

IBM Rational System Architect gives RTA Dubai a roadmap to EA success.

Overview

■ **Challenge**

RTA Dubai needed a flexible system to define, manage and analyze enterprise artifacts in the organization's enterprise architecture (EA) practice.

■ **Solution**

IBM Rational System Architect software is deployed as it is a highly flexible EA solution to model strategy, process, business goals, and more against RTA Dubai's end goals.

■ **Key Benefit**

With System Architect, RTA Dubai improves the integration of business, process, performance analysis, and planning.



"Safe and smooth transport for all" is the mission for The Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) of Dubai. In 2006, RTA Dubai introduced enterprise architecture (EA) as an enterprise development practice to support its expansion plans. In order to succeed with EA, management needed a flexible system to define, manage and analyze all relevant enterprise artifacts, including those related to strategy and technology.

"To facilitate the introduction of EA, we needed to manage our artifacts by modeling them, since they had a lot of

information," said Stephane Niango, Enterprise Architect, RTA Dubai. "At the strategic level, we didn't understand everything we had, so it was vital that we analyzed the different situations we were working with."

The organization required a highly flexible solution that could support any EA framework with business process management (BPM). After evaluating several suppliers, RTA Dubai chose IBM® Rational® System Architect® software.

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Flexibility for the road ahead

“Rational System Architect offers the most complete solution, with integration capabilities for EA, BPA and SOA,” Niango said. “System Architect can model strategy, process, business goals and business process, and it has the most flexibility to deliver against our end goals.”

The Rational System Architect solution went live at the RTA Dubai headquarters in Dubai in May 2007. IBM Rational Professional Services teams worked closely with alliance partner Shift Technologies, based in Dubai, on implementation and training. IBM Rational Professional Services also supported RTA Dubai as they developed their own customized EA framework and associated meta-model. Four enterprise analysts and 15 process analysts are using System Architect software on the EA project. However, 3,000 users access System Architect software through the organization's Web portal.

“System Architect is a very flexible and highly customizable product,” Niango said. “It was the best solution to fit our EA framework development.”

Because Rational System Architect software enhances communication, architects are able to control RTA Dubai's solution development and implementation process. The organization plans to map its software development life cycle (SDLC) processes into System Architect software in order to define compliance and checkpoints for all work/products throughout the life cycle. The control and business insight provided by the System Architect solution supports the organization's efforts to achieve DGEP (Dubai Government Excellency Programme). In addition, the IT department will rely on System Architect software as RTA Dubai strives to achieve CoBIT, ISO 20000 and ITIL.

On a daily basis, RTA Dubai uses Rational System Architect software to manage and analyze enterprise artifacts for the purposes of change and governance throughout the organization. Enterprise architects maintain a meta-model managing relationship among enterprise components. Current relationships are compared with desired changes on a “change and compliance roadmap” created in the solution. All relevant components are then modeled back into the repository of artifacts where architects and developers can access them.

“RTA IT PMO led by Mr. Suhail Al Ashkar (Performance Excellence Manager) is currently working towards establishing a project governance structure to ensure all IT initiatives feedback into the SA repository — this will increase the consistency and timeliness of content required for meaningful IT planning and analysis,” said Niango.

All relationships within RTA Dubai are controlled within one application, IBM Rational System Architect, from process to final service. Constant communication and feedback from users ensures that decision-making is based on accurate and timely information.

“System Architect is not used as just another IT repository for infrastructure and application,” Niango said. “As an enterprise solution, System Architect is used by decision makers in our strategic planning, business processes and performance management departments.”

The benefits

By modeling change with IBM Rational System Architect software within its EA framework, RTA Dubai has increased productivity since the information is readily available through the Web. In addition, System Architect has helped enhance communication throughout RTA Dubai, resulting in more efficient processes for “change roadmap” planning.

Other benefits achieved by RTA Dubai include:

- *Integration of business, process, performance analysis and planning*
- *Better understanding of business integration and interdependencies*
- *Ability to integrate BPM projects with SOA projects*
- *Improved quality impact analysis*
- *Ability to “road map” in one solution*

For more information

To learn more about IBM Rational System Architect software, contact your IBM representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit:

ibm.com/software/rational

“System Architect is more than just an IT solution; it is a business solution.”

— Stephane Niango
Enterprise Architect
RTA Dubai



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Software Group
Route 100
Somers, NY 10589
U.S.A.

Produced in the United States of America
June 2009
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