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EA propositions



I am still trying my hardest to get my mind around what Enterprise Architecture is all about and whether the 900+ frameworks are a boon or a hindrance.

I think I now have a way of relieving my dilemma, but it will require an enterprise architect using an Enterprise Architecture framework to enlighten me. I will start off by asking 2 questions and offering 3 propositions for an ea to answer.

Question 1 – What is EA?

Proposition 1

An enterprise architecture (EA) is a conceptual blueprint that defines the structure and operation of an organization.

Proposition 2

The intent of an EA is to determine how an organization can most effectively achieve its current and future objectives.

Proposition 3

An enterprise architect's (ea) prime purpose is to deliver this blueprint.

I have constructed a 'truth table' to help guide your selection of answers as to whether you agree or disagree with the 3 propositions:

Your answers

Proposition 1	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
Proposition 2	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	N
Proposition 3	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
State your definition					√	√	√	√
Clarify the intent of EA			√	√			√	√
What should an ea do?		√		√		√		√
Continue to question 2	√							

If you disagree with the first proposition, then I would be interested to know what your definition of EA is.

Question 2 – Does your framework fully support EA as proposed in Q1?

Proposition 1

The framework produces a conceptual blueprint that defines the structure and operation of an organization.

Proposition 2

The framework starts by supporting the ea to determine how an organization can most effectively achieve its current and future objectives.

Proposition 3

The objectives declare what the enterprise delivers to its stakeholders via its purpose statement, benefits supporting the stated purpose, value propositions of said benefits and the worth of said values.

The following ‘truth table’ should help you decide as to whether you agree or disagree with the 3 propositions:

Your answers

Proposition 1	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
Proposition 2	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	N
Proposition 3	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
Framework at odds with EA prime directive					√	√	√	√
Framework at odds with EA prime intent			√	√			√	√
Framework unclear about the word 'objectives'		√		√		√		√
Framework fully supports EA propositions	√							

If your framework fully supports question 1’s 3 propositions then you should be able to span the business-IT gap without much difficulty and congratulations are in order. Perhaps you could enlighten me as to which framework you use and how quickly it achieves the result of delivering the strategic plan and how the IT solutions fully support the plan.

Thank you for your time and patience.

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