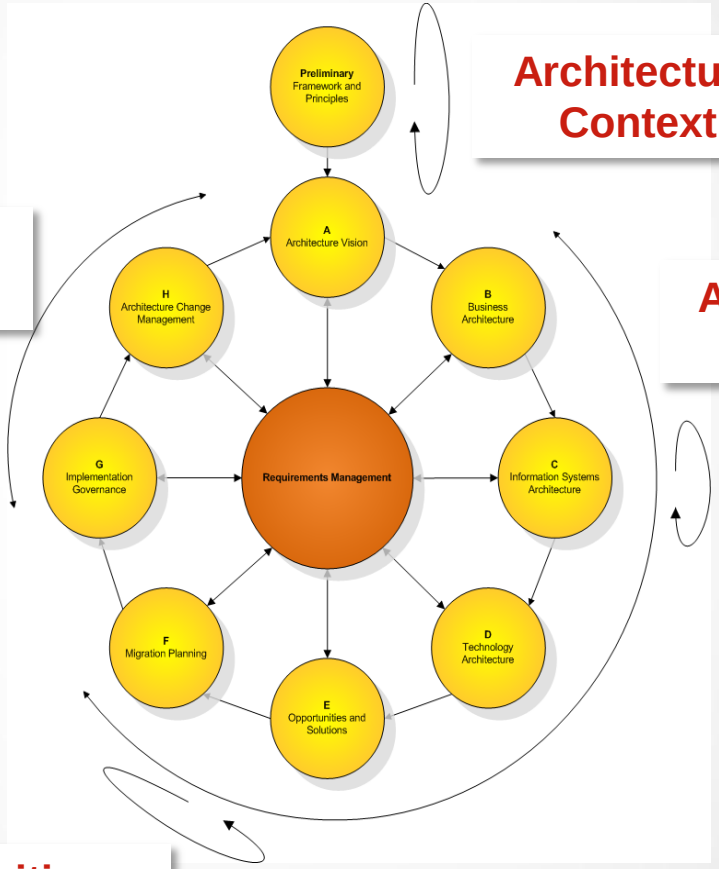
The Solutions Continuum



Iteration and abstraction



Iteration – part of the ADM



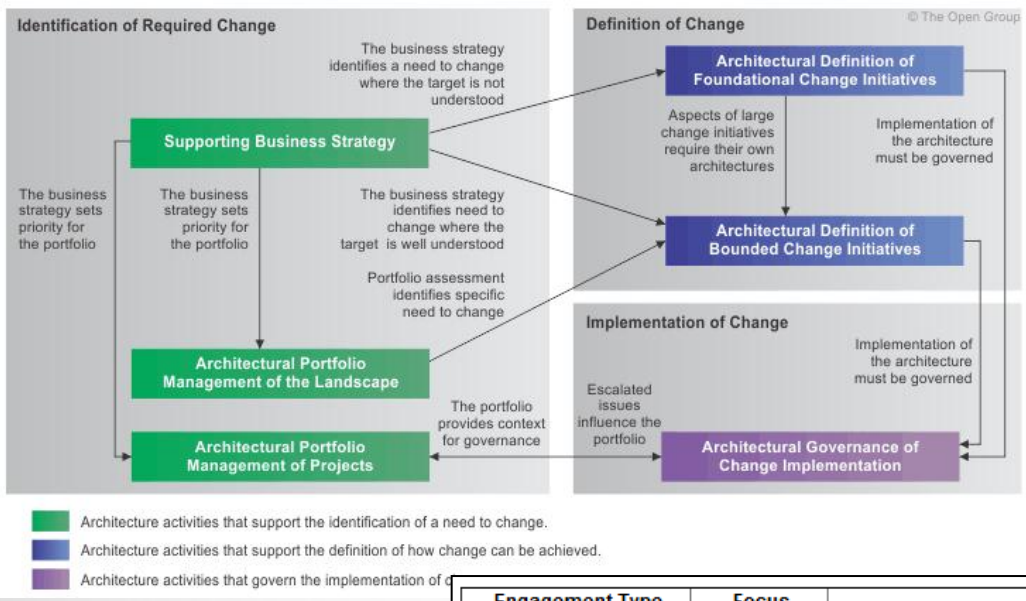
Architecture Context

Architecture Governance

Architecture Definition

Transition Planning

Different Use Cases



Engagement Type	Focus Iteration Cycles	Scope Focus
Supporting Business Strategy	Architecture Capability Architecture Development (Baseline First)	Broad, shallow consideration given to the Architecture Landscape in order to address a specific strategic question and define terms for more detailed architecture efforts to address strategy realization.
Architectural Portfolio Management of the Landscape	Architecture Capability Architecture Development (Baseline First)	Focus on physical assessment of baseline applications and technology infrastructure to identify improvement opportunities, typically within the constraints of maintaining business as usual.
Architectural Portfolio	Transition	Focus on projects, project dependencies, and landscape impacts to align project sequencing in a

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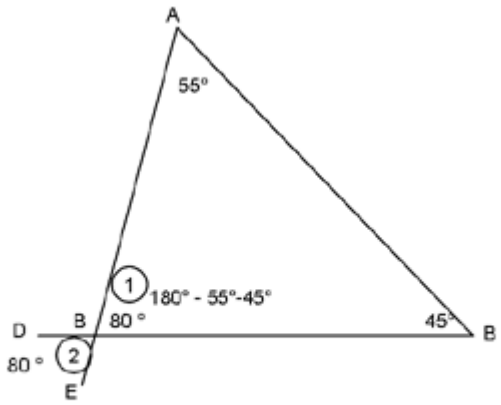
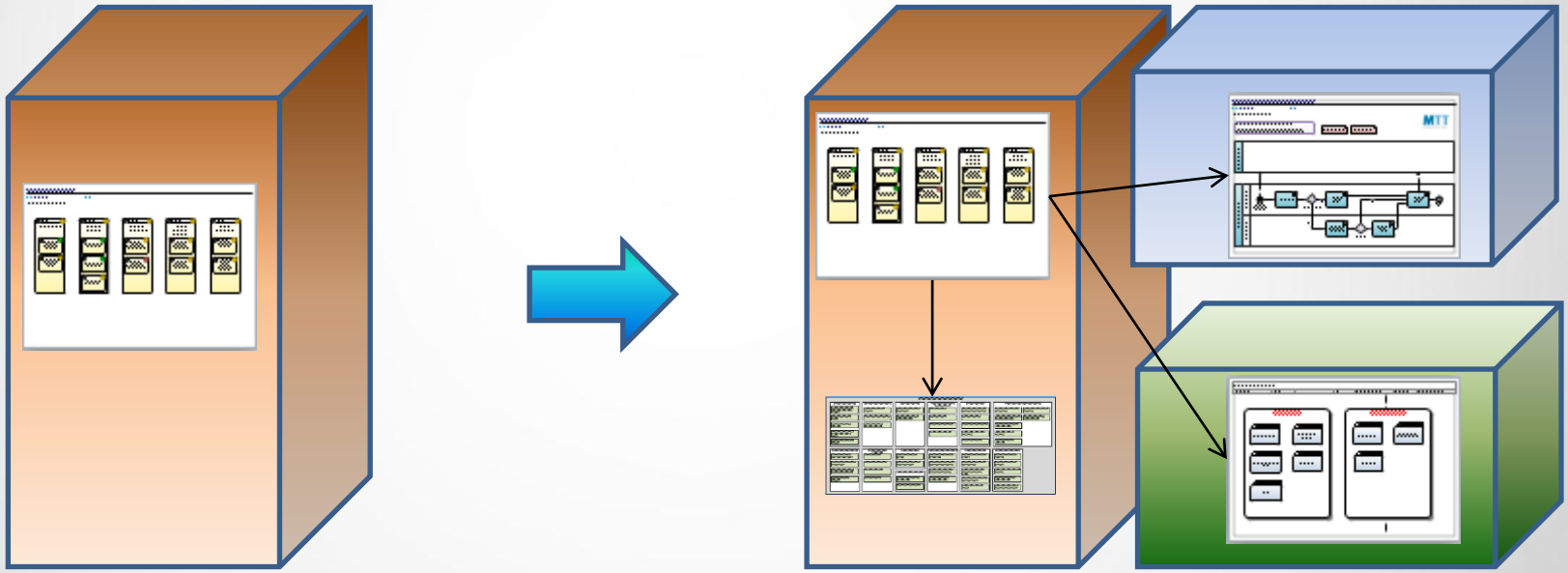
Sample way to abstract



Angle DBE = Angle ABC (vertically opposite angels are equal)
= 80 °

Capability Mapping

Define the top, level capabilities, then the lower level ones, then link to process & applications



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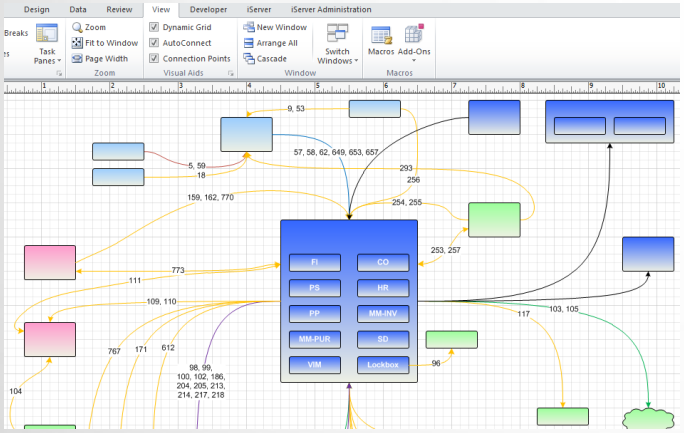
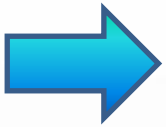
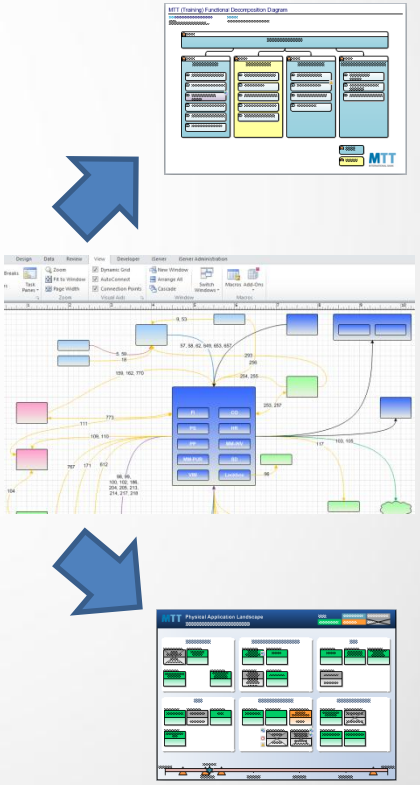
IT Portfolio Management

Define the key systems first, then lesser ones, and start linking the systems to functions and data







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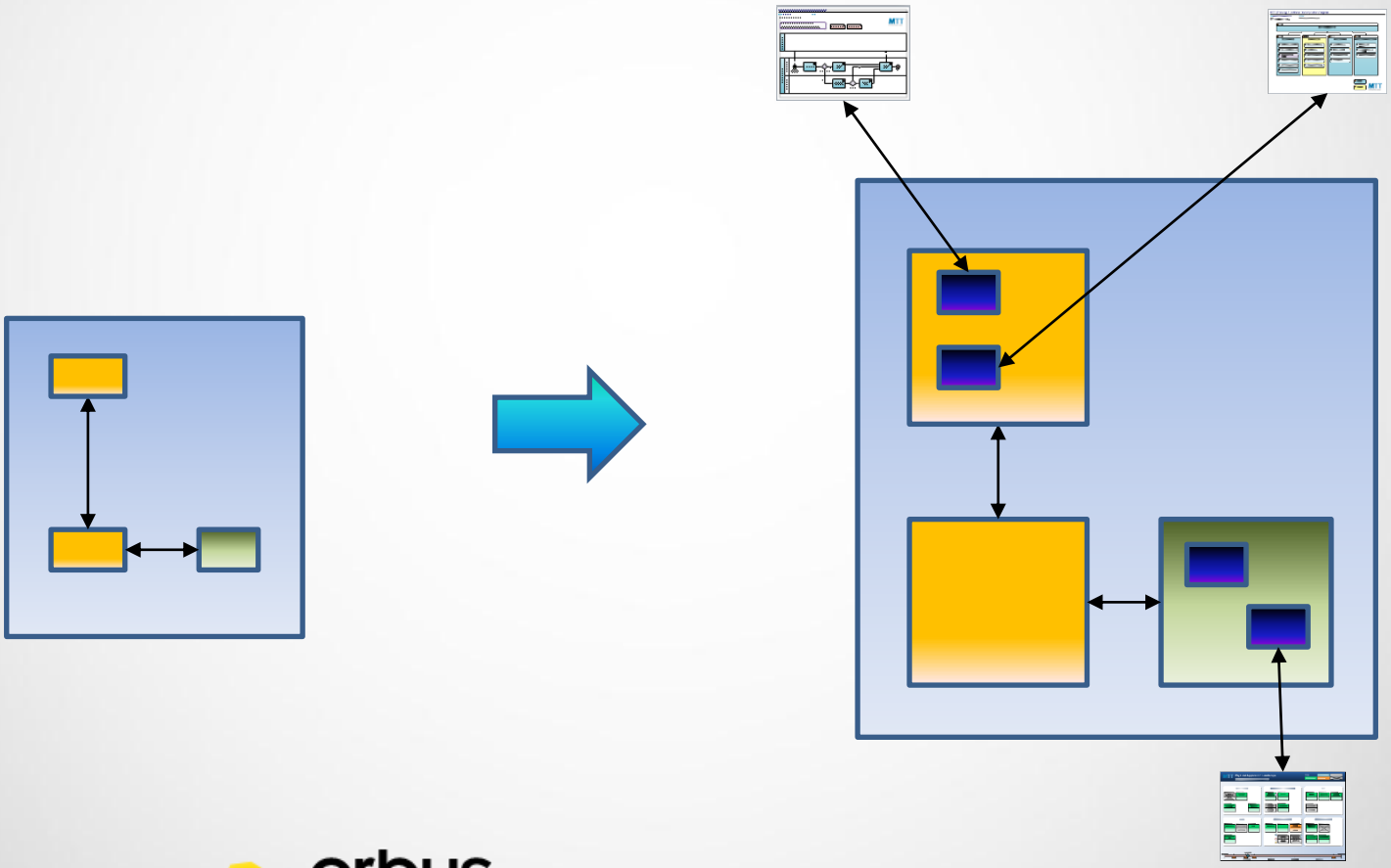
Major Systems Implementation

Define the key functions, modules and deployment of the system, decompose each of them, then link to the IT estate



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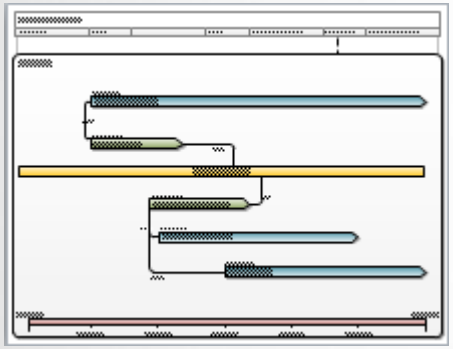
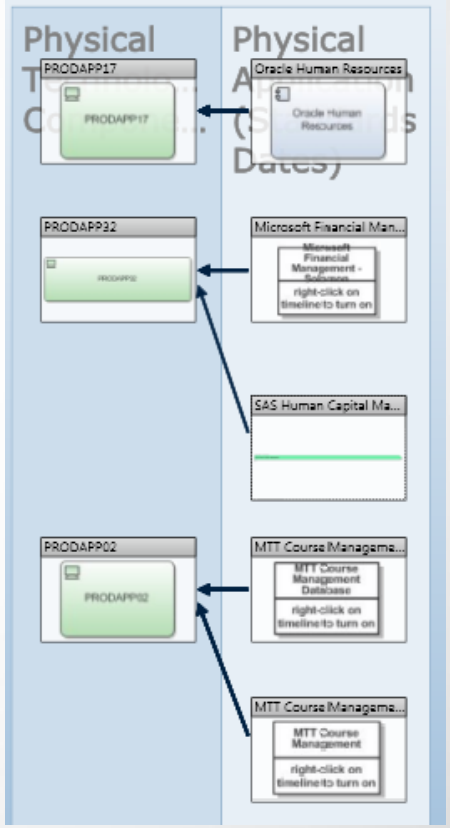
Roadmapping

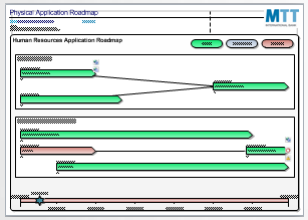
Define roadmaps for key systems first, then lesser ones, and analyse dependencies

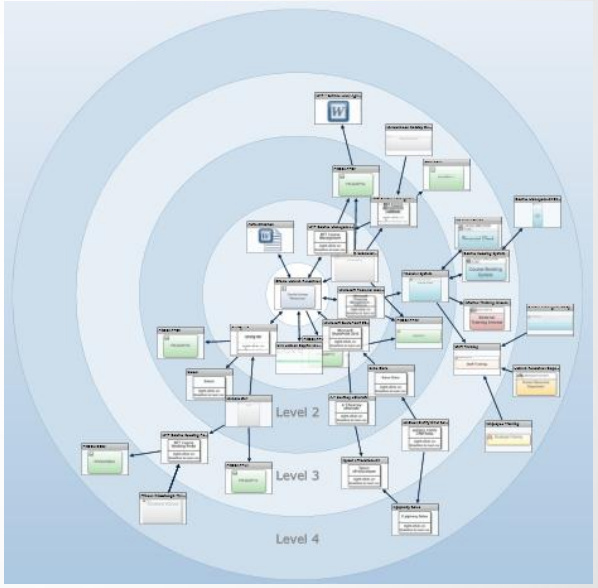




Project Portfolio Management

Define the key programmes, and projects, then link to systems and business functions





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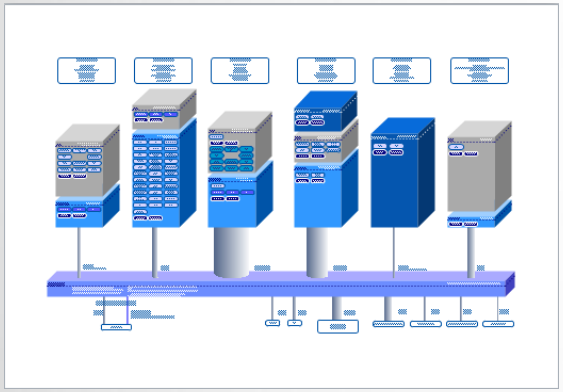
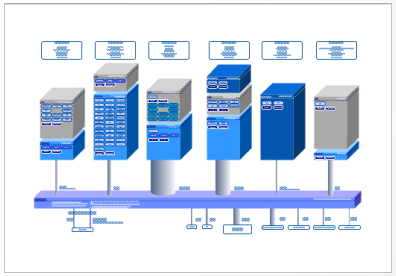
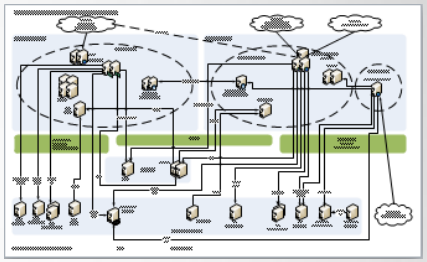
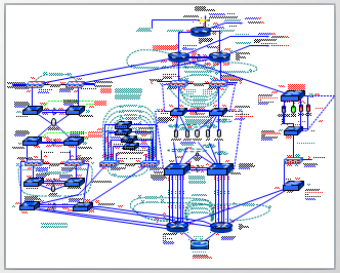
Infrastructure Mapping

Define the backbone architecture, then define subsidiary networks









Conclusions

- Remember the purpose of abstraction - to enable focus
- Two dimensions of abstraction
- Identify what the goal is and define focus from that
- TOGAF gives specific examples in the iteration chapter

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Questions

Do you have any questions?

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(http://www.orbussoftware.com/downloads/visio-starter-packs/togaf-9-starter-pack)

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