

IT Strategy

Week 5

IT Governance
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Good IT Governance

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Right Things, Done Right

Politics

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Who get what, when,
where, why & how

What is the IT Strategy?

- IT Strategy is highest level decision making
- It's a political process
- It sets forth IT's goals & objectives, as well as describing how to reach them
- It defines budget, personnel resources, performance measurements & the balanced score card
- It communicates all of the above to the entire organization

Remember these 6 decisions? The IT Strategy process answers them?

1. How much should we spend on IT?
2. Which business processes should receive our IT dollars?
3. Which IT services should be firm wide?
4. How good do our services need to be?
5. What security and privacy risks are we willing to take?
6. Whom do we blame if an IT initiative goes wrong?

Archetypes of IT Decision Making

1. Business Monarchy - high level exec's make decisions

2. IT Monarchy – IT makes decisions

3. Feudal – business units make decisions independently

4. Federal – IT and business units make decisions

5. Duopoly – small mix of CIO and business units make decisions

6. Anarchy – small mix of CIO and business units make their own decisions

Most commonly used for deciding how much to spend on IT.

Most commonly used for deciding technical issues. EA sometimes gets stuck here.

Very old school and hard to be successful.

Often used for application decisions, but not for infrastructure.

Often used for application decisions, but not for infrastructure.

Small mix of CIO and businesses, ISACA preferred position.

Theoretical, never seen in real world.

ISACA's IT Strategy & IT Steering Committees

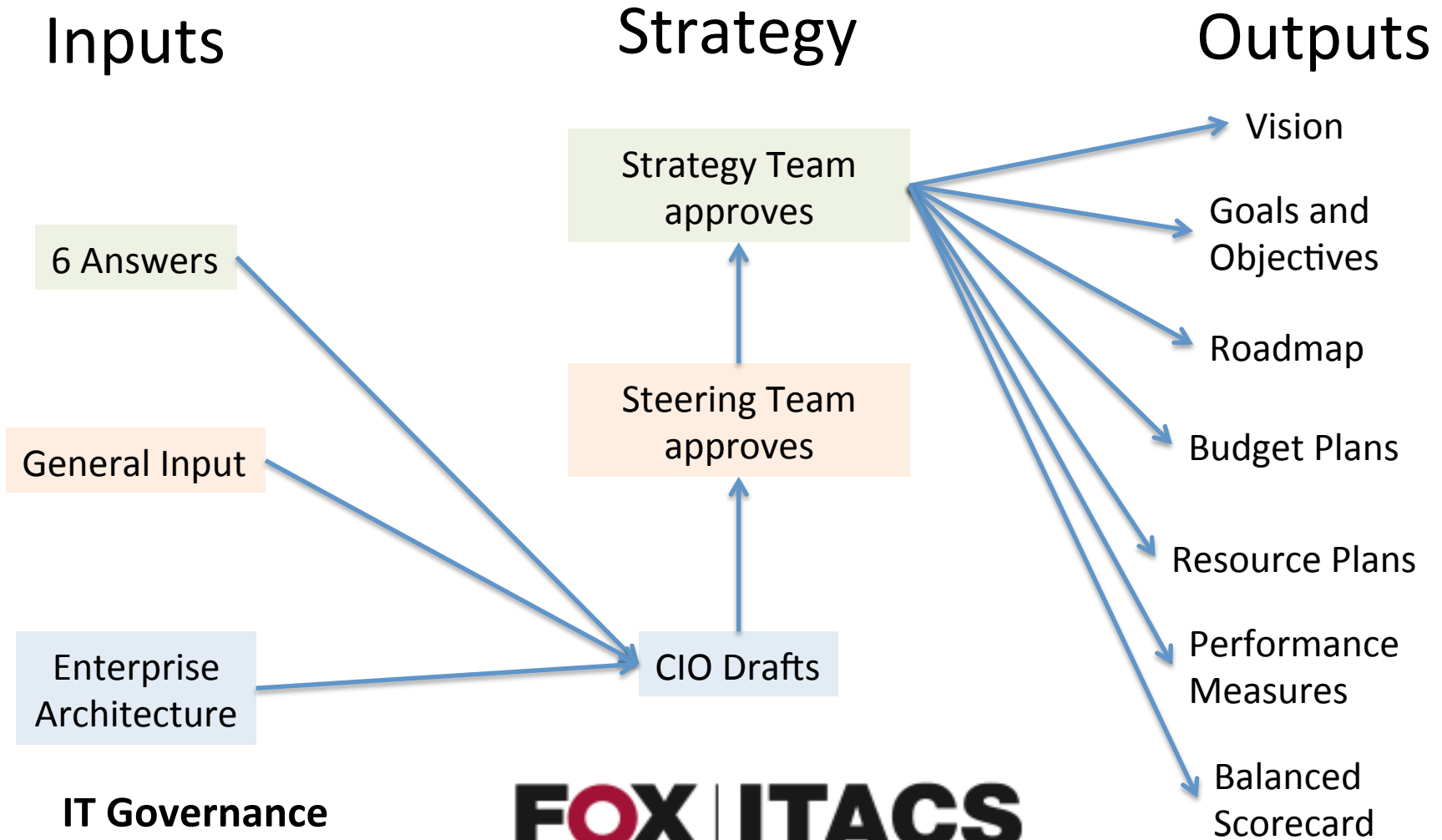
Strategy Committee

- Business Monarchy
- Usually very small 2-4 people
- CIO may or may not be included
- Major interest is those six questions we discussed

Steering Committee

- Duopoly
- Usually 5-10 execs, CFO, CIO, business unit heads, etc.
- Approve strategy document
- Perform portfolio management
- Approve IT policy
- Review IT's performance

A Representative IT Strategy Process



APO 02 Manage Strategy

- 01 Understand enterprise direction
- 02 Access the current equipment, capabilities, and performance
- 03 Define the target IT capabilities
- 04 Conduct a gap analysis
- 05 Define strategic plan and roadmap
- 06 Communicate the IT strategy and

The Stars Case: Take 2

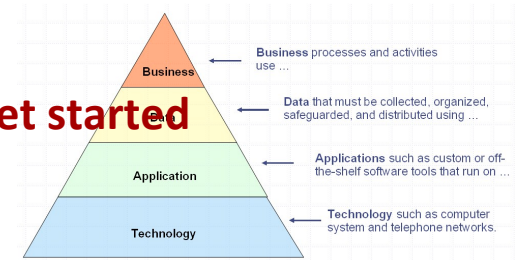
Take 45 minutes and prepare, as a team, an IT strategy for Stars. Specifically write and IT vision, 3 general IT goals, and 1 or 2 objectives for each goal. Think o

1. How do they make IT governance decisions?
2. Where will you focus your IT budget? Why?
3. What key projects do your anticipate?
4. What capabilities need improving?

The EA checklist on pp 153 & 154 of the text will help you get started

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Auditing a Company's IT Strategy

Take 15 minutes and prepare a summary of the key things you would want to look at when auditing a company's enterprise architecture efforts?

1. Is the IT strategy aligned to the business strategy?
2. Does it balance technology and business needs?
3. How much business involvement was there in creating it?
4. Has it been widely communicated? Do people know what it says and why? Does it resonate
5. Does it give some clear direction for IT? Are there general goals and annual objectives?