

SOA Project Artifact Checklist

Business Case

Identifies the core business issues that the SOA initiative should address. Identifies pain points that stakeholders are willing and able to invest in to relieve. The Business Case is iterative, and should be expected to evolve both as existing pain points become resolved and as new ones emerge.

Culture Assessment

Accounts for the business environment for the SOA initiative, including political, cultural, bureaucratic, and funding issues and limitations.

Support Assessment

Analyzes the levels of support for the SOA initiative, including identifying champions, areas of conflict, levels of skepticism, and potential organizational roadblocks.

SOA ROI Assessment

Takes as input the Business Case, Culture Assessment and Support Assessment. Defines the return on investment for either a full SOA initiative or a single iteration of the initiative. Focuses on specific business benefits as outlined in the Business Case.

Governance Framework

For a given project or iteration, includes the answers to the following questions:

- Which policies are within scope?
- Who is responsible for creating policies?
- Which policies are automatable?
- How will policies be created and communicated?
- How will policies be represented?
- How will policies be discovered?
- What tools will people use to follow policies?
- How will management get visibility into policy compliance?
- How will mitigation issues be addressed?

Service Policy Definitions

Definitions of functional and non-functional requirements and policies at a range of different levels that would apply to any number of Service contracts or interactions between individuals and Services. Artifact specifies the business rules and considerations for security, commercial, transactional, business, process, semantic, behavioral, Service-level, Quality of Service, and other policies. Artifact created using a policy inventory approach.

SOA Roadmap

Outlines specific steps across multiple timelines on specific actions to take in SOA projects. Can cover infrastructure, architecture, organization, funding, governance, Service scope, and other aspects of the SOA initiative.

Milestone & KPI Plan

A detailed plan that addresses how the SOA initiative will map to the specific business outcomes in the Business Case. Includes key milestones and how the organization will measure the progress of the SOA initiative against those milestones. Also sketches out the primary iterations for the SOA initiative.

SOA Infrastructure Plan

An implementation plan that enables the IT organization to be able to develop, execute, compose, manage, secure, and govern Services. Provides guidance and evaluation of technology components and infrastructure necessary to implement the Services.

SOA Project Plan

The tasks that make up one or more iterations of a project, along with the resources needed to complete those tasks, arranged in chronological order, delineating any dependencies.

Semantic Model

A list of all application semantics that exist within the current project or iteration, allowing for dealing with those semantics as metadata. Leverages a data abstraction layer based on metadata that provides a logical understanding of complex data. Establishes the form of properties of the business process the particular application refers to, and eliminates contradictory information when the application is integrated or composed with other applications.

Service Model

A representation of the Services in production as well as requirements for new or changed Services. Binds Service metadata to the Services. To populate the Service Model, it's important to validate assumptions about Services, including where their implementations are located, their purpose, information bound to each Service, dependencies (e.g., if it's a composite Service), access mechanisms, and security issues.

Physical & Logical Data Models

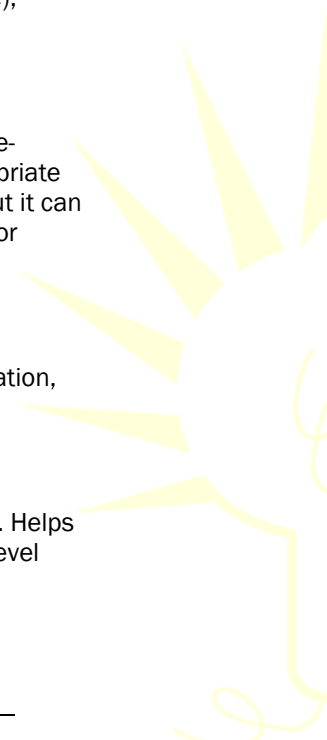
SOA-specific representations of the data to be bound to Services, often collected by reverse-engineering existing physical and logical database schemas, which can help identify appropriate data. The schema and database model may give insight into the structure of databases, but it can be difficult to determine how that information is used within the context of the application or Service from the data models themselves.

Service Contract Template

An internal standard representation of the contents of Service contracts across an organization, when WSDL files are insufficient to specify the requirements for the contracts.

Process Model

A list all business processes within the current project or iteration, either automated or not. Helps define higher level mechanisms for interaction, including all high-level, mid-level, and low-level processes. Such processes have yet to become automated or are only partially automated.



Service Domain Model

A representation of Service domains, which are logical groupings of shared Services with a common business context. Also includes a plan for managing Service domains with teams dedicated to that purpose, moving the organization away from traditional IT silos for the purposes of managing Services, while leveraging technical teams as needed.

Governance/Security Model

Supports the creation and enforcement of policies around the use of Services. Binds security down to underlying implementation, often via a federated security model.

Agility Model

A “heat map” that helps to determine the desired agility/cost balance for each of seven agility attributes, including implementation, infrastructure, contract, policy, process, schema, and semantic variability. These attributes represent agility goals for the organization, which should measure for each set of Services, processes, and projects the actual agility against set plans.

SOA Center of Excellence (CoE) Structure

An organizational planning document that guides the structure, set up, and operation of a SOA Center of Excellence (CoE) including roles, responsibilities, funding, authority, and chains of command.

Test Plan

A document describing the scope, approach, resources, and schedule of intended testing activities. It identifies test items, the features to be tested, the testing tasks, who will do each task, and any risks requiring contingency planning. It also provides release criteria for the system under test. The SOA Test Plan should cover major SOA testing domains, including Service level testing, security level testing, composition level testing, governance level testing, and integration level testing. The Test Plan should reflect requirements of your project, allowing for special needs such as more emphasis on performance and security.

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