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The ideal enterprise

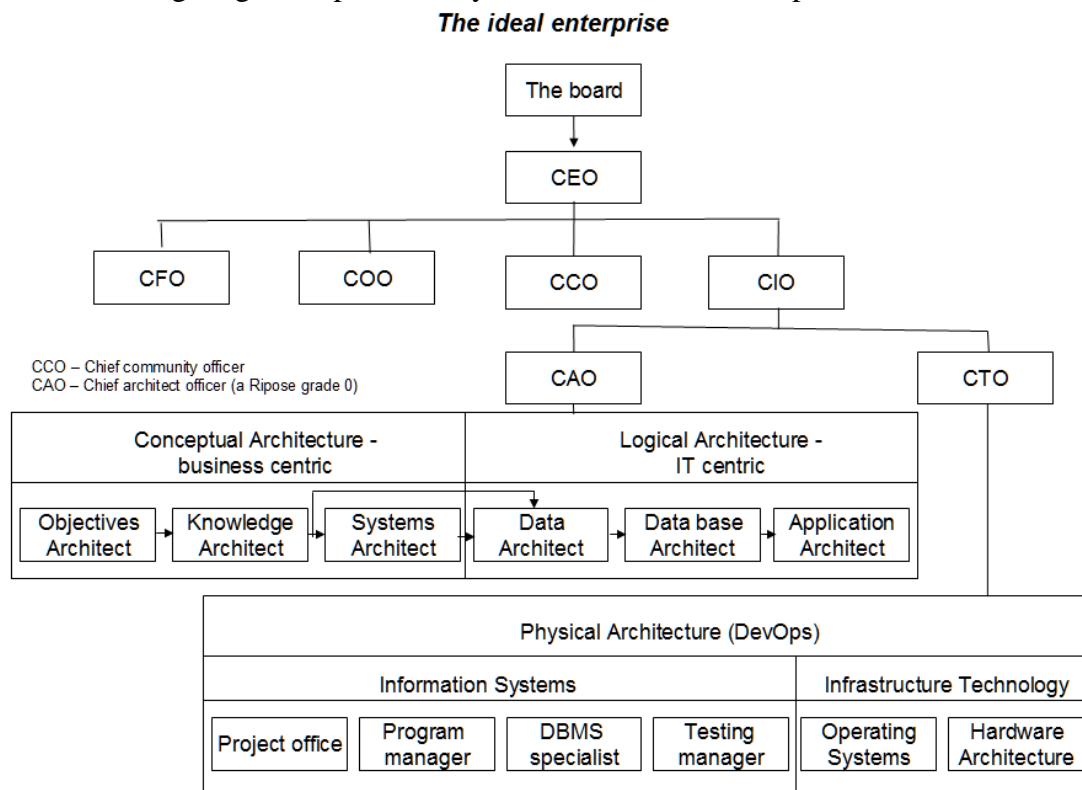


Preamble

Dateline 24 Oct 2015. In 9 months from now (24 July 2016) this body of mine will reach the 3 score and 10 years age mentioned in Psalms 90: “The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years”. Then again when back in those days, 70 years was the equivalent of 58 of ours. I have probably got another 5 – 8 years to complete my marketing endeavors before I finally decide to bring down the curtain on my enterprise: Ripose Pty Limited; web sites: ripose.com, ripose.org and; my offerings: the Ripose Technique, Caspar, iCaspar and Prysms.

If enterprise architects, Enterprise Architecture and the 900+ frameworks ever manage to overcome the problems that face not only them, but business as a whole and manage to somehow bridge the business-IT gap, I for one will be very surprised.

The following diagram represents my view of the ‘ideal enterprise’:



To fully understand the CAO role please read my article called [‘Big info’](#).

What happened to the enterprise architect?

After all the discussions and comments on the subject of enterprise architects, what they are, what they do and the 900+ Enterprise Architecture frameworks, I have come to the following conclusion.

I admit my viewpoint will always look odd to most enterprise architects as they all come from diverse backgrounds:

- The ***IT centric data driven ea*** will assert that the organisation has to have a conceptual 'data' model as they are well versed in normalisation techniques in spite of the fact that I have proven Ted Codd to have missed 3 more normal forms. They try to teach business operatives how to 'normalise' data and numb their brains with ambiguities, irrelevancies and often poorly normalized data models. This has given rise to 'Big data' and the whole data mining fiasco leading to 'silos falling into sinkholes'
- The ***IT centric process driven ea*** will assert that DevOps is the way to go as they are used to rapid iterative prototyping techniques which designs data stores on the fly and burn out business operative by seemingly endless system testing and data migration issues. I call this 'a death by a thousand cuts'
- The ***business centric objectives driven ea*** will assert that their understanding of goals, aims, visions, objectives, KPIs, perspectives and SWOT, is the way to start the ball rolling and then hold endless brain storming sessions which numb the brains of business operatives. They fill up white boards with endless lists of words and after each session try to define the terms and often miss the redundant and overlapping ones. I call this 'paralysis by analysis'
- The ***business centric strategy driven ea*** will assert that no business can operate without systems as they are used to drawing endless data flow diagrams trying to architect the nature of a strategy. They also pour over current systems to lay the foundation for future strategies and then hold countless brain storming sessions with business operatives to try to elicit new strategies and tactics. They often miss the ambiguities between strategy and tactic as well as redundancies and overlaps. They then pass on these strategies to the business centric objectives ea to 'flesh out' the business objectives. More 'paralysis by analysis'
- The ***business centric knowledge driven ea*** will assert that story telling is a great way to uncover hidden and tacit knowledge as they are well versed in watching science fiction, comedies and romantic movies not to mention soap operas. They will hold endless story telling sessions to try to stimulate the brains of the business operative into revealing their knowledge and then pass these stories on to whichever ea the feel has the best chance of making sense of the 'mumbo jumbo' or 'blather'
- The ***business-IT centric driven ea*** will assert that project planning is the way forward as they too are well versed with data flow diagrams. They seem to miss the point that they really need a high level program plan but as the business centric strategy driven ea is too busy brain storming what systems the business needs, these eas fill in the gaps by creating and obtaining funding for their own projects

Mix and match these eas and it is no wonder there are now 900+ EA frameworks and that EA is broken, as they are all talking at crossed purposes and all have their own agenda.

Do I have an agenda? Of course I have, however caveat, please read my preamble.

My cartoon:



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