Enterprise Architecture: A CIO Perspective

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Agenda

- SEEK Background
- Challenges with being an Enterprise Architect
- So what is it and what does it look like?
- Career map – how do I get there?
SEEK – the story

- **History**
  - Founded in 1997
  - Australia owned and operated
  - Key focus currently is online employment and learning
  - Today employs more than 280 people located in multiple locations

- **Market position**
  - More jobseekers
  - More job ads
  - Largest online source of qualified candidates
Enterprise architecture is a challenging role

**PROPERLY EXECUTED**
- Drive IT strategy and thought leadership
- Drive innovation
- Drive the alignment between IT and the business
- Have a powerful voice at key forums
- Offer a highly level of job satisfaction

**POORLY EXECUTED**
- Drive theoretical challenges
- Distract the implementation team from delivery by being stubborn
- Offer little to the business and does not produce any real deliverables
- Perceive as function we have to have because everyone else has one
- Produce PowerPoint slides for other people!

“How do you communicate the value of enterprise architecture?”
CIO do not help matter – they don’t know what they want!
And it can get very technical for some
What is an enterprise architect?

“An enterprise architect is a business leader providing strategic technical thought leadership to the organisation”
A successful architect is one who can…..

- Transform the business landscape through the exploitation of IT (by delivering real cash to the bottom line)
- Work with senior leadership to change business processes
- Be seen as a business leader
- Be a trusted advisor all matters relating to IT
- Be a rebel with strong dose for innovation
What are the key competencies of a great architect?

- Business acumen
- Influencer and organisation agility
- Thought leader
- Technology leadership (innovation)
- Dealing with ambiguity
- Politically savvy
Career map

- Pursue a diverse career within IT
- Spend sometime within the business
- Focus on self development, not a MBA but on leadership and growth
- Work in multiple locations and industries