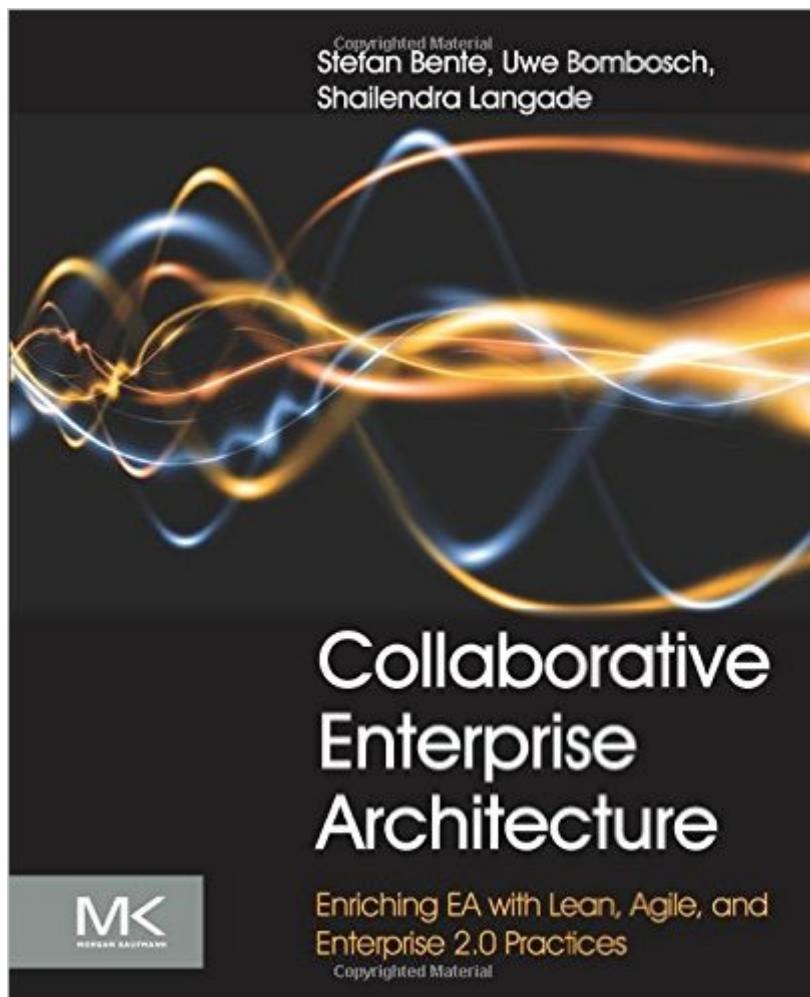


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Collaborative Enterprise Architecture: Enriching EA With Lean, Agile, And Enterprise 2.0 Practices



Synopsis

Ever-changing business needs have prompted large companies to rethink their enterprise IT. Today, businesses must allow interaction with their customers, partners, and employees at more touch points and at a depth never thought previously. At the same time, rapid advances in information technologies, like business digitization, cloud computing, and Web 2.0, demand fundamental changes in the enterprises' management practices. These changes have a drastic effect not only on IT and business, but also on policies, processes, and people. Many companies therefore embark on enterprise-wide transformation initiatives. The role of Enterprise Architecture (EA) is to architect and supervise this transformational journey. Unfortunately, today's EA is often a ponderous and detached exercise, with most of the EA initiatives failing to create visible impact. The enterprises need an EA that is agile and responsive to business dynamics.

Collaborative Enterprise Architecture provides the innovative solutions today's enterprises require, informed by real-world experiences and experts' insights. This book, in its first part, provides a systematic compendium of the current best practices in EA, analyzes current ways of doing EA, and identifies its constraints and shortcomings. In the second part, it leaves the beaten tracks of EA by introducing Lean, Agile, and Enterprise 2.0 concepts to the traditional EA methods. This blended approach to EA focuses on practical aspects, with recommendations derived from real-world experiences. A truly thought provoking and pragmatic guide to manage EA, Collaborative Enterprise Architecture effectively merges the long-term oriented top-down approach with pragmatic bottom-up thinking, and that way offers real solutions to businesses undergoing enterprise-wide change. Covers the latest emerging technologies affecting business practice, including digitization, cloud computing, agile software development, and Web 2.0. Focuses on the practical implementation of EAM rather than theory, with recommendations based on real-world case studies. Addresses changing business demands and practices, including Enterprise 2.0, open source, global sourcing, and more. Takes an innovative approach to EAM, merging standard top-down and pragmatic, bottom-up strategies, offering real solutions to businesses undergoing enterprise-wide changes.

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Customer Reviews

Whereas this book comes off at first as a little too IT-centric, upon second reading, I think that actually works in its favor. I have decided to use this book as my textbook in a mandatory, graduate-level class on enterprise architecture. It is thoughtful, practical, and well written. Plus, it makes it clear that enterprise architects must also be keenly aware of expectations regarding how they will support IT systems/services modernization, impact analysis, etc., as well as transformations in business capability.

To save you some time, this book proposes meta-structures to be considered in institutional organizations, Perspective, Governance, Strategy, and Transformation. These categories are based upon the relationship of the architect to the system and the relationship between the system and its strategic evolution. The book does not attempt to give rationale for these categories until late in the book, and then simply comes up with buzzwords to place them under rather than discuss what they are meant to represent. It is a very simple concept that the book pads out for the sake of extra pages. This meta-structure is proposed early in the book, after anecdotal stories about organizational disarray, but only explain at the end of the book and only briefly. The entire book this structure is taken for granted without proper analysis. The author takes the chapters inbetween to spin wheels explaining arbitrarily designated roles an Enterprise Architect might take on and to poorly detail how Enterprise Maturity Models are used. If you want to actually learn about the implementation of these Maturity Models, you'll have to refer to external sources. When reading a text about meta-structures to guide design, I'm immediately struck by how convoluted those meta-structures can be. This is just such a book. Everything proposed as a framework for Enterprise Architecture is either poorly connected to each other or without any discernible reason. It's a book of platitudes that might be worth remembering in a hard spot, but hardly a systematized look at

Enterprise Architecture.

A pragmatic approach to EA. Very good on agile usage of EA and Lean approaches to EA. Nice to see a text that does not completely overpower you with models and completeness. Chapter 7 is a ripper as it seeks to answer "How pragmatic can EA actually be without losing the important qualities of any kind of enterprise-level processes: repeatability and measurability?". Very refreshing outlook on EA although perhaps the later couple of chapters are not there yet (neither is EA?).

An interesting book with an agile perspective on how to architect software systems, I like the fact that it explains why enterprise architecture is so hard to achieve in real life. It is not a book about how enterprise architecture should be in the real world, it is a book about how it is

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