SERVICE-ORIENTED ARCHITECTURE

*The Solid Foundation for an Enterprise SOA Implementation—
BEA SOA Services*

BEA SOA ASSESSMENT SERVICE

Your IT infrastructure is brittle—when you fix one problem, another pops up. You can't respond fast enough to business demands. You've heard about Service-Oriented Architecture (SOA) but is it the right answer for your business? What are SOA Best Practices and readiness indicators? What are the pitfalls to avoid? Where should you start?

OVERVIEW

CIOs and IT staff are increasingly responsible for making CEOs' visions a reality. But with business complexity increasing and IT budgets remaining flat, it is challenging for IT to leverage legacy systems, rigid architectures and high application customization costs.

Industry is embracing a better way: Service-Oriented Architectures (SOA), standards-based and built around loosely coupled, reusable, platform-independent services that reduce costs of development and maintenance, eliminate redundant data and systems, increase developer productivity and drive value from legacy systems.

But what are the Best Practices, the pitfalls to avoid, the readiness indicators?—and where do you start?

AN ASSESSMENT FOR SOA—YOUR WAY

BEA's SOA Assessment Service is a pragmatic approach to creating a roadmap to an SOA for your organization. It provides a meaningful analysis of the business needs and IT

constraints that can be addressed through an SOA in your enterprise.

The BEA SOA Assessment Service provides an overview of SOA methodologies and underlying technologies, and an understanding of organizational challenges in moving towards SOA and a "reusability" driven IT culture. The service helps you validate SOA as a way forward in your environment and produces a Gap Analysis of simple pragmatic steps between the current and desired SOA state. It allows you to understand how you can approach SOA in your environment and what should be the critical first steps in moving towards SOA.

The BEA SOA Assessment Service is designed to be a 20+ person-day effort, delivered initially over a two-week period. BEA's expert architects use field-tested, industry best practices and methodologies to demonstrate how you can dramatically reduce the time, scope, and risks associated with SOA implementations.

BEA'S SOA ASSESSMENT SERVICE STARTS WITH BUSINESS UNDERSTANDING

BEA's SOA Assessment Service starts by taking account of the business objectives and challenges, and evaluating how an SOA can address them most successfully.

> **Business Strategy & Process**—Does the current business and IT strategy include a framework for SOA? Once articulated in an aligned business and IT strategy, business problems can be defined and solutions can be implemented, in a coherent, repeatable way.

> **Architecture**—Enterprises must develop an architectural framework that allows the assembly of components and services for the rapid and dynamic delivery of solutions. The architecture focuses on reuse and leverage, and avoids stovepipe applications and islands of IT resources.

> **Costs & Benefits**—In an SOA, IT responsiveness is improved and maintenance costs are significantly reduced, providing compelling cost-benefit analysis.

> **Projects & Applications**—SOA enables a new way of building applications within a more powerful and flexible programming model. The Organization needs to identify existing and "in flight" applications that will be incorporated into the SOA architecture.

> **Building Blocks**—Both an architecture and a programming model, SOA is a way of thinking about building software. The enterprise needs to identify the building blocks—code, services, applications and components-that can be used and reused in a SOA implementation.

> **Organization & Governance**—Roles and responsibilities need to be identified for new service-oriented IT organizations and optimize skill sets for success, as well as organizing an effective design "Reuse Factory," helping to define governance models and ultimately ensuring customer self-sufficiency in running the governance office.

THE BEA SOA SERVICES ADVANTAGE

BEA Services' approach reduces risk and increases your time to value. BEA's SOA Assessment Service not only addresses the technology side of the SOA equation but also summarizes broader organizational and enterprise implications of SOA. How might you leverage your existing investments, what is the your most beneficial starting point? Which initiatives will deliver the greatest value in the shortest time? BEA Services work with you and your team to answer these questions and place you on the right path to adoption.

BEA SOA ASSESSMENT SERVICES: ACTIVITIES AND DELIVERABLES

The BEA SOA Assessment Service consists of:

> Scope and Schedule
> Current Enterprise Business Objectives
> Current Enterprise State Evaluation
> Target State SOA Solution
> Gap Analysis
> Recommended solution.

SCOPE AND SCHEDULE

Scope and Schedule is a half-day goal-setting session prior to the engagement. This pre-engagement task is performed via phone and electronic mail and allows the delivery team to collect any pertinent data prior to the engagement.

CURRENT ENTERPRISE BUSINESS OBJECTIVES

Discussing the current business objectives, information flows, presentation, current key projects/initiatives and IT landscape this phase gains an outline under-standing of the overall enterprise business objectives and IT infrastructure.

CURRENT ENTERPRISE STATE EVALUATION

This phase investigates 3 to 4 high level scoped business processes

TARGET STATE SOA SOLUTION

This phase develops a target state SOA solution based on information obtained in describing the enterprise's current state.

GAP ANALYSIS

In this phase BEA will determine and define where gaps exist in the current state and suggest next steps to move towards the desired state of the enterprise.

This may well recommend a full Transformation Planning exercise to take the outlined solution recommendations and deliver a plan on which to execute.

RECOMMENDED SOLUTION

The Recommended solution phase is the analysis of all the collected data and the development of the SOA Assessment Service deliverables, which include:

> Enterprise SOA Realization Assessment Report, including:

  • Impact of the SOA Solution on the enterprise

  • Overview of current and desired states,

  • Overview of required changes, priorities, implications & constraints

  • Recommended initiatives and approaches

  • Recommended next steps.

> Summary Management Presentation including all the above with business justification to gain support from senior management

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The BEA SOA Assessment Service is available in most countries. For a detailed description of the service please contact your local BEA sales or consulting representative or review the Service Description at www.bea.com/services.

ABOUT BEA

BEA Systems, Inc. (Nasdaq: BEAS) is a world leader in enterprise infrastructure software, helping enable companies to improve business responsiveness through Service-Oriented Architecture (SOA), a software design approach that more closely aligns IT with business objectives. With 15,000 customers worldwide including the majority of the Fortune Global 500, BEA and its WebLogic® and Tuxedo® brands are among the most trusted names in business technology. Headquartered in San Jose, Calif., BEA has 77 offices in 37 countries. More information on BEA products and services is available at www.bea.com.

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