

# White Paper TOGAF® 9.1

## What's new and why is it Important?

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### Louw Labuschagne CBPA®

Louw is a Managing Partner at CS Interactive Training, a specialist IT consultancy focused on providing methodology consulting, training and systems to organizations who need to build internal capacity within their Analysis, Architecture, Design, and Requirements Management environments. Louw is passionate about all aspects of information management and has had the opportunity to act as strategist, architect, speaker, trainer, analyst, modeler and developer within this field over the past 20 years.

TOGAF 9.1 was released on the 1st of December 2011 without a lot of fanfare and almost did not make a ripple on the social media sphere (just the normal set of insiders tweeting and blogging about the new version).

I personally believe the update from TOGAF 9 to 9.1 is going to have a significant impact on how Enterprise Architects will use the standard going forward. The reason for my belief is twofold; firstly the standard is now becoming more consistent and readable, and secondly the inclusion of up-to-date and practical SOA content is exposing more mainstream architecture professionals to SOA techniques and best practices.

### **(Actually) reading the TOGAF 9.1 standard**

I found that surprisingly few people (including Enterprise Architects) have really read the TOGAF 9 document in any level of detail, and I don't believe this is due to a lack of trying on their side either. Version 9.0 of the standard was a great leap forward from the previous version (TOGAF 8.1.1) and the new standard almost doubled the size of the document to 778 pages. Integrating the contributions from a variety of organizations across the world is no small task and despite all the best efforts, TOGAF 9 still did not feel like an integrated standard, with inconsistent definitions, usage of different terms and outdated legacy components floating around.

It took a dedicated maintenance team a significant amount of time to work through TOGAF 9 and integrate it into a lean, mean architecture standard that is 68 pages lighter. The 692 page TOGAF 9.1 document is now

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actually a pleasure to read. I have not shed a tear in seeing the Document Categorization Model (Section 2.8) or the Building Blocks example (Chapter 37) or the Evaluation Criteria and Guidelines (Chapter 42) removed. In addition to this, other sections have been optimised, including:

- The definition of terms in Chapter 3
- Globally standardising the usage of the terms “application” versus “system”
- Clarifying the terms “artifact” versus “viewpoint” and using it more consistently globally
- Clarifying the use of terminology for Transition Architecture/ Roadmap/Implementation Strategy (Chapters 13,14)
- The Architecture Maturity Models (Chapter 51) has been editorially revised for consistency and clarity.
- The concepts of levels/iterations/partitions have been clarified and made consistent. Including reorganizing material in Chapter 19: Applying Iteration to the ADM, Chapter 20: Applying the ADM across the Architecture Landscape, and Part V, Chapter 40: Architecture Partitioning (Chapters 5, 19, 20, 40).
- The “Objectives” sections of the phases have been reworked to focus on actual objectives rather than techniques or a list of steps (Chapters 6-17).

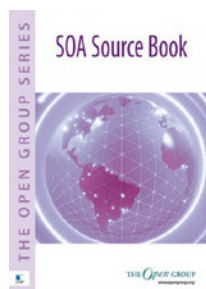
The other significant update that was made relates to the meta-model and artifacts described in the Architecture Content Framework. The Architecture Content Framework includes corrections to meta-model diagrams (Chapter 34), and some of the artifacts have been renamed to better reflect their usage (Chapter 35).

Finally the integration between the Architecture Content Framework and the Architecture Development Method is further enhanced by listing the possible artifacts (viewpoints) for each phase in the description of that phase (Chapters 6-17) and not only in Chapter 35.

## What’s the big deal?

Chapter 22 in TOGAF is totally reworked in TOGAF 9.1 with greater guidance and support on how to define and govern Service Oriented Architectures. This chapter is based on work done by the SOA Workgroup that is also published in the SOA Source book (free version available online, see link below). <http://www.opengroup.org/soa/source-book/intro/index.htm>

This chapter not only provides detailed guidance on how to use and adapt TOGAF to implement SOA within an organization, but also contains a great section on Enterprise Architecture and SOA, which I believe will now find a greater audience since it’s been included in the “TOGAF architecture bible”.



The updating of this chapter is for me the most significant change to the TOGAF standard and is now for the first time pushing the different initiatives and workgroups within the Open Group closer together whilst at the same time pushing SOA beyond the hype into just another (but important) style of doing architecture.

I believe that capability based planning, service orientation and cloud computing are moving beyond just hype and that Enterprise Architects must start to understand how to design their architectures for the new challenges that organizations will face in the 21st century.

TOGAF 9.1 to me is only the beginning of an avalanche of updates and changes that are coming in the near future that will take a number of niches or specialised disciples into the main stream.

The service oriented approach to architecture also extends to the modeling notation used to capture and represent the different aspects of the architectures.

My wish-list for the next version of TOGAF is another chapter, similar to Chapter 22, that align the ArchiMate Notation (with the 2 extensions) with the ADM. As ArchiMate is also a service oriented language, the combination of all three standards will create a powerful, but generic and standard approach to building architectures of the future.

## **ArchiMate Online**

<https://www2.opengroup.org/ogsys/publications/viewDocument.html?publicationid=12183&documentid=11006>

## **Motivation, Principles, and Requirements in TOGAF**

<https://www2.opengroup.org/ogsys/jsp/publications/PublicationDetails.jsp?publicationid=12243>

## **ArchiMate Extension for Modeling the TOGAF Implementation and Migration Phases**

<https://www2.opengroup.org/ogsys/jsp/publications/PublicationDetails.jsp?publicationid=12280>

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### **Orbus Software**

3rd Floor  
111 Buckingham Palace Road  
London  
SW1W 0SR  
United Kingdom

+44 (0) 870 991 1851  
[enquiries@orbussoftware.com](mailto:enquiries@orbussoftware.com)  
[www.orbussoftware.com](http://www.orbussoftware.com)

