

Framework for Architecture Engagement Evaluation

This is an Engagement Value matrix developed at UW-Madison in collaboration with the ITANA membership. The Value Matrix and Value Measures are shown below. A rolled-up PDF is attached.

There are several uses for this matrix at UW-Madison:

- (1) It provides a way to evaluate the various projects and engagements that architecture are involved in. We can use the matrix to evaluate which engagements are most impactful and focus our time and effort on those limiting our time and effort in the low-value engagements.
- (2) We can map an individual engagement to the various value metrics listed under both the "Business Value" and "Architectural Value" areas. This gives us a way to talk to the campus about the importance of the engagement.

e.g. Our SOA Infrastructure (we call Application Integration Architecture) Service helps support:

Business Effectiveness through Clear and Consistent Governance, Effective Data-Driven Decisions, Optimized Processes, User/Usability Focused, Regulatory Compliance

Fiscal Efficiency through Clear Policies & Authority, Streamlined Workflows, Reducing Redundancies, Leveraging Existing

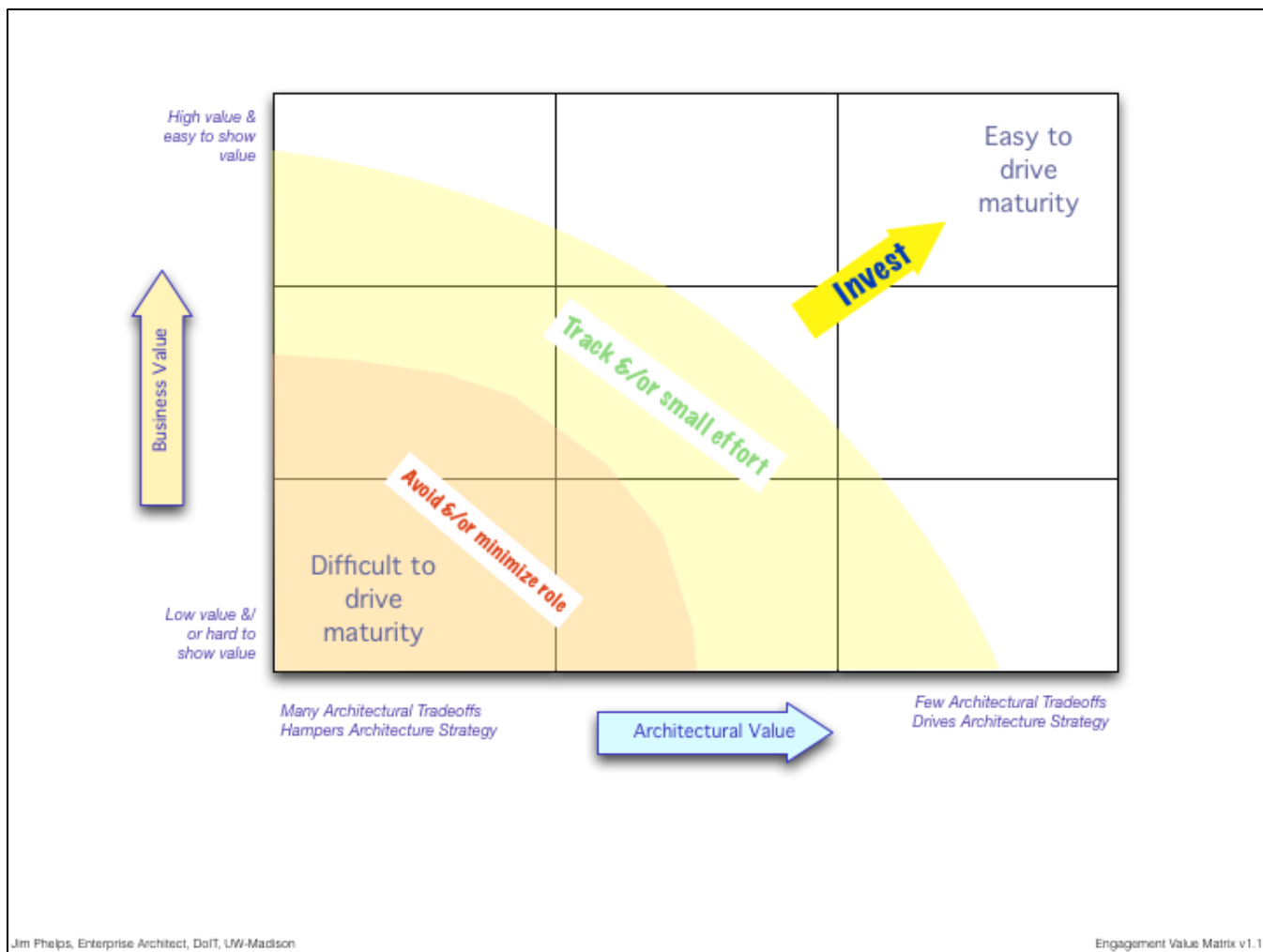
Increased Agility through Reduced Complexity, Configuration not Code, Standardized Infrastructure, Adaptable Re-usable Services, Well-known & Clear Dependencies

Architecture Strategies through Reusable & Well Leverage Infrastructure, Clear, Quick & Consistent Governance, Reduced Redundancy, Optimized Processes, Well Defined & Appropriately Sourced Data, Configuration Over Code

- (3) Finally, we can map out different outcomes for a given initiative and walk through various scenarios showing how it could be more impactful based on different decisions. For example, Our Office365 Initiative might be in the "Difficult to Drive Maturity" area if we do not eliminate all of the redundant email and calendar services that are on campus, move to a common calendar solution, change process and fully leverage the system. It might move into the "Track &/or Small Effort" area if all we do is eliminate the email services on campus but don't really leverage a common calendar and the collaboration tools of the suite. Finally we could move it to "Easy to Drive Maturity" if we eliminated the email and calendars services, moved to common calendaring, leverage the suite fully.

If you use this tool or if it inspires you to create a tool for use on your campus, please share your experience and your ideas and outcomes with ITANA.

The Engagement Value Matrix:



The Value Statements:

Breaking Down "Business Value"

Business Effectiveness	Fiscal Efficiency	Increased Agility
Focus on Strategy	Clear Policies & Authority	Reduced Complexity
Aligned with business goals	Streamlined Workflows	Configuration not Code
Well defined KPIs	Reducing Redundancies	Standardized Infrastructure
Effective Partnerships (internal/external)	Rationalized Service & Project Portfolios	Adaptable Re-usable Services
Clear & Consistent Governance	Well Executed Projects	Timely & Appropriate Decision Making
Effective Data Driven Decisions	Leveraging Existing	Agile Resource Alignment
Optimized Processes	Appropriate Outsourcing	Well-known & Clear Dependencies
User/Usability Focused	Clear value statements (commodity vs. strategic)	Exploiting Opportunities
Adoptable Services	Leveraging Partnerships	Finding New Revenue
Regulatory Compliance		

Breaking Down "Architecture Value"

Architecture Strategies*
Reusable & Well Leverage Infrastructure
Clear, Quick & Consistent Governance
Reduced Redundancy
Clear Link to Business Strategy
Optimized Processes
Well Defined & Appropriately Sourced Data
Configuration Over Code
*Note: these are local strategic value statements.