

SOA - Service Oriented Architecture Governance Best Practices

What is SOA Governance?

- Compliance to standards or laws
- Change management
- Ensuring quality of services
- Managing the portfolio of services
- Managing the service lifecycle
- Using policies to restrict behavior
- Monitoring performance of services

The SOA Governance issue

- Governance appearing as SOA initiatives
- Creating a more dynamic environment for services to interact
- Encouraging the reuse of services
- Controlling how services interact with each other
- The long-term ROI and manageability

Governance questions

- Where they start on the governance ladder?
- Governance as core feature of any SOA initiative
- Establishing a timeline
- Personnel training and operational procedures
- Putting skills and procedures in place well ahead

SOA Governance Stages

- First: realization that governance is needed
- Second: governance improving business execution
- Third: mixing technology & changes in behavior
- Fourth: technology selection & implementation

Service Management

- Design-time perspective
- Run-time perspective
- Repository of service for reuse
- Services contained in heterogeneous platforms
- Service-virtualization for run-time management of services

Critical governance components

- Service registry service and an asset repository
- Creating a "SOA Centre of Excellence"
- Focusing on establishing SOA organizational guidelines
- The organizational maturity
- Agreed governance policies

SOA Governance tools

- Real time monitoring of events
- Failures in a BSM framework
- Service-level instrumentation
- Hooking into operational management systems
- Virtualization as enabler to separate governance from service logic
- Service virtualization allowing governance to be managed by operational staff

Achieving governance

- Measuring the goals for governance
- The internal audit
- Automating the audit

Developing core SOA governance

- Why SOA technology stack has grown complex
- Mixing between COTS & in-house
- Justifying external consultants to help out
- Figuring out which business we are really in

Roles and responsibilities involved in SOA Governance

- Establishing a SOA Centre of Excellence
- Enterprise-wide planning and assistance in execution
- Separating the roles of the SOA architect and the governance architect
- Solving potential conflicting interests
- Ensure that governance guidelines are followed

Barriers to SOA governance

- Not realizing the need for governance
- Lack of Governance technologies
- Lack of Service virtualizations

State of good governance

- Interaction with external parties
- Managing the business rules and BRE mgmt
- Regulations for good governance
- The agreements repository
- Proactively embedding governance in the business
- Governance by action rather than by statement
- SLA monitoring to establish premium prices

Critical success factors

- Start thinking about governance early
- View governance as a moving target
- Manage policies as entities with their own lifecycles
- Choose a technology platform
- The platform should address immediate governance needs
- Future support as SOA infrastructure scales
- Enforce service level agreements

Service virtualization

- External configuration of encryption & routing
- Authentication and schema validation
- Transferring control from programmers to operational staff
- Alleviating many of the SOA core pains
- Avoiding services with internal policies
- Technology and deployment neutral services

The 'dark path' in SOA

- What if the service produces non-compliant data
- Logging, tracking and auditing
- Halting erroneous operations as they occur
- Involving corrective business processes

Final thoughts and Conclusions

- Greatest challenges with SOA
- Critical aspects of SOA governance
- Service reuse as a key benefit of SOA
- The governance of reuse
- Visibility, risk and control