

BLM Enterprise Architecture (BEA)

Bureau of Land Management



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The New Business Architecture Team Members

The Business Architecture (BA) Team has recently undergone a few changes. After years of hard work and dedication, Peter Ertman, previously acting as Lead Architect, and Roger Hildebeidel, former BA Chairperson, have turned over the leadership mantle to Colleen Coggins, Lead Architect and Chris Hamilton, new BA Chairperson. Roger and Peter's contributions laid the foundation for the BA and their input and expertise will be greatly missed.

The BLM Enterprise Architecture (BEA) is subdivided into two major parts that are mutually dependent: Business Architecture (BA) and the Information Technology Architecture (ITA). As the new chairperson for the BA, Chris Hamilton's role, and the role of his team, is to continue defining

and analyzing the Business Processes "P Layer", Data "D Layer" and Applications "A Layer" of the Architecture. Chris is also the Deputy Project Manager for the Land and Resource Project Office (LRPO). Chris recently joined LRPO from the Oregon State Office where he was the Chief of the GIS Section. Welcome Chris!

Michael Garratt, Senior Systems Engineer at NIRMCM, and his team are focusing on the Technology "T Layer" aspects of the BEA. Together these four components "P-D-A-T" make up the BEA. Colleen Coggins, the Bureau Lead Architect, has oversight responsibilities for ensuring the successful and proper integration of the four layers.

The rest of the BA team

comprises specialists from across the Bureau. The BA Team members are John Broderick (WO-300), Renee Duval (CIO-WY), Duane Dippon (OR), Melanie Rhinehart (SCO), Jim Rolfes (WO-600), Pat Green (WO-200), Jim Colby (WO-200), Clark Collins (WO-700), John Singlaub (UT), EK James (WO-800), Bob DeViney (OR), and Ruth Welch (WO-500).

Advisors to the BEA Team include Kit Muller (WO-100), John Foster (SCO), and Joe Chesser (DOI).

If you would like to talk with any of the people working on the BEA, please see our web site at web.blm.gov/bea and click on membership. Everyone's phone number, E-mail address, and area of expertise is provided for quick reference.

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Improving BEA Communications

The launching of this newsletter is a direct product of BEA Communications Plan being lead by team members Ruth Welch (WO-500) and Jim Rolfes (WO-600). This plan is aimed at improving communication channels at all levels within BLM regarding BEA efforts, status, initiatives and other topics of interest.

This newsletter will be published bi-monthly and will provide highlights regarding how the BEA will positively affect BLM's way of doing business, managing data, and guiding applications and information technology investments. In addition to the newsletter, the communications plan identifies other medium for improving BEA communications including re-design of the BEA Intranet and Internet, which is currently underway, to be more user-friendly and content rich. We recognize that different audiences have differing interests in BEA information (e.g., executives, end-users, program/project manager, system developers, etc.). Our aim is to provide information in a manner that is suitable and easily extracted to serve all audiences. Any suggestions in improving our communications are welcome and greatly appreciated. Just contact Ruth or Jim and we'll do the rest.

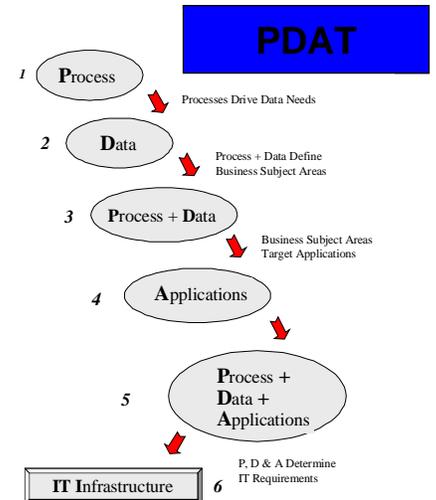


BLM Enterprise Architecture (BEA) Methodology

At its core, the BEA is about the work that the BLM does and the information that we use to accomplish the work. Structurally, the BEA is management framework that describes “what” needs to happen rather than “how” it happens. BLM is using the “PDAT” methodology, which is consistent with the Federal Enterprise Architecture Framework Version 1.1, dated September 1999.

This methodology looks at the architecture from the separate viewpoints of business processes “P”, data “D”, Applications “A” and Technology “T”. The four architecture layers relate as follows:

- Mission goals drive **business processes** (the work we do).
- Business processes drive the requirements for **data** (raw facts and business rules).
- **Applications** are driven by business processes and data requirements
- All of these together drive and are supported by the **technology** infrastructure.



July 17-19, 2001, Meeting in Denver

The BA Team held a planning session meeting in July to review and update their charter and to refine the direction, project plan including planned deliverables and schedule of the BEA. Pictures from this meeting are on the facing page. Since this was the first BA meeting for many of the new members and advisors, a lot of catching-up, prioritization and refining of the outputs of the BEA were discussed.

Significant progress was made at this meeting. Some of the major accomplishments from this meeting are:

- Draft BEA Vision Statement
- Draft BA Charter
- Short-Term Project Plan (present to end of fiscal year 01).

- Consensus on acceleration of “D” layer by leveraging prior BLM Data modeling efforts.
- Identification of preliminary process improvement/streamlining opportunities resulting from prior subject matter expert (SME) sessions.
- Approval of BA Communications plan.
- Scheduling of follow-on management briefing (August 22nd) with BLM’s Deputy Director, Assistant Directors, and Executive Leadership Team.
- Approval of the evaluation criteria for assessing business cases of proposed processes for alignment with the BEA at the “Select” phase of the Select—Control-Evaluate Process. These criteria were applied to the business

cases which are being presented at the August Information Technology Investment Board (ITIB) meeting in Denver.

Pete Culp, Assistant Director for Minerals, Realty, and Resource Protection, and Hord Tipton, Assistant Director for IRM, joined the Team on the third day. The morning was spent briefing them on the above direction and initiatives.

The meeting ended on a high note with the team agreeing on several future initiatives. The September Report from SOZA will also help clarify the Architecture’s next steps. This is something we are all anxiously waiting for!

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the time line for the architecture to be completed?

The BEA is both an on-going process (like strategic planning) and a set of defined documents (e.g., plans, models, blueprints, etc.). There are certain deliverable, like the Technical Reference Model (TRM), that have been produced so far. Regarding the process modeling efforts, much work has been performed in decomposing our business subject areas to levels where data elements are being defined. We are in the process of analyzing these models for a

Findings and Recommendations Report in October 2001, that will guide long term planning. The report will be posted on our web site at <http://web.blm.gov/bea>.

Will the BEA be in line with our configuration management policies and other Bureau standards?

The BEA, through the TRM, identifies the technologies and standards BLM will support over the next five years. These technologies are tracked and tested through

our configuration management program (e.g., for testing enterprise interoperability) which is managed by the National Configuration Management Manager, Paulette Little (WO-500).

This column will appear in each edition of the BEA newsletter. Questions for the next edition may be sent to Ruth Welch via Lotus Notes E-mail or by calling her directly at 303-236-1783.



Chris Hamilton addresses the BA Team



Colleen Coggins presents an overview to the Assistant Directors



Jim Colby, EK James, Joe Chesser, and Don Hinrichsen



Jim Rolfes, Mike Garratt, Renee Duval, and Joe Chesser



John Foster, Kit Muller, Duane Dippon, and Jim Turner



Pete Culp and Hord Tipton are briefed on the BEA effort.





Are You Fluent in TRM?

The major objective of the Technical Reference Model (TRM) is to guide BLM's IT investments to ensure they effectively support its business-driven land-management responsibilities. The Technical Reference Model (TRM) documents the principles, practices, technology standards and products used to implement, and maintain the BLM's IT infrastructure. It is subdivided into technology components for easy reference, update and overall management. The TRM translates these principles, practices, and standards into lists of products and technologies that will promote the objectives of the (BEA). There are two volumes of the TRM. Volume I defines the guiding principles and best practices while Volume II, which was released June 26, 2001, is a compendium of the principles, practices, standards, technologies, and products that comprise the IT Architecture.

Visit the BEA Website at
[Http://web.blm.gov/bea](http://web.blm.gov/bea)

BEA Points of Contact

Over-arching BEA questions:
 Colleen Coggins, 202-452-0368

TRM questions:
 Michael Garratt, 303-236-0096

Business Architecture:
 Chris Hamilton, 303-236-6539

Process Modeling:
 John Broderick, 202-452-0344

Data:
 Jim Horan, 202-452-5023

ITIB:
 John Foster, 303-236-1588

The TRM aims to guide an BLM's infrastructure to be responsive to internal and external business requirements and pressures such as increasing demands on our information-handling capabilities and the need for timely delivery of consistent, accurate, and easy-to-access information. The TRM focuses on standards and technologies that will provide a common IT infrastructure for supporting communication, operating computing systems, and managing information securely and reliably. The TRM also identifies opportunities to consolidate and streamline the list of technologies and products, especially where duplication of function occurs.

What are its current and near-term benefits?

The most important long-term benefit of the TRM is that it will help to make the Bureau's IT investments more cost-effective, functional, and reliable. However, the TRM currently is also providing more tangible benefits:

- The TRM is beginning to be used as a single point of reference for BLM IT professionals, program and project staff, and contracting officers. In the near-term, it should serve as a focus for discussion and resolution of competing new technology proposals. This will also help BLM IT professionals to become familiar with and evaluate new products and technologies.
- The TRM's list of products and technologies currently in use within the Bureau's IT architecture is gradually being recognized as an informal configuration management product baseline. This also will promote consistency within the BEA over the long-term.
- BLM system and application developers who are familiar with the TRM, can learn which development tools and other products are slated for long-term use by the Bureau, thus enabling them to tailor their proposals to increase the likelihood of their approval by the ITIB and the Systems Coordination Office (SCO).

Questions and comments regarding the newsletter may be directed to:

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