



Lessons Learned on Implementing Service Oriented Architecture at Veterans Affairs

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Why Use Service Oriented Architectures?

#1 Reason is response to CHANGE

- Customer Demands**
- Optimizing Processes**
- Partnerships/Information Sharing**
- New Technologies**
- New Laws and Regulations**



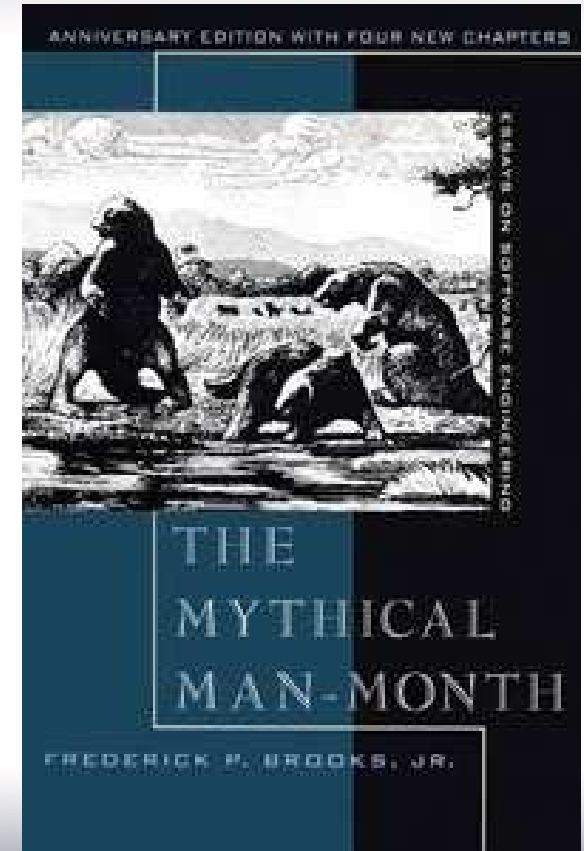
Top Down SOA Design is Risky but Necessary

Planning preferably via Modeling is Important

Don't Forget:

Moore's Law – Will your project be outdated when you finish?

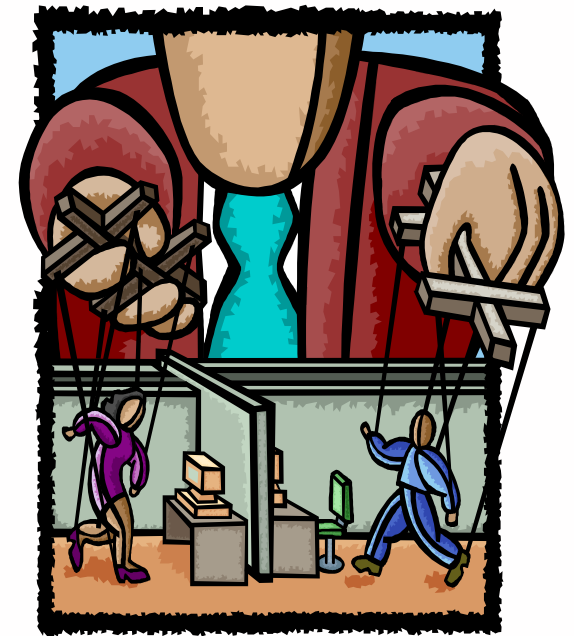
Conway's Law – “Any organization that designs a system will inevitably produce a design whose structure is a copy of the organization's communication structure.”



Governance is Critical to Success

- Do it early
- Manage policies that matter
- Make your governance effort visible outside of IT
- Effective governance is more about people than technology

But avoid the Big Brother Effect



Service Contracts, SLA's, and ICD's

Backbone of SOA Governance

Service Contracts

Service Level Agreements

Interface Control Documents

All can be modeled

Don't need to be complex to be effective



Vendors

You can't buy SOA



Take Inventory

Look at what you already have first

What can quickly be modified to provide instant value?

SOA green field is rare - Don't forget Moore's Law.



It's About People

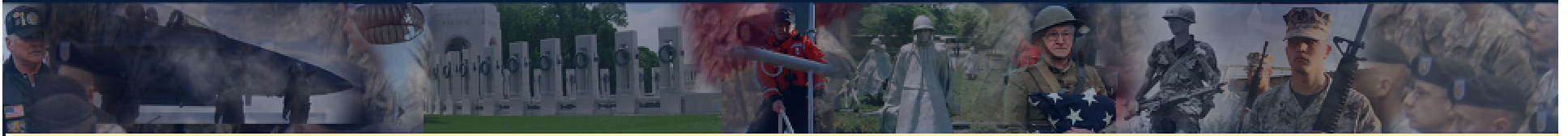
- **We are doing this to support business agility.**
- **Don't just train the IT staff on SOA.**
- **Use Organizational Change Management practices over just training.**



Conclusion

- **Start with a plan. – Model Driven Architecture**
- **Implement Governance First**
- **Use a Registry/Repository or similar to help with governance**
- **SOA isn't just for IT.**



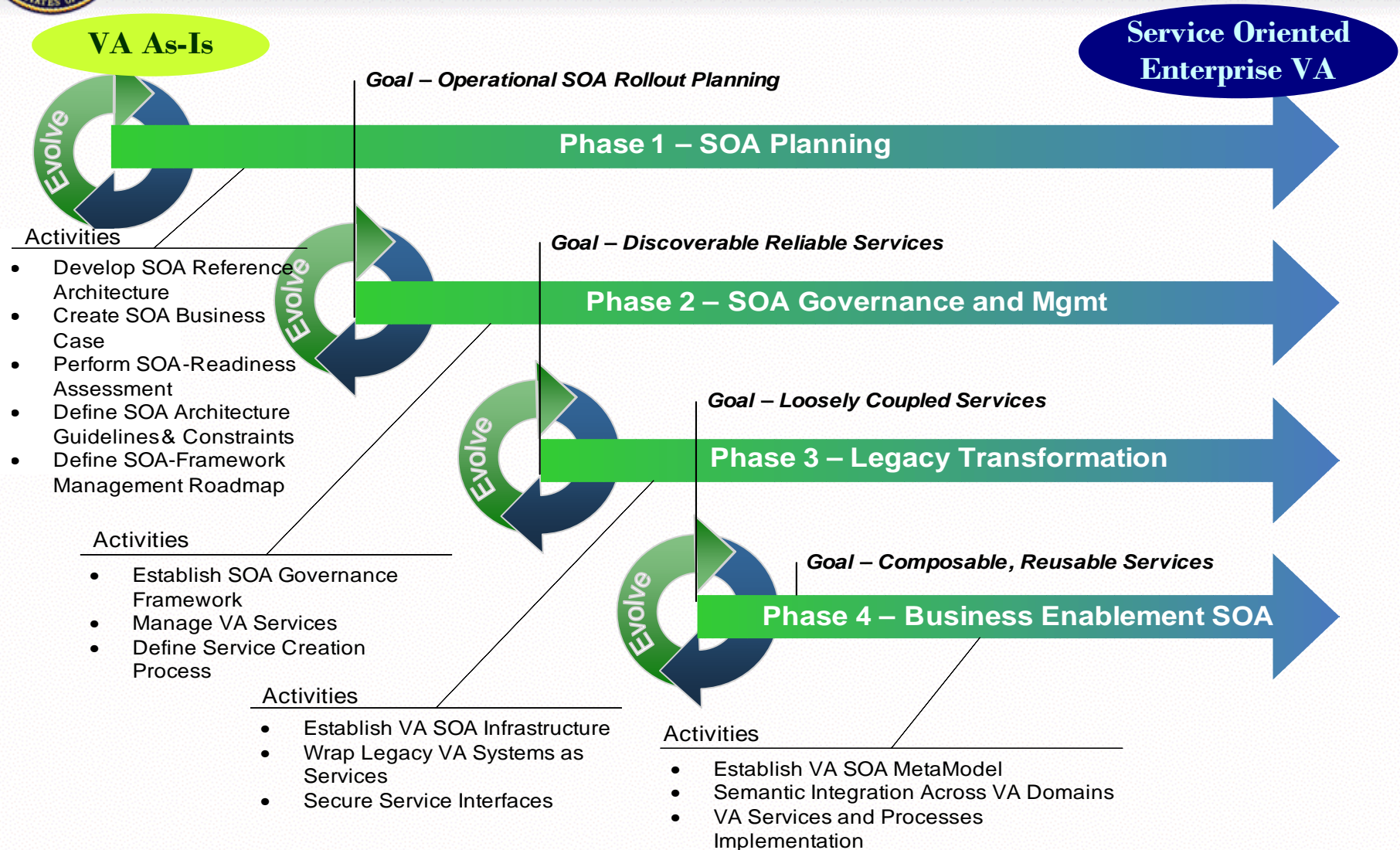


Thank You





VA SOA Transition Road Map



- Documents
(Progress Notes, Discharge Summaries, Reports)
 - 1,107,024,733..... + 722,675 each workday
- Orders
 - 1.98 Billion..... + 1,016,000 each workday
- Images
 - 960,194,000..... + 1,175,000 each workday
- Medications Administered
with the Bar Code Medication Administration (BCMA)
system
 - 1,051,169,000.....+ 606,000 each workday

