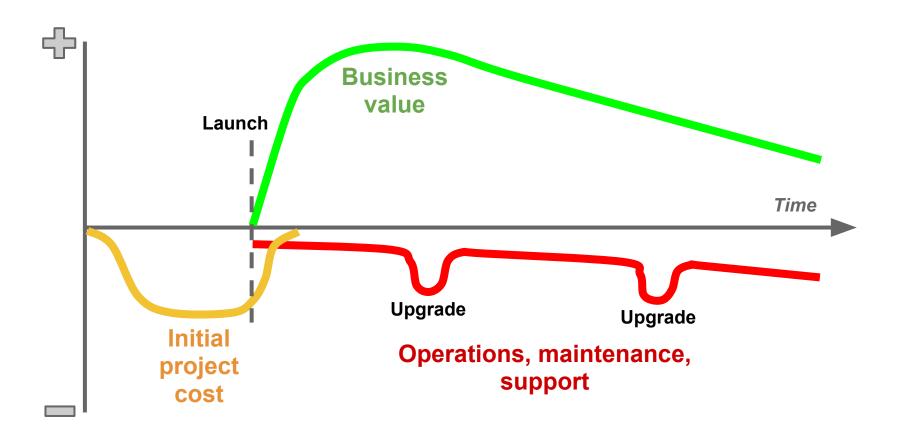
# Communicating Change in an Application Portfolio

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#### **Communication challenges**

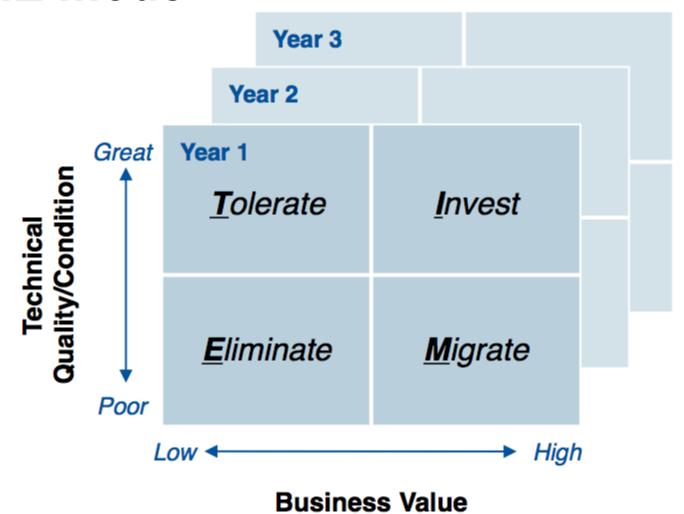
- Your view is holistic, but your customers are fragmented and use different systems
- You're responsible for the long term, but your customers are focused on current activities
- You embrace constant change, but your customers want stable business processes
- You know about lots of detail, but your customers only have time for a simple model

## Why manage an application portfolio?



Diminishing value and increasing cost over time, multiplied by all the applications in your portfolio.

#### TIME model



**Sources:** Val Sribar, *Gartner Keynote: Navigating the Nexus of Change with Pace Layers* (2012); Jim Duggan, *Application Portfolio Triage: TIME for APM* (2010).

#### IT and business responsibilities

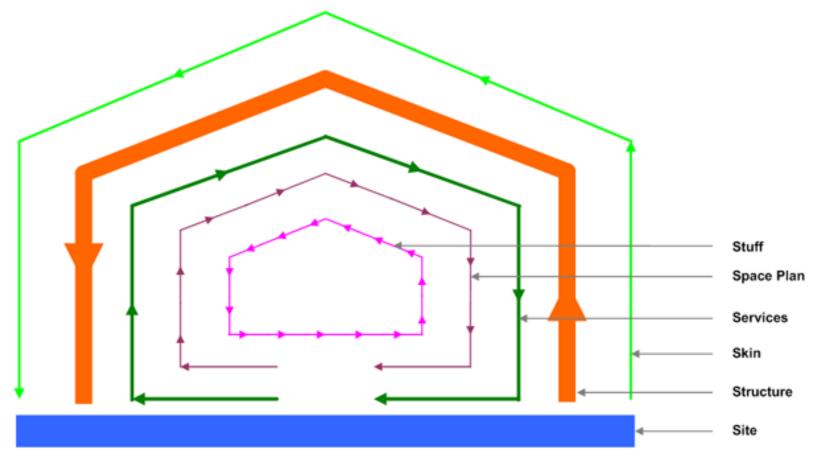
Tolerate	Invest		
Higher bar for enhancements Monitor for increased risk Consider providing some functionality elsewhere Re-evaluate for elimination	Respond quickly to enhancements Maintain focus on the best solution Maximize usage		
Eliminate	Migrate		
No enhancements Mitigate risks Get buy-in for shutdown Work through dependencies	Minimize enhancements Mitigate risks Sponsor a replacement or alternative Prepare users for migration		

#### **TIME examples**

Tolerate	Invest
Help desk ticketing system Enterprise web CMS	New ERP (HR, Payroll, Benefits, Financials) Student system LMS IDM Mobile app framework New departmental web CMS
Eliminate	Migrate
Legacy mainframe applications Legacy custom web applications	Legacy financial system Legacy applicant tracking system Legacy web CMS

Your placement of items may look very different.

#### Pace layers in our built environment



#### Shearing layers of Change

Because of the different rates of change of its components, a building is always tearing itself apart.

From Stewart Brand - How Buildings Learn p.13

Sources: Stewart Brand, How Buildings Learn (1994); JISC InfoNet, Pace Layering.

### Pace-Layered Application Strategy<sup>TM</sup>

Systems of Innovation

Systems of Differentiation

Systems of Record

**Sources:** Val Sribar, *Gartner Keynote: Navigating the Nexus of Change with Pace Layers* (2012); Jim Shepherd, *How to Get Started With a Pace-Layered Application Strategy* (2011).

#### Layers and interconnections

Systems of Innovation	<ul> <li>Emerging requirements in response to new opportunities</li> <li>Experimental processes</li> <li>Ad hoc, short-term solutions</li> </ul>	Tying together the layers  • Process
Systems of Differentiation	<ul> <li>Unique but well-understood processes and capabilities</li> <li>More frequently changing requirements, often specific to an organization</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>integration</li> <li>Data</li> <li>integration</li> <li>Analytics</li> <li>Identity</li> <li>management</li> </ul>
Systems of Record	<ul> <li>Critical master data</li> <li>Stable processes based on common practices</li> <li>Slowly changing requirements</li> <li>Industry standard, often regulated and audited</li> </ul>	Governance

**Adapted from:** Val Sribar, *Gartner Keynote: Navigating the Nexus of Change with Pace Layers* (2012); Jim Shepherd, *How to Get Started With a Pace-Layered Application Strategy* (2011).

#### Pace layers examples

Systems of Innovation	<ul> <li>New mobile use cases</li> <li>Online learning innovations</li> <li>Student advising</li> <li>Emergency notifications</li> </ul>	<ul><li>IDM</li><li>ESB</li><li>Reporting and analytics</li></ul>
Systems of Differentiation	<ul> <li>Learning management</li> <li>Grants management</li> <li>Research administration</li> <li>Development CRM</li> <li>Web content management</li> </ul>	
Systems of Record	<ul> <li>Student records</li> <li>HR, payroll, benefits</li> <li>Financial accounting, purchasing</li> <li>Space management</li> </ul>	

Again, your placement of items may look very different.

#### Questions to ask yourself

- What are the most important concepts you need your customers to understand, so they are partners in managing the application portfolio?
- What would be a simple, effective way to consistently get those points across?
- How would you classify applications as an architect, and how does it differ from how your customers perceive them?