1. From process analysis to system design | process analysis2system design

In the CIONET survey of 2015 (Key European IT Management Trends for 2015) it was found that the two most important IT management concerns were 1. Business & IT Alignment and 2. Business Agility. An effective solution delivery methodology is key in addressing this regardless of the system development lifecycle model followed i.e. waterfall or more agile in nature. This can be achieved by establishing a standardised solution delivery capability where the enterprise architecture and SDLC is integrated and supported by a common set of tools.

2. What can the ArchiMate® 2.1 Specification tell us?

The ArchiMate specification clearly illustrates how the different architecture layers fit together to realize a solution so that value is created. The implementation and migration extension clearly illustrates where requirements fit in. More important, it clearly illustrates the value of having a view of the business processes and association to the identified requirements.
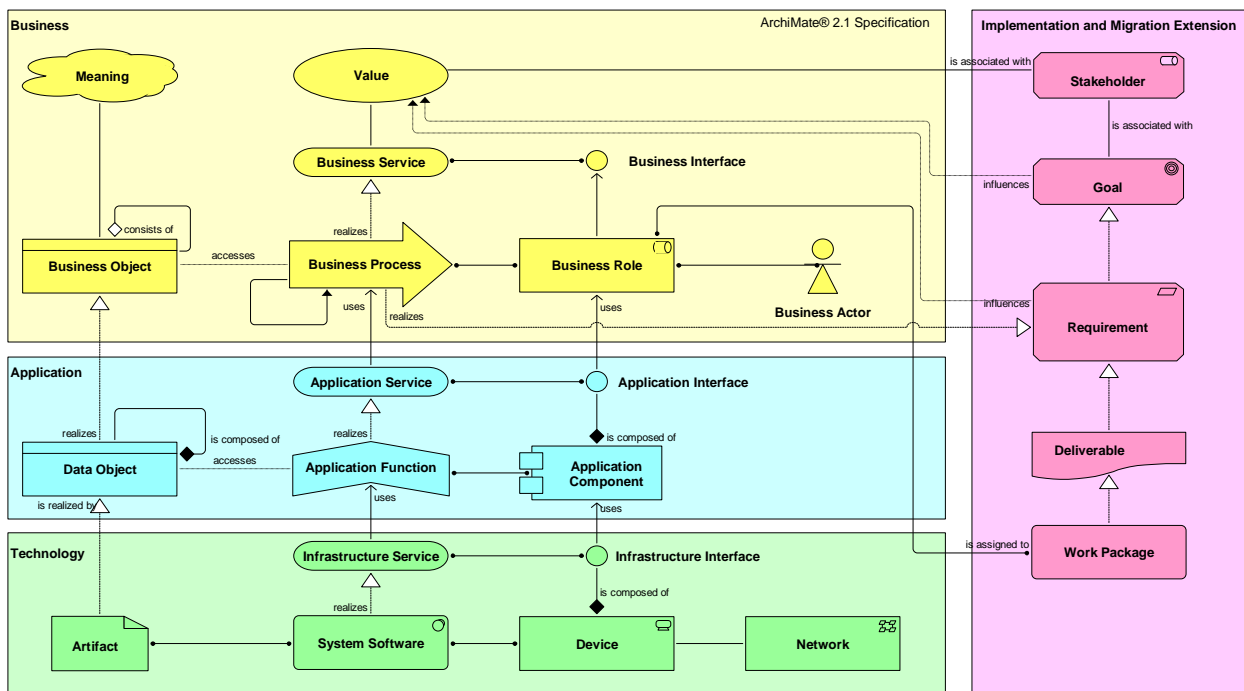

Figure 1: ArchiMate Meta model

Remove the Business Process and you have islands that are not integrated or zero Business & IT Alignment as illustrate below? This also has a negative impact on achieving Agility; the right hand "business analysis" does not know what the left hand "system design" is doing? This results in rework which negatively impacts project delivery. With other words low quality and high cost!

This typically occurs in environments where there is no strategy to maintain intellectual property of analysis & design work done on projects i.e. template driven deliverables or incorrect agile delivery.

BABOK® Knowledge Area - Requirements Life Cycle Management describes the tasks used to manage and maintain requirements and design information from inception to retirement. *In an ad hoc non-integrated environment with limited tool support this is up to individuals to decide the best suited approach to manage and maintain requirements and design information. In this scenario an enterprise architecture repository is not maintained and reuse of intellectual property related to design artifacts is lost for future reuse on projects*
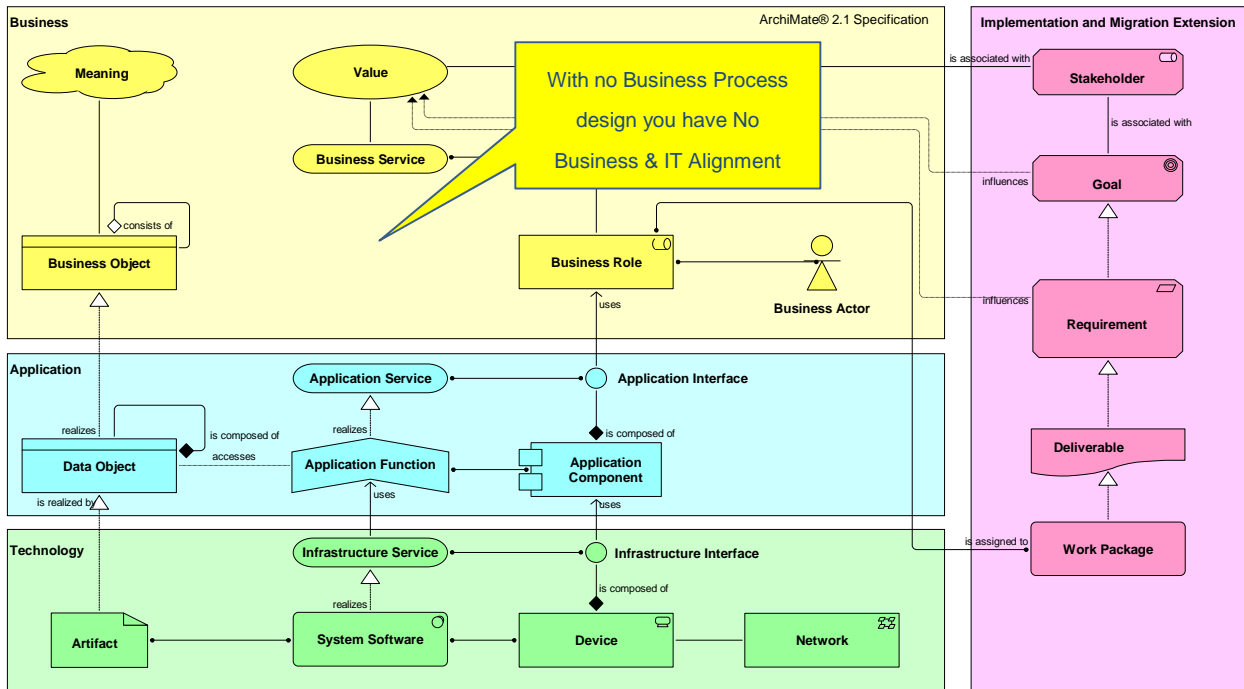

Figure 2: The importance of maintaining process designs

3. Integrating ArchiMate | BPMN & UML

This illustrates some of the relationship between ArchiMate, BPMN and UML and especially how use cases relate to BPMN sub processes.
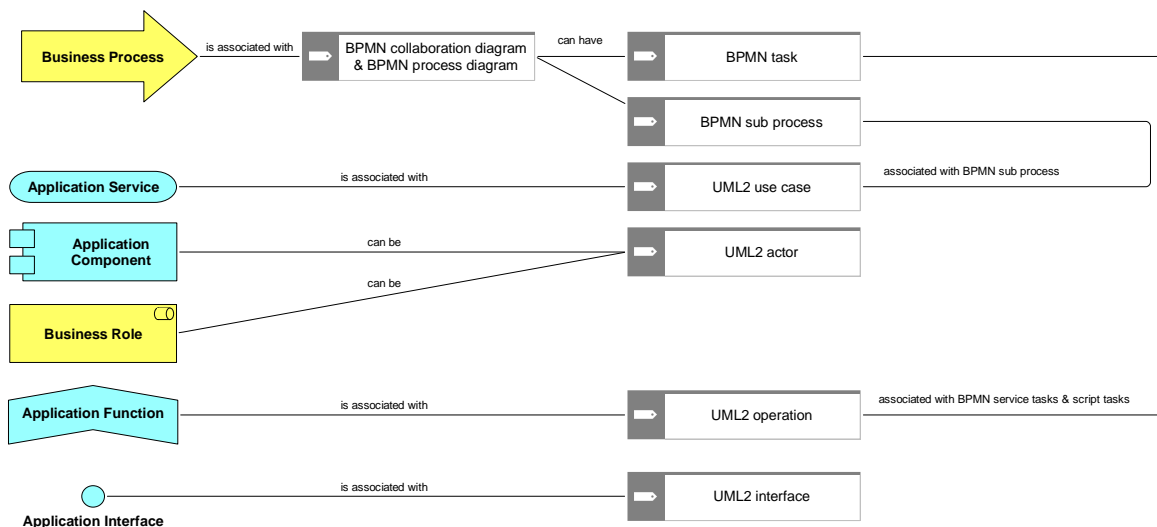

Figure 3: Relationship between Use Case & BPMN sub-process

4. The value of an integrated business solution delivery capability

The value of having an integrated business solution delivery capability can be illustrated by the balanced scorecard below (people, process & technology).

People: competent business / system analysts that are competent in i.e. BPMN, UML & ArchiMate

Process: Established processes to create and maintain foundation and solution architectures / designs

Technology: A set of integrated tools to manage and maintain requirements and design information from inception to retirement (Repository based tools like the ARIS platform)
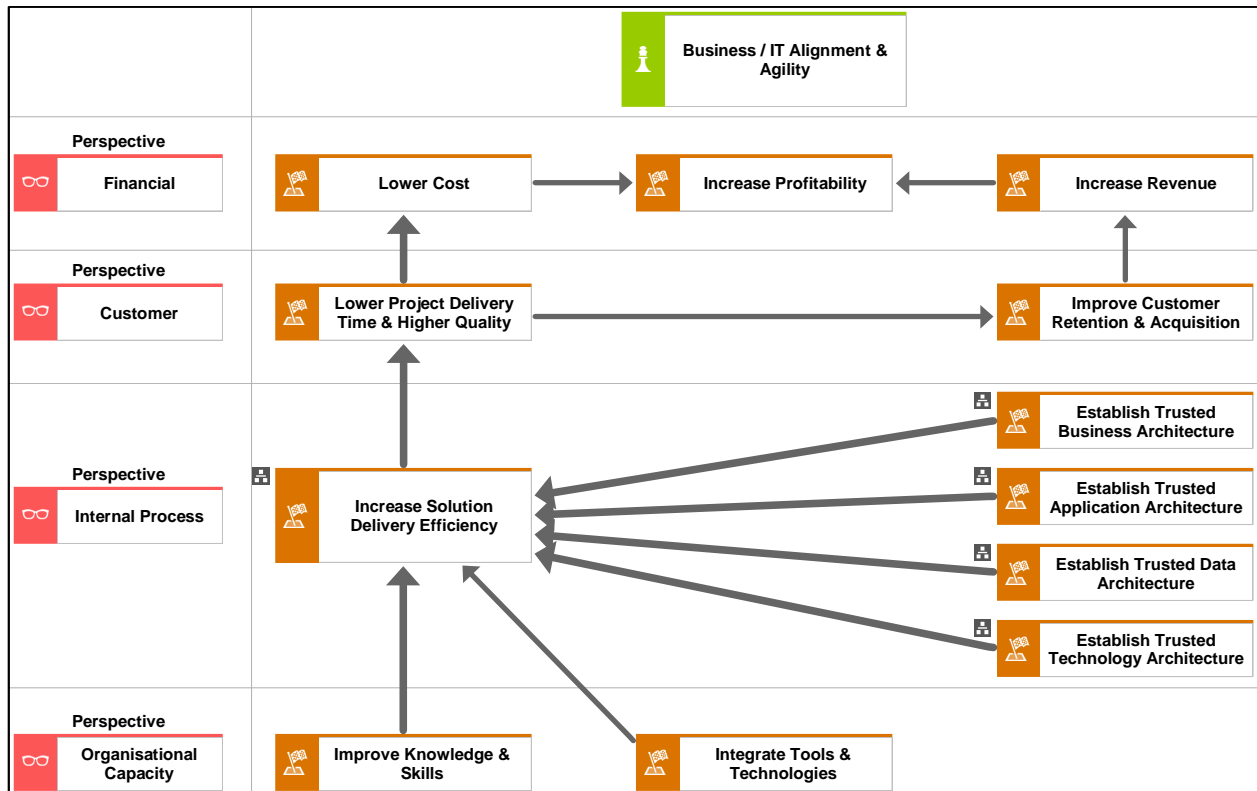

Figure 4: Effective business solution delivery capability

Illustrated below is an example of an integrated business solution delivery capability that is supported by the ARIS platform. All deliverables, artifacts and building blocks reside within the ARIS repository ensuring Business & IT Alignment as well as Agility. In this scenario the BABOK® Knowledge Area - Requirements Life Cycle Management (the tasks used to manage and maintain requirements and design information from inception to retirement) is enabled. Here you have full requirements traceability from the defined business processes to the designed applications!
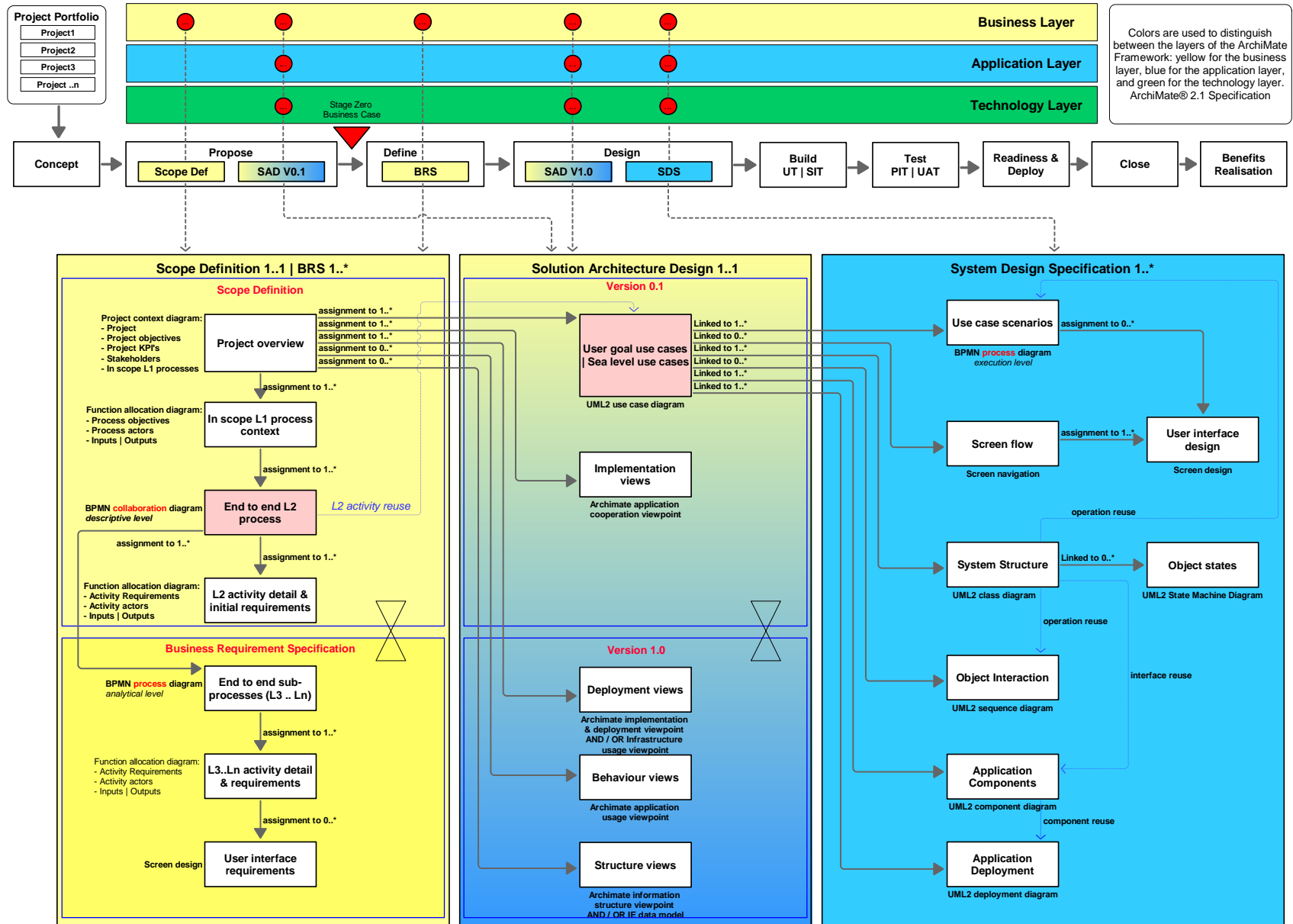
Figure 5: Integrated Enterprise Architecture & SDLC capability enabled by ARIS