IBM_SOA_Governance_D_Oct08

Chapter 1 - Intro

Captain: Captain's memo: SOAdate 2007.4

We're on a remarkable journey -- to go where <u>many enterprises</u> want to go. We need to get to a Service Oriented Architecture, or SOA.

Make no mistake; the SOA journey is well worth the effort. But there are challenges. To minimize risk, companies need outstanding governance; like establishing decision rights, and monitoring activities. That's where I come in. I'm the captain of this voyage, and I'll be your guide.

There are <u>many</u> aspects to implementing sound SOA Governance, covering people, information, and everything in between. But every business has to start somewhere, and that's what this episode is all about – "Getting Started with SOA Governance."

So if you're ready, let's take this trek together. Lieutenant, warp speed!

Chapter 2 – SOA Governance Method

Lieutenant: We're approaching an object, sir!

Captain: Take us closer.

Lieutenant: Sir, it's a diagram. Should I bring it on board?

Captain: No, just lock our sensors onto it. Extraordinary!

Lieutenant: What is it, sir?

Captain: It's an IBM marketing artifact from early 2005, from the planet Earth. It speaks to Service Lifecycle Management. It was a great illustration for its time, but this early version lacked just a little something.

Lieutenant: Look sir, something's happening!

Captain: Easy Lieutenant, the notion is just expanding. See, <u>there's</u> the missing concept.

SOA emphasizes service reuse, and the loose coupling and cross-organization discovery and usage of services. So governance must become more flexible and automated.

Indeed, with SOA Governance, there are best practice methodologies that can help ensure success.

Lieutenant: But sir, how <u>do</u> companies get started? Oh look, captain... it's transforming!

Captain: <u>There's</u> your answer. IBM has made it easier, by sharing their expertise and best practices, and with specialized software for customizing methods, managing and tracking service development, and establishing a services registry and repository

That's how we established our <u>own</u> governance methods. Want to see how? Set the "Way Back" monitor to planet Earth, late 2006. Image on!

Chapter 3 – Methodology and RMC

Captain: IBM has a published methodology called the SOA Governance and Management Method -- a generalized, best practices approach -- gleaned from more than 3.000 SOA engagements.

The methodology is available as a plug-in to their market-leading method composition tooling. So we had an easy-to-use framework to begin establishing our own SOA governance environment.

See, no two organizations are exactly the same. A one-size-fits-all governance plan can yield sub-optimal results.

This platform supports a more <u>logical</u> approach to developing governance plans, and consists of an Eclipse-based method authoring and publishing tool, and multiple process content libraries.

We simply tweaked the roles, decision rights, and other elements within the best practice templates, and eventually published a unique set of governance processes, practices, and guidance that were "right" for us.

Chapter 4 – RPM

Captain: Having customized our SOA governance methods, we were ready to <u>implement</u> them.

We imported our methods into IBM tooling that helps <u>manage</u> and <u>track</u> service <u>portfolios.</u> The integrated, template-based approach makes bridging the gap between design and management, easy and efficient.

Now, good SOA Governance requires services to be controlled throughout <u>Services Lifecycle Management</u>. And with SOA, services can traverse the Lifecycle again and again as they are modified and reused.

The tooling helped us implement the appropriate controls and tracking, within the individual phases of the Governance process,...

... guiding us through essential tasks. Like setting up measurement dashboards; and mapping resources to roles.

But to manage everything effectively, we also needed a central location to discover services.

Chapter 5 - WSRR

Captain: Just like we need a place to store the artifacts we collect on our journeys, our SOA needed a place to store information about services.

IBM's registry and repository software filled that need.

Stored information includes governance policies and related artifacts pertaining to registered services, the monitoring results of deployed services, and even the actual services themselves.

Whenever someone needs a service, they first check the registry to see if the service exists. If it is discovered to exist, an assessment of associated governance rules will make it clear how it may be reused.

Just as we control activity from our ship's bridge, the registry can control service actions.

With a centralized location to look for services and related information, the opportunity to realize a successful journey to SOA is truly within reach.

Speaking of which, we need to get on with our journey. Lieutenant, power down the Way-Back monitor!

Chapter 6. Summary and wrap-up

Captain: Let's face it. Navigating through tricky and uncharted territory requires mitigating risk. Good governance mitigates risk, and can increase business flexibility and reduce time-to-market.

Governance is all about taking control of your business. By leveraging methods, professional services, and software from IBM, you can establish decision rights and monitor key activities, and take control of your own SOA journey.

Warp speed, Lieutenant!

Lieutenant: We're being held back sir... it's the forces of indecision and uncertainty!

Captain: Give it more power!

Lieutenant: We're giving it all we've got sir!

Captain: Don't let uncertainty about governance throttle your journey to SOA. Use IBM methods and software to jump start the process.

Lieutenant: We're breaking away sir!

Captain: You've seen the video. Now to learn more, just click on the link.