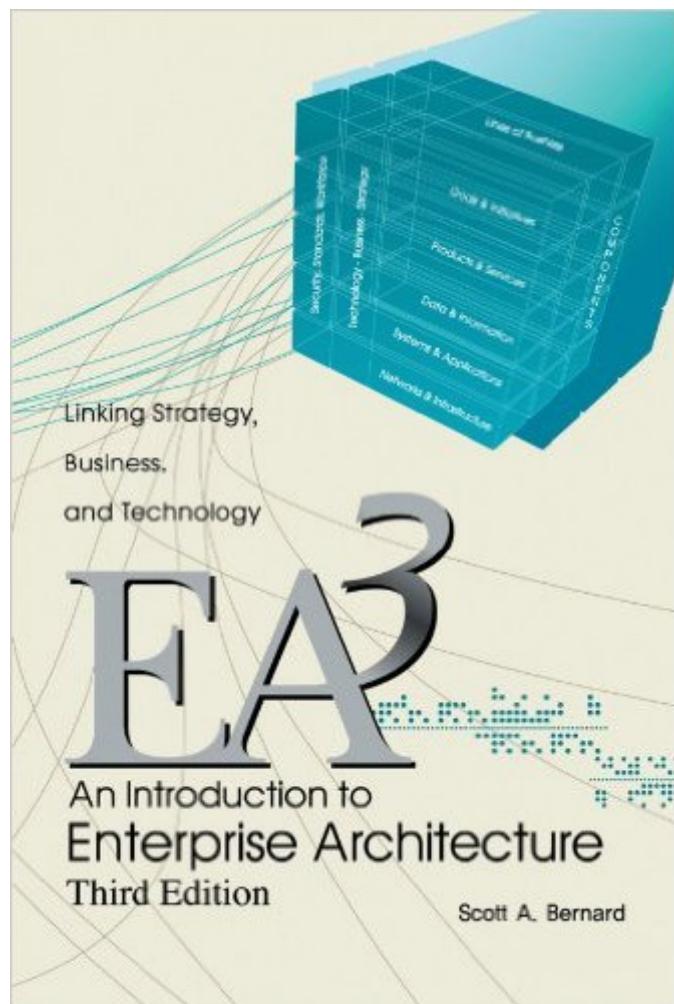


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An Introduction To Enterprise Architecture: Third Edition



Synopsis

An Introduction to Enterprise Architecture is the culmination of several decades of experience that I have gained through work initially as an information technology manager and then as a consultant to executives in the public and private sectors. I wrote this book for three major reasons: (1) to help move business and technology planning from a systems and process-level view to a more strategy-driven enterprise-level view, (2) to promote and explain the emerging profession of EA, and (3) to provide the first textbook on the subject of EA, which is suitable for graduate and undergraduate levels of study. To date, other books on EA have been practitioner books not specifically oriented toward a student who may be learning the subject with little to no previous exposure. Therefore, this book contains references to related academic research and industry best practices, as well as my own observations about potential future practices and the direction of this emerging profession.

Book Information

Paperback: 340 pages

Publisher: AuthorHouse (August 13, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1477258000

ISBN-13: 978-1477258002

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.8 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (35 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #125,641 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #29 inÂ Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Project Planning & Management #220 inÂ Books > Business & Money > Management & Leadership > Information Management #1955 inÂ Books > Business & Money > Processes & Infrastructure

Customer Reviews

This review is based on the deplorable editing of the Kindle book. So far the information contained in the text seems fine but the editing (or lack thereof) is distracting. Words are not capitalized after periods, there are numerous typos, etc. This needs to be fixed and a new version should be delivered for the Kindle and updated for free for anyone who has already purchased the Kindle edition.

Though it's not the prettiest book, and the Kindle re-formatting is kind of clumsy, this is about the best teaching framework I know of for teaching people Enterprise Architecture concepts. The book is slightly academic, but offers a largely pragmatic approach to how an Enterprise Architecture works, what it's for, and how to do it. The catalog of artifacts in the back of the book is invaluable in showing examples. I usually train my clients from this book and give them a gift copy of the book to keep for themselves. An odd aside, the fact that Zachman wrote the foreword to the book is actually a good credibility tool with my clients. All most of the people I've worked with have heard of EA before is the Zachman framework and he's right up front like a warm blanket that says "yes, you've heard of me, this is a good book that addresses important issues, so you should read it."

The author considers EA to have a very broad scope, and indeed to encompass most of the work done to lead and manage an Enterprise IT organization. In my experience many of the activities he includes would be carried out by other processes, particularly those involving strategic decisions. I suppose one could simply call them EA but my experience is that most CIO's do not see it that way. They do not view EA as the center of the universe. Rather, they have a more limited view of EA as a way of documenting the architecture - current and target- so that other processes can use that information to make the decisions. And many still do not view that documentation as essential. While I agree with his assessment that the use of EA overall is growing, there are still many instances where EA initiatives whither and die or are abruptly terminated for perceived lack of value.

A fantastic book that ties strategy, business, and technology. A step by step, phased manner approach to setting up EA implementation practice was very valuable in connecting the three together. Overall, a great, valuable, and up-to-date reference on EA.

The author clearly knows EA. The best part of the book is that it explains EA from a practical point of view. He explains what EA is and how to apply it from an EA as a verb point of view. The EA cube framework seems to be applicable and valuable.

This book is excellent. It's exactly what it purports to be, and needs to be, a concise introduction to Enterprise Architecture. It's hard to find the balance between a massive 600-1000 page textbook that covers everything, but is daunting, and one that is so introductory that it is only a summary with no substance. This book is the right balance at 340 pages. Very well written as well.

It's a good tool to be used as introduction to System Architecture world. Easy to read and understand it's should lay on the desk of all who want to get a good management support documentation, and how to use a lot of management tools to improve a business structure.

It is a great reference, with lots of reference artifacts that show a holistic approach of the Enterprise Architecture profession.

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