TOGAF 9.2 Content Meta-Model : Building Blocks & Notation

orbus software

General Entities

Principle
A qualitative statement of intent that should be met by the architecture. Has at least a supporting rationale and a measure of importance.

Constraint
An external factor that prevents an organization from pursuing particular approaches to meet its goals. For example, customer data is not harmonized within the organization, regionally or nationally, constraining the organization's ability to offer effective customer service.

Assumption
A statement of probable fact that has not been fully validated at this stage, due to external constraints. For example, it may be assumed that an existing application will support a certain set of functional requirements, although those requirements may not yet have been individually validated.

Requirement
A statement of difference between two states. Used in the context of gap analysis, where the difference between the Baseline and Target Architecture is identified.

Gap
A statement of difference between two states. Used in the context of gap analysis, where the difference between the Baseline and Target Architecture is identified.

Work Package
A set of actions identified to achieve one or more objectives for the business. A work package can be a part of a project, a complete project, or a program.

Capability
A business-focused outcome that is delivered by the completion of one or more work packages. Using a capability based planning approach, change activities can be sequenced and grouped in order to provide continuous and incremental business value.

Location
A place where business activity takes place and can be hierarchically decomposed.

Business Architecture

Core Concepts

Organization Unit
A self-contained unit of resources with line management responsibility, goals, objectives, and measures. Organizations may include external parties and business partner organizations.

Function
Delivers business capabilities closely aligned to an organization but not necessarily explicitly governed by the organization. Also referred to as "business function".

Actor
A person, organization, or system that has a role that initiates or interacts with activities; for example, a sales representative who travels to visit customers. Actors may be internal or external to an organization. In the automotive industry, an original equipment manufacturer would be considered an actor by an automotive dealership that interacts with its supply chain activities.

Role
The usual or expected function of an actor, or the part somebody or something plays in a particular action or event. An actor may have a number of roles.

Process
A process represents flow of control between or within functions and/or services (depends on the granularity of definition). Processes represent a sequence of activities that together achieve a specified outcome, can be decomposed into sub-processes, and can show operation of a function or service (at next level of detail). Processes may also be used to link or compose organizations, functions, services, and processes.

Business Service
An element of behavior that provides specific functionality in response to requests from actors or other services. A service delivers or supports business capabilities, has an explicitly defined interface, and is explicitly governed. Services are defined for business, information systems, and platforms.

Business Capability
A particular ability that a business may possess or exchange to achieve a particular purpose.

Value Stream
A representation of an end-to-end collection of value-adding activities that create an overall result for a customer, stakeholder, or end-user.

Course of Action
Direction and focus provided by strategic goals and objectives, often to deliver the value proposition characterized in the business model.

Motivation Extension

Driver
An external or internal condition that motivates the organization to define its goals. An example of an external driver is a change in regulation or compliance rules which, for example, require changes to the way an organization operates; i.e., Sarbanes-Oxley in the US.

Goal
A high-level statement of intent or direction for an organization. Typically used to measure success of an organization.

Objective
A time-bound milestone for an organization used to demonstrate progress towards a goal; for example, "Increase capacity utilization by 30% by the end of 2019 to support the planned increase in market share".

Governance Extension

Measure
An indicator or factor that can be tracked, usually on an ongoing basis, to determine success or alignment with objectives and goals.

Service Quality
A preset configuration of non-functional attributes that may be assigned to a service or service contract.

Contract
An agreement between a service consumer and a service provider that establishes functional and non-functional parameters for interaction.

Process Extension

Control
A decision-making step with accompanying decision logic used to determine execution approach for a process or to ensure that a process complies with governance criteria. For example, a sign-off control on the purchase request processing process that checks whether the total value of the request is within the sign-off limits of the requester, or whether it needs escalating to higher authority.

Product
Output generated by the business. The business product of the execution of a process.

Event
An organizational state change that triggers processing events; may originate from inside or outside the organization and may be resolved inside or outside the organization.

Data Architecture

Core Concepts

Data Entity
An encapsulation of data that is recognized by a business domain expert as a thing. Logical data entities can be tied to applications, repositories, and services and may be structured according to implementation considerations.

Data Modeling Extension

Logical Data Component
A boundary zone that encapsulates related data entities to form a logical location to be held; for example, external procurement information.

Physical Data Component
A boundary zone that encapsulates related data entities to form a physical location to be held. For example, a purchase order business object, comprising purchase order header and item business object nodes.

Application Architecture

Core Concepts

Logical Application Component
An encapsulation of application functionality that is independent of a particular implementation. For example, the classification of all purchase request processing applications implemented in an enterprise.

Infrastructure Consolidation Ext.

Physical Application Component
An application, application module, application service, or other deployable component of functionality. For example, a configured and deployed instance of a Commercial Off-The-Shelf (COTS) Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) supply chain management application.

Services Extension

Information System Service
The automated elements of a business service. An information system service may deliver or support part or all of one or more business services.

Technology Architecture

Core Concepts

Physical Technology Component
A specific technology infrastructure product or technology infrastructure product instance. For example, a particular product version of a Commercial Off-The-Shelf (COTS) solution, or a specific brand and version of server.

Technology Service
A technical capability required to provide enabling infrastructure that supports the delivery of applications.

Infrastructure Consolidation Ext.

Logical Technology Component
An encapsulation of technology infrastructure that is independent of a particular product. A class of technology product; for example, supply chain management software as part of an Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) suite, or a Commercial Off-The-Shelf (COTS) purchase request processing enterprise service.