

IBM PLM Enterprise Integration executive quick assessment

IBM Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) Enterprise Integration (EI) is a set of practices, enabling technologies and advanced usage practices designed to facilitate true business transformation.

Successful business transformation can benefit many areas of an organisation. As a result, it is essential that a company's executives are educated on the business and financial potential of such change to fuel a company's commitment to a transformational roadmap, partnered with IBM.

The **El Executive quick assessment** is designed to develop a clear understanding of the key issues pointing to the value of enterprise integration to improve business performance. Eight functional best practices have been identified as indicators of potential success with an integration effort. Consideration of current and hoped for maturity levels in performance of each practice gives a snapshot of areas for deeper consideration during a **capability and needs assessment workshop**.

The complete assessment process provides several additional steps to:

- Explore the vision and business value of Enterprise Integration
- Provide insights into the business justification and roadmap for implementation
- Shows clear linkage between business drivers and enablers to support enhanced business performance
- Capability and needs assessment allows estimation of the company's abilities against a benchmark database.

Customised executive and focused workshops

IBM PLM EI workshops provide flexible, modular and customisable sessions focused on a company's unique requirements. Workshops last between one and eight hours. An EI workshop agenda opens with a focus on the industry trends and concerns directly impacting the collaborative integration strategy within a specific company.

Each workshop is designed to ensure that the key business drivers are tied to key business enablers that can address these drivers.

Benchmarking success

The IBM PLM Executive quick assessment uses a tested benchmarking framework as the background for an executive team to quickly estimate its company's abilities against key El functional practices.

Overview of modules

IBM PLM EI workshop modules include:

1. Industry snapshot

This module is designed to highlight the industry trends relevant to a specific executive audience, exposing key business challenges and the required responses. The initial focus is on macro-level business concerns. These are filtered down to the company's operational concerns to provide a link to the technology enabled transformational discussions.

2. Enterprise integration vision

Enterprise integration solution case studies go beyond efficiency gains arising from localised task automation, and the replacement of serial processes with concurrent activities. Task accelerations are accomplished through new modules and expansion of the personal productivity tool base. Process concurrencies are achieved by eliminating dependencies between work task outputs through stricter data and workflow management techniques.

3. Enterprise integration business value

IBM has developed a cost and benefit model to illustrate the primary technology-enabling building blocks that work together to deliver EI. This module focuses on the transition from transformational to technology enablers, revealing the unique nature of the EI architectural vision, and building the case for a new technology paradigm. For each benefit, a use and business value will be revealed. There will also be a discussion of the synergy generated by the implementation across the extended enterprise.

4. El roadmap

This module covers the steps required to achieve the transformational changes described in the previous modules. It will reveal a unique approach to meeting a company's specific business-driven requirements, and is configured to realise holistic advances against key El functional building blocks. There will also be a discussion of IBM Service Oriented Architecture (SOA) methods.

For more information

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The matrix below lists the best practice areas contributing to Enterprise Integration success. The first step in making improvements is to identify your current and desired levels of performance. To do this, consider each of the eight areas and mark on the five step maturity scale your current level, and where you envision your ideal performance should be. With this starting point, the IBM Enterprise Integration team can help you find ways to address, in more detail, the needed steps for improvement.

Enterprise Integration functional best practices	Maturity level 1 (Ad hoc) Individual centred	Maturity level 2 (Defined) Independent silos	Maturity level 3 (Repeatable) Sharing between interfaced functions	Maturity level 4 (Managed) Integrated company teams	Maturity level 5 (Optimised) Extended seamless collaboration
Program management Integrate business and program management across the enterprise	Non-standard program plans are focused on specific local requirements	Programs are managed with a standardised plans for local resources	Programs are managed with a structured plans but status is not globally communicated	Structured planning is widely communicated for sharing resources on multiple programs	Formal strategic planning is consistently deployed across the extended enterprise
Business performance management Measure and manage the value added by business processes	Individuals have no awareness of process value	There is intuitive, but unquantified recognition of process value	Some monitoring supports recognition of process value	Decisions are made based on recognition of measured process results	There is broad recognition of measured results to optimise customer and enterprise process value
Product innovation and management Manage products and their configuration throughout their lifecycle concept to service	Product data referenced from isolated parts lists with limited change control	Product data is in multiple manually linked part lists with limited change control	Disciplined management of selected shared product configuration data exists for geometry and parts lists	Integrated product configuration management supports the complete product development process with digital mock-up capability	Integrated configuration management is implemented across the complete lifecycle addressing all products, processes and resources
Collaborative workplace Use shared tools to aid Collaboration between all internal functions	Isolated local information is focused on individual requirements	Shared information is made available upon request	There is active real-time sharing of organised information	Processes are integrated for reconciliation of appropriately shared information	Integrated proactive processes provide appropriate information automatically
Extended enterprise collaboration Extend a shared environment for collaboration to include customers and suppliers	Localised use of information without awareness of external impacts	Linkages access external data on a unilateral invalidated basis	Functional areas are fully interfaced for receiving and sharing data	Integrated recognition of cooperative co-dependence on mutual operations	Integrated interdependence is well established across the extended enterprise
Information integration Use shared data resources as a master reference for all enterprise management activities	Multiple digital data references exist but none is the master across the enterprise	Some shared data resources exist for specific teams	Individual data sets are interfaced for conversion for specific users	Single digital master data set is shared for all inter-team communication	An integrated enterprise data master for all lifecycle stages exists
Enterprise technological environment Optimise the IT Infrastructure and Systems	Individual IT programs are randomly budgeted	IT resources are locally budgeted for specific projects	Multiple IT resources are aligned across critical business requirements	A company wide IT management strategy is implemented	IT resources are optimised to align with a long-term strategic business vision
Service Oriented Architecture Optimise applications for easy implementation and operational interaction	Applications adopted by individual functions without considering impact on others	Applications are locally linked without considering impact outside of immediate area	Related departments share applications and specific protocols for data and interactions	All local applications fit a common protocol for data and interactions	All enterprise applications fit a common protocol for data and interactions.

Return your marked matrix to an IBM representative, so they can help you further.



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