

[illegible]

- **Business Challenge:** SOA business models fail because of inadequate governance, a misalignment with the business, and an inability to deliver effective IT systems that leverage the SOA.
- **Solution:** Timely process guidance, proper tooling from IBM and WebLayers, and marketplace-leading SOA expertise enable organizations to succeed in their initial SOA endeavors.
- **Business Benefit:** Clients are likely to see one or more of the following: improved ability to respond to marketplace opportunities and competitive pressures; freed IT budget dollars that can be invested in new initiatives; extensions in the useful lifetimes of existing IT assets; reduced confusion regarding responsibilities for building and maintaining the IT infrastructure; and reduced rework of services due to continuous compliance feedback.

To support rapid business change and increase the efficiency of IT, organizations are moving to service-oriented architectures (SOAs). Unfortunately, many SOA initiatives deliver substantially less benefit than they're capable of providing. We've observed that many organizations fall short of their SOA objectives as a result of one or more of the following four issues:

- **Ineffective reuse of legacy assets.** *Blind service enablement of existing assets can result in a pile of services that don't quite fit business needs, and their maintenance can tie up IT resources. At the other extreme, creating new functionality that duplicates existing capabilities wastes development and maintenance resources.*
- **Misalignment between the business and IT services.** *The ability to create IT systems that map cleanly to business functions and processes—where it is easy to identify what needs to change in response to changes in the business—is one of the most appealing aspects of SOA. Poorly executing a business-driven approach to SOA eliminates this major SOA benefit.*

- **Inattention to architecture—of the SOA and of the underlying IT implementations.** *Creating an SOA that aligns well with business functions and satisfies functional requirements is not always enough. Inattention to fundamental IT architectural considerations can threaten your ability to address performance, scalability, reliability and other non-functional requirements that are critical to mission success. Poor specification of the SOA layer itself can introduce interservice dependencies that make it more difficult to reconfigure the services in response to business changes.*

But what if you could ensure that your SOA initiatives address real business needs? What if you could effectively architect your SOA systems and assess which of your existing assets are strong candidates for reuse in an SOA environment? What if you could govern your SOA initiatives effectively? Organizations that do these things well typically succeed in their move to SOA. Organizations that don't, commonly struggle.

Accelerating SOA results with IBM and WebLayers

The SOA governance and design accelerator from IBM addresses the above four success inhibitors by developing a best-fit design and governance solution that can help you get the most from your SOA. The accelerator combines process guidance, best practices and tooling from IBM with a governance platform from WebLayers, a trusted IBM Business Partner and independent software vendor. By using the joint solution, your organization can succeed in your initial SOA endeavors and fix those that have not provided sufficient return.

The accelerator begins with an SOA health assessment that identifies where your strengths are with respect to your targeted SOA critical success factors, and where your areas of opportunities lie. The IBM team then works with you to determine what combination of best practices, automated tooling and staff enablement can add the most value to your organization within your budget.

The process components of the accelerator offering leverage industry-leading SOA best practices, including the IBM SOA Governance and Management Method and the IBM Rational® Unified Process® for Service-Oriented Modeling and Architecture. Using these practices as a guiding framework, IBM defines the processes your organization can implement to address the targeted areas for improvement (for example, governance, service maintenance, business-IT alignment, SOA and IT architecture).

The tooling component of the solution includes industry-leading IBM and WebLayers products that can be used to automate best practices. Many of these tools are included in the requirements definition and management, architecture management, enterprise modernization and asset management families from IBM. From WebLayers, organizations can benefit from the WebLayers Center product, which provides governance around policy management and offers one of the largest collections of industry-proven policies, including extensions for industry standards.

Professional services delivery staff from IBM and WebLayers work with you to ensure that the accelerator products are properly implemented within your IT environment. While helping to configure and customize the products to automate your specific best practices, the IBM and WebLayers team trains your staff to build initial skills and then mentors them through real-world projects to develop deeper skills, quickly.

Optimizing your IT investments to drive business goals

Once the accelerator engagement is completed, your organization will have implemented an IT environment and staff capabilities that can help you improve the areas that had been inhibiting your SOA success. If your organization addresses these problem areas, it has a better chance of increasing business agility, enhancing efficiency and avoiding the starts and stops commonly experienced in the transformation to SOA.

Transforming your business through IBM Rational solutions

The IBM Rational software brand, in concert with IBM Business Partner WebLayers, has been transforming the way clients develop and deliver software—helping them become more competitive, more effective, more nimble and more profitable, while mitigating risk. If your current SOA effort is not as successful as you had anticipated—or if you have tried, failed and want to try again—the SOA governance and design accelerator from IBM can help you reduce risks, achieve results more quickly and realize more substantial results.

For more information

To learn more about the SOA governance and design accelerator from IBM, contact your IBM sales representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit:

ibm.com/rational

The accelerator engagement approach

- *An initial SOA health assessment helps determine existing SOA success and identify opportunities for improvement.*
- *An optional governance assessment can determine risk based on industry-proven best practices and policies.*
- *A custom solution is designed that best enables your organization to address the common SOA start-up pain points.*
- *The required SOA best practices are defined.*
- *The appropriate tooling is implemented and customized to automate the best practices.*
- *Staff training and mentoring is conducted to help your team independently use the best practices and supporting tools.*



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