Enterprise Architectures between agility and traditional methodologies

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For this year's workshop on *Enterpirse Architecture in Research and Practice* we have received eight submissions from which four have passed the rigorous peer-review. The acceptance quote of 50% assures that only advancements in the field are included in our workshop.

Contributions cover multiple areas of expertise. The first paper describes the practical distribution of relevant competences by analyzing job offers publicly available. The second paper develops a process to overcome the problems related to a distributed evolution of Enterprise Architecture Models. The third paper describes a TOGAF conform reference architecture for the chemical and life science, pharmaceutical and healthcare industry. The fourth paper discusses implications of strategic decions made by captive IT providers.

Throughout the contributions we observe the trend towards agile processes. Agility from our perspective refers to a development methodology pursuing the reduction of functionality to be devloped during each cycle in order to consistently deploy releases. Thereby, one large realease containing a vast amount of functionality is transformed into multiple releases, each one with a limited scope. The focus on business value assures that during each development cycle those features with a high importance are devloped. Technically important features might be developed alongside some minor business functionalities in order to prevent the emergence of technical debt.

Overall, the use of agile methodologies does not increase the speed of managing the Enterprise Architecture per-se. Agile methodologies force the requirements to be ordered according to their business value. Business side perceives an increase in speed since features that are most benefiscious to them are developed first. Companies can benefit from agile approaches, since these provide a framework for dealing with the complexity of software projects, especially from the chance of continously inspecting and adapting the work with short feedback loops. Using an agile approach enables the company to response to marked demands and external influences more quickly than using an approach like waterfall.

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