

IT Architecture Special Interest Group (SIG)

MISSION

The mission of the IT Architecture Special Interest Group (IT ASIG) is to enable and encourage the highest standard of information system architecture practise by its members for their employers, customers and career advancement. This is achieved by providing a structured environment in which members can share their own knowledge and experience with others and learn from the experience.

OBJECTIVES

1. To provide Information Technology Architecture professionals with a networking forum;
2. Present expert guest speakers on all dimensions of architecture (enterprise, business, data, technology and solution architectures) through meetings, seminars, workshops and talks conducted by the ASIG;
3. Maintain a repository of resources eg web sites, library and network contact list to enable members to gain access to sources of information, expertise, products and resources which will allow them to enhance their competencies

OUTPUT

Output from the Architecture SIG will include:

- Regular group meetings;
- Workshops, seminars, forums;
- An informal network of contacts amongst members;
- Links with other organisations involved in the same or related fields of endeavours;
- Repository of resources;
- A discussion forum;

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the SIG is open to members and non-members alike.

Membership is free for members of the ACS. A small fee may be charged to attendees of an event who are not ACS members.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

IT Architects (present and future), Project Managers, Business Analysts, Programmers and anybody else working with, or simply interested in, IT architecture, are all very welcome.

WHY HAVE AN IT ARCHITECTURE SIG?

There are two main reasons for the establishment of an IT Architecture Special Interest Group:

1. The Importance of IT Architecture.
Nowadays, IT projects are led by a partnership between the Project Manager and the IT Architect. In simple terms, the Project Manager is responsible for the scheduling, budgeting and resourcing of the project, whereas the IT Architect is responsible for the choice and assembly of the supporting technologies and frameworks, and the technical support and guidance of the project teams. Both partners also have distinctive and separate, but equally important, roles to play in the communication between the project team and the client, upper management, suppliers and all other parties upon which the success of the project depends.
2. The Importance of the Sharing of IT Architectural Information.
Whereas Project Management is a discipline that has existed for thousands of years, IT Architecture is a very recent and rapidly evolving speciality. Hence the need to establish documented and standardised, generally accepted, IT Architecture information and practices, and to make this known to all practitioners, is of critical importance to the industry. This, in fact, is much like the Project Management Institute is doing through its activities and their PMBOK (Project Management Book of Knowledge).

Obviously then, the role of the IT Architect, and the need to share rapidly changing and evolving IT Architecture information, is of critical importance to any IT project. Therefore a Special Interest Group, established to (a) advance this discipline, (b) to provide opportunities to share information, and (c) to support its members, is absolutely essential.

COMMUNICATION

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