

## Enterprise Architecture: A *True* Business Perspective

The business of the enterprise must be at the crux of every internal initiative in order to achieve deep value. Developing and leveraging an enterprise architecture is no different. When approached from a true business perspective, an effective enterprise architecture is all about making a business' mission happen by (1) creating a strategy for enterprise operations that supports the mission, (2) formulating a plan for how you are going to make it happen based on where you are and (3) leveraging information from the enterprise architecture to execute. An enterprise architecture should provide a roadmap for achieving a mission-oriented synergy among an organization's processes, applications, data and available technology.

Enterprise architecture is not all about technology. Enterprise architecture needs to be focused on strategy and planning while leveraging IT to make it all happen. With this approach to enterprise architecture, investments are based on mission needs and not the latest technology or management trends. CXOs can experience the value of enterprise architecture by making it an actionable business planning resource that will not sit on the shelf. The enterprise architecture must not only address the "what" of making mission happen but also the "how". An enterprise architecture program must incorporate a framework for continually assessing the current plan's effectiveness in "making mission happen" so adjustments can be made along the way to prepare for industry, world, market and landscape changes as opposed to responding to them.

T. White Parker approaches enterprise architecture from a true, business perspective. To learn more about some of our perspectives, please read May's issue of [The Journal of Enterprise Architecture](#), or [Contact T. WHITE PARKER](#) to see how our strategy and execution services can help you make mission happen through enterprise architecture.