

# 6 Business-Centric Reports That Empower Enterprise Architects

Speak the language of the business and drive business transformation



#### Communicate to Accelerate Change

In today's business environment, technology is increasingly complex and rapidly changing. Organizations need to reign in this complexity and mitigate risks in order to transform their business.

Enterprise Architecture (EA) professionals are ideally positioned to do just this. But most enterprise architects are buried within IT and all too often, the business leader sidesteps IT and goes rogue. Why?

The problem is clear. Business stakeholders and IT often speak different languages. While EAs tend to speak in technical detail, the business needs to understand business outcomes. Failing to hear about outcomes for too long, the business leaders stop listening.

#### Be Heard - and Be Understood

In this digital age, the fact is that new models are driving demand for technology in the enterprise, and now is the time for enterprise architects to demonstrate the depth and breadth of their expertise.

They need a simple but powerful way to show executives how what they do supports business transformation.

For EA leaders ready to speak in business outcomes and engage stakeholders across the enterprise in a new conversation: Planview<sup>®</sup> Enterprise One - Capability Technology Management is your solution.

#### The Experts Agree

Enterprise Architect pros are in position to guide their companies to transformative success – but first, they must make some changes to how they operate.

Gartner forecasts that "by 2018, 40% of EA teams will drive the ideation process for digital business innovations." 1

Forrester states that "to succeed, (EA professionals) must execute on a business technology agenda focused on delivering superior customer experience..."<sup>2</sup>

This is why Gartner adds: "EA leaders must develop the skills necessary to communicate what EA can bring to the table and how to do so, and to fully align with business strategies."



### Speak the Language They Understand

You manage robust portfolios of applications, technologies, capabilities, and much more, spanning and supporting the enterprise. You know how they all interact, what the strengths and deficits are, and can recommend which gaps should be filled next, when, why, and for how much.

But to paraphrase the old saying: it's not what you say, but how you say it.

That's why Planview Enterprise One - Capability Technology Management emphasizes capability mapping and produces out-of-the-box reports that visually map technology clearly to business needs, outcomes, and objectives.

#### Why Capability Mapping?

Because business stakeholders don't care about the underlying technology. They want to know what business capabilities those technologies affect and how that will improve business outcomes.

Planview helps you demonstrate the contextual relationships between your applications, their technology components, and the business value delivered to reduce cost, manage risk, create business opportunities, and ultimately, drive business transformation.

## **Set Yourself Up for Continued Success**

Forrester describes4 winning EA leaders as those who help their businesses transform by:

- Translating business strategies into actionable change plans
- Engaging with the business and its initiatives to speed results
- Guiding digital transformation

They do this by broadening their digital expertise and increasing their business communications skills.

This creates an impact felt across the enterprise, and into the bottom line.

Successful EA leaders know: "Have business conversations about technology, not technology conversations about the business."



Planview Enterprise One - Capability Technology Management delivers more than 150 out-of-the-box reports and visualizations that will help you speak about technology issues in terms your business stakeholders understand.

Let's take a look at six common technology issues and the reports that help visualize business impacts and outcomes.

- 1. Technical Debt: "Which business capabilities carry the most technical debt and how should that impact prioritization?"
- 2. Application Waste: "Which capabilities have redundant applications and systems, and what is it costing us?"
- 3. Application Lifecycle Planning: "What is the roadmap of system enhancements, and when will they deliver?"
- 4. IT Helping Grow the Business: "Can you show me real-time assessments of capability assessments important to the business?"
- 5. IT / Business Strategic Alignment: "What are our most strategic capabilities that help us achieve our corporate goals?"
- 6. Investing in the Right Technology Projects: "How will future IT investments impact business capabilities?"

See these in reports with a personalized demo at **Planview.info/EADemo** 



## Report #1: Technical Debt



Just like your business colleagues, you have limited resources within IT. You can't do all the work you want to do, you have to make choices and tradeoffs. What will guide your choices? The loudest voice – or objective facts?

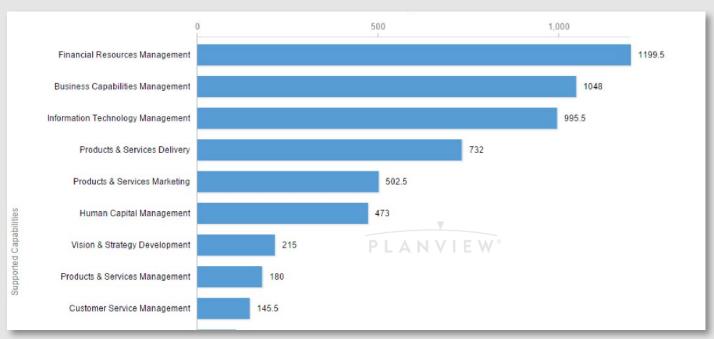
Planview helps you make better decisions by connecting the dots between your technology portfolio and the business capabilities they provide; then automatically rolling up and displaying technology attributes (e.g. end-of-life as if they were attributes of the business capability.

- Use views like this to justify priority recommendations and help the business make better decisions about how they consume IT resources.
- Illustrate the consequences of past investments for lessons learned, showing the causes of technical debt and set up for
  preventing further debt.



## **Report #2: Application Waste**

#### Answers the question: "Where do we have duplication and waste in technology systems?"



© 2019 Planview, Inc.

Most organizations know they have duplication within their application portfolios, but need a way to communicate that redundancy objectively and in terms that are meaningful for their business partners.

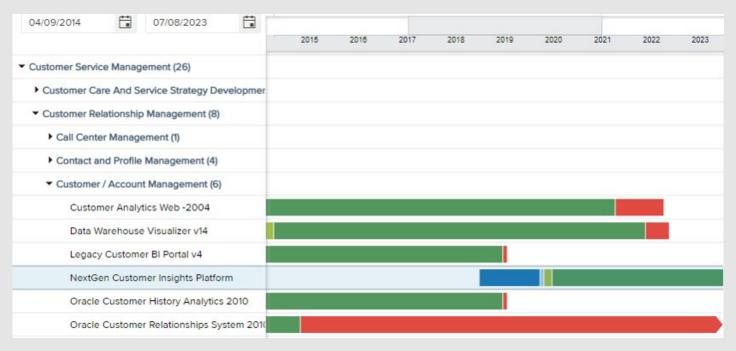
Planview supports this discussion by allowing you to frame any metric that you capture for applications and vendor technologies – even custom metrics – in the context of what those applications do for a particular business capability.

Planview provides built-in measures like *Functional Redundancy* (a ratio indicating how many applications provide the same business functionality), as seen above. This creates a highly impactful, easily consumable view of which parts of the business drive the most duplication and waste.



# Report #3: Application Lifecycle Planning

Answers the question: "What technology enhancements are in the pipeline for my business capabilities, and when will I get them?"



© 2019 Planview, Inc.

Business leaders are under significant pressures from many fronts; their focus is often only on what is brought to their attention. Easily ensure that they know and understand what capabilities are being enhanced and when they can expect them through timeline views like this one.

Timelines can be created for any technology portfolio component being managed in , and can be shown linked to the business capabilities they support. This allows your business partners to access and directly interpret these plans on their own, enabling them to provide feedback to help you better understand their business strategy. This enhances communication and creates a more cohesive connection, resulting in IT being better aligned with the enterprise.



## Report #4: IT Helping Grow the Business

Answers the question: "What capabilities are strategic to our business and may be improved by technology?"



© 2016 Planview, Inc.

When your business partners assess the maturity of capabilities, they are deciding what the gaps are between the current state and what's needed for them to win in the marketplace.

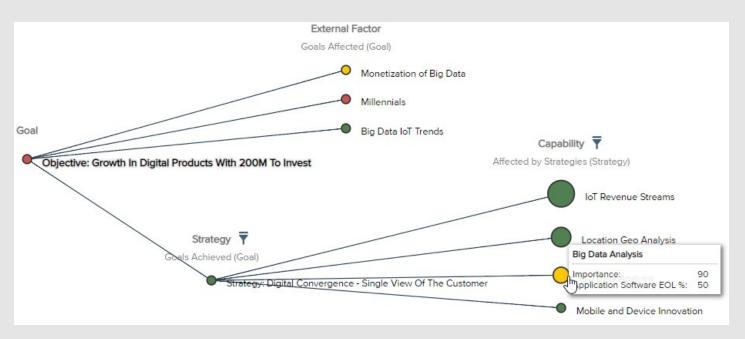
Capability technology management simplifies these evaluations for by capturing assessments of these capabilities, providing an always-current view of those capabilities that are important to the business – showing which are mature and which are lacking. Combine this with your expert knowledge of the applications and technologies that provide those capabilities, and you have the unique potential to help them:

- Identify and recommend projects that will close the gap using existing, already deployed technologies
- Prioritize technology refreshes and other internal IT projects that increase core maturity in the capabilities that matter over those that don't



## Report #5: IT / Business Strategic Alignment

Answers the question: "What are our most strategic capabilities that help us achieve our corporate goals?"



© 2019 Planview, Inc.

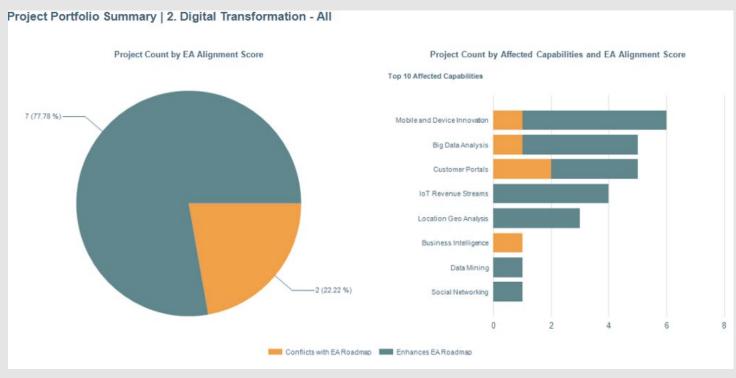
For IT to clearly demonstrate its strategic value and communicate its business contribution, it must understand and be able to clearly show which of its capabilities best support the company's goals.

Views like this bubble chart plot capabilities along the Goal/Importance axes while presenting the technology risk by the color and size of the bubbles. This quick and effective method of viewing technology portfolio risk against your organizational achievements keeps your department strategically aligned, and your leadership team well informed.



# Report #6: Investing in the Right Technology Projects

Answers the question: "How will future IT investments impact business capabilities?"



© 2019 Planview, Inc.

Simple measures can have big impacts, especially when they answer big questions.

Views like this donut chart open up the "black box" of IT. This creates transparency in communication that builds trust, which is characteristic of organizations that correlate technology with the business outcomes it helps deliver.

Charts like this – and others that frame technology within a context of business objectives – empower enterprise architects to talk about the outcomes they help make real.



#### Communicate Your Value - to Create More Value

Enterprise architects can help the business create real change when you contextualize technology into business outcomes.

Planview makes it easy to show stakeholders across the enterprise the critical role you play in accelerating change and making business transformation real.

Let us show you how much Planview Enterprise One has to offer.

See these reports in action with a personalized demo at **Planview.info/EADemo** 

Blogs.forrester.com. (2016). Alex Cullen's Blog. Retrieved 23 February 2016, from http://blogs.forrester.com/alex\_cullen/15-02-23-ea\_and\_transformation\_and\_the\_2015\_enterprise\_architecture\_awards



Brian Burke, David W. Cearley, Mike J. Walker, Betsy Burton, Anthony J. Bradley, & Don Scheibenreif, et al. (2015). Gartner Reprint. Gartner.com. Retrieved 23 February 2016, from https://www.gartner.com/doc/reprints?id=1-2UVLP62&ct=151230&st=sb

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Forrester.com. (2016). Forrester Research : Role : Enterprise Architecture. Retrieved 23 February 2016, from https://www.forrester.com/Enterprise-Architecture

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Gartner.com. (2016). Retrieved 23 February 2016, from http://www.gartner.com/binaries/content/assets/events/keywords/enterprise-architecture/ea18/ea17\_tripreport.pdf