Ripose Rapidly integrates patterns of strategic elements

Strategic planning to implemented solutions

Ripose Technique
Business patterns white paper

This document describes how the Ripose Technique helps reduce the complex and sophisticated nature of modern systems by identifying and reusing simple yet powerful patterns.

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Preface

Purpose

This document describes how the Ripose Technique helps reduce the complex and sophisticated nature of modern systems by identifying and reusing simple yet powerful patterns.

For the purpose of this white paper, each of the patterns have been classified under one of the following headings:

- Conceptual
- Logical
- Physical
- Implementation

Refer to the glossary of terms for any word or phrase you may be unfamiliar with. Should you come across an unfamiliar phrase not in the glossary, contact us and we will include it in the next release.

Intended audience

Ripose prospects, associates, and architects

Structure

Management summary	Summarises this white paper and provides the Ripose Technique benefits and highlights why a client should be using the Ripose Technique.
Conceptual patterns	Introduces a reader to the types of objects used to express an idea – the 'what'.
Logical patterns	Introduces a reader to the types of objects used to express the rationale behind an idea – the 'how'.
Physical patterns	Introduces a reader to the types of objects used to express a working model of the logical – prototype.
Implementation patterns	Introduces a reader to the types of objects used to deploy a scalable version of the prototype.
Glossary of terms	Describes commonly used words in the methodology and technique subject area.

Associated documents

Ripose technique seven steps – white paper v0.02

Ripose technique – comparisons v0.04c

Management summary

According to the Butler group, we are now entering an era where capturing the experience of business operatives knowledge is a high priority for most organizations. The irony appears to be that the IT industry as a whole pay little or no regard to this.

Consequently, in spite of the fact that emerging technologies promise better and faster ways of doing things, many businesses continue to put themselves at risk without fully understanding their core business requirements.

Could this be why in today's modern world, petrol/gas stations have become supermarkets, supermarkets have become banks, banks have become insurance companies and insurance companies have become finance companies?

The IT industry have accomplished this by using the well known approach of 'divide and conquer'. When businesses call for integration, IT delivers stand-alone packages with so called 'open interfaces' to other vendor's packages. IT set about implementing packages, before the business operative's requirements are fully understood even by the business operatives themselves.

A number of techniques have been developed to try to overcome this problem, but in most cases, the 'cure is often worse than the disease'.

Some of the biggest IT companies have tried on numerous occasions to identify the building blocks upon which stable systems can be built. In most cases, they have adopted for the 'open standard' approach by appearing to integrate a number of disparate techniques at various levels. Alas these initiatives have almost always ended in failure.

In 1995 the Software Productivity Group reported that 16% of software projects were considered successful. In 2000 the Standish Group reported that 24% of the projects were considered successful. An 8% increase in 5 years can hardly be called spectacular considering the amount of money spent on improving technology to assist the IT industry.

This is why, we at Ripose, have dedicated our energy and resources to identify, categorize, automate and document an architecture through our 'patterns for business' initiative.

Benefits

The benefits to be derived from using the Ripose technique are multiple:

- A clearer understanding of the business issues
- The time to market the business ideas from business operators to information technologists has been reduced. In some cases as much as 40 working days can be saved
- The cost of developing an efficient and effective 'blueprint' has been slashed by close to 90%. This frees up valuable resources for subsequent development activities

Conclusion

Ripose has simply simplified all the known methodologies and created a technique works efficiently and effectively every time.

- Ripose is a technique that is repeatable and teachable.
- Ripose will take you from strategic planning to implemented solutions.
- Ripose is better, faster, and smarter and more cost effective than most of the known techniques on the market today.
- Ripose rapidly integrates patterns of strategic elements, including the following patterns:
  - Conceptual
  - Logical
  - Physical
  - Implementation

Contact us at http://www.ripose.com for more information

Conceptual patterns

Conceptual patterns provide the building blocks upon which the entire organisation will rest. They can be viewed as the foundation stones. They describe 'what' business operatives require and not 'how' they do it.

If they are poorly defined, then the remainder of the patterns will be at risk.

Pattern			
Information	Goal	Internal	Purpose
			Mission
			Critical success factor
			Rank
		External	Vision
			Mission
			Objective
			Strategy
			Plan
	Measure	Key performance indicator	
		Metrics	
	Knowledge	Entity type	
		Association	
Procedure	Action		
	System	Information flow	User to business
			User to online buying
			Business to business
			User to user
			User to data
			Application integration
		Logical interface	

The final deliverable from all the conceptual patterns is the proof of concept.

Logical patterns

Logical patterns utilize the conceptual patterns and build structures associated with 'how' the business objectives can be achieved. The logical patterns are independent of any hardware and software constraints.

The following table shows the logical patterns:

Pattern			
Data	Facts		
	Data base	Logical schema	
Process	Operation		
	Application	Code	
		Window/Screen/Form	
		Graphical user interface (GUI)	
		Parameter	
		Variable	
		Message	
		Condition	
		Iteration	
		Report	
		List	
		Calculation	
Physical interface	Generator	Application topology	Web-up topology
			Enterprise out topology
		Run time topology	

The final deliverable from all the logical patterns is the proof of logic.

Physical patterns

Ripose does not currently propose to support the patterns associated with the physical nature of objects. This is very much the domain of hardware and software vendors.

Each vendor should be able to provide patterns to enable the use of RAD in order to produce a working proof of physical, prior to attempting to implement the 'full blown system/application'.

They will usually include patterns, which include:

- Runtime product maps
- Performance considerations
- Technology options
- Application deployment guidelines

Implementation patterns

Ripose does not propose to develop any of its own proprietary patterns, as they are now completely dependent on the hardware the application is to run on.

However, for completeness sake, some of the patterns, which should be borne in mind, appear in the following table:

Pattern			
Data base	Physical schema	Column	
		Row	
		Index	
Architecture	Hardware	Mainframe	
		Mid range	
		PC	
	Software	Language	Procedural
			Non procedural
			Compiler
		Operating system	
		DBMS	
	Network		

Glossary of terms

Term	Description
Application	A series of processes designed to carry out a specific task(s) – also called a program
	A group of operational activities to support a business function – Information engineering definition
Business function	A high level activity which supports a number of information requirements
	An activity which supports a functional area – Information engineering definition
Business objects	A grouping of things/artifacts/phenomenon that an organisation requires in order to operate effectively
CASE	Computer assisted software environment/engineering
Core	The heart or innermost and most essential part of anything (especially business functions and systems)
CSF	Critical success factor – an important issue which provides a positive outcome
Data types	Defines basic data structures for the language
DBMS	Data base management system – the physical technology driving the data base
Enterprise out	These are applications that run in proprietary products (black box technology)
Entity	A class of object with attributes that defines the knowledge component of the business requirements
Facet	A grouping of entities and their relationships to support a subject' area
KPI	Any important pointer, gauge, measure or component which assists in the fulfillment of a task
Logical	The means of describing reasoning
Pattern	A design, figure or style corresponding in outlining to an object that is to be fabricated and serving as a guide for determining its shape and dimension
Program	A series of instructions to create, read, update, delete and print the contents of the physical data bases
	A name given to a grouping of projects

Term	Description
Proof of concept	High level specifications, describing the integrated functionality of a series of business ideas. It details 'what' the business needs and is independent of detailed logic. It provides a clear priority blueprint for future development – steps 1 through 3 of the Ripose technique
Proof of logic	Detailed specifications describing the data structures and program reasoning. It is totally independent of hardware and software constraints. It fully supports the proof of concept and shows 'how' the proof of concept can be implemented – step 4 of the Ripose technique
Proof of physical	A prototype/working model of the proof of logic. It enables business operatives to 'touch, feel and experience' objects identified in the proof of concept. It is independent of the final target hardware and software environment – step 5 of the Ripose technique
Ripose	A general-purpose series of modeling techniques designed to specify, visualize, construct and document the artifacts of a business from an idea to the detailed logic. It is an acronym for 'Rapid information processing oriented systems environment'. Ripose rapidly integrates patterns of strategic elements
Run time	Provides the capability of executing an application on a number of platforms
Subject area	A grouping of 'Facets'. Also called system
System	A group of operational activities to support a business function
	A name given to a grouping of applications
Topology	A high level abstraction giving insight into the detail
Web-up	Addresses applications that run in an application called a 'browser' and accesses data bases

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Identification

General

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