11th International Workshop on

DATA ANALYSIS METHODS FOR SOFTWARE SYSTEMS

Druskininkai, Lithuania, Hotel "Europa Royale"
http://www.mii.lt/DAMSS

November 28–30, 2019

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Aligning Agile Application Software Development with the Archimate Framework

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The effectiveness of internal business processes is a key in the modern-day economy for business enterprises of all sizes. This includes the enterprise application software (EAS) development management and its alignment with organizational goals both short and long term. This is a difficult question of how to balance EAS development with organizational goals.

This paper suggests the principles for aligning Agile software development approaches with enterprise architecture framework ArchiMate 3.0. Enterprise business managers are also starting to make decisions based on Agile methodology, although it is often perceived as a part of startup culture. Often, new EAS developments are ahead of new business solutions where application software development teams need rapid deployment related to business process changes. In addition, these new EAS developments are aimed at reusing in multiple projects in the same business area. By aligning business needs with software changes, the Agile development methodology could be applied to business decision making, linking Agile life cycle phases to the decision making steps.

Agile software development methods provide the speed and the possibility to adapt to changes and should be used with enterprise architecture frameworks like ArchiMate, which provides the tools to ensure business strategy and processes alignment to EAS architecture, to make the most benefit of both of the approaches. This approach allows us not only to visualize the Agile software development process steps and thus obtain specifications for the EAS project, but also to keep EAS projects consistent with business strategy.