The importance of EA is to help improve performance, avoid cost, and save money. Kshemendra Paul, the Federal Chief Architect of The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has stated “Segment Architecture is the Key”.

SA development and maintenance is a continuous, iterative process that incorporates enterprise assets, systems, and IT investments that creates and support a segment-oriented view of the enterprise.

The OMB requires all Agencies to complete one new segment for a core mission line of business, business service, or enterprise service in their annual assessment. In addition, OMB is expected to monitor those Agencies to determine if the effort is responsible for producing better results in that particular segment and will leverage these assessments to make future funding decisions.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has already linked all major, tactical, and supporting investments to an EA defined segment. These relationships will support greater Agency transparency, and drive investment planning and resource allocation for core mission areas and common enterprise business services, identifying opportunities for leveraging existing resources and reusing common solutions.
General Management

The Project Management Institute’s (PMI) A Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK) describes general management as encompassing planning, organizing, staffing, executing, and controlling the operation of an ongoing enterprise. The term General Manager often applies to an individual with responsibility for the overall strategic planning and direction of an organization often leaving the day-to-day management of various functional areas and projects to subordinate managers. General Managers typically have broad, overarching responsibility for business or organizational functions, planning, managing revenue and cost, marketing and/or sales, and day-to-day operations. It includes supporting disciplines such as:

- Financial management and accounting
- Purchasing and procurement
- Sales and marketing
- Contracts and commercial law
- Manufacturing and distribution
- Logistics and supply chain
- Strategic planning, tactical planning, and operational planning
- Organizational structures, organizational behavior, personnel administration, compensation, benefits, and career paths
- Health and safety practices
- Information technology

For general management, interpersonal skills, sometimes referred to as "soft skills", are particularly important to team development. By understanding the sentiments of project team members, anticipating their actions, acknowledging their concerns and following up on their issues, the project management team can greatly reduce problems and increase cooperation. Communication skills are used to exchange information. General management skills related to communications include ensuring that the right persons get the right information at the right time. General management skills also include the art of managing stakeholder requirements and analyzing the make-or-buy decision as a part of a project’s purchases and acquisition process. Specific skills required by general managers include:

- Leading
- Planning
- Organizing
- Directing
- Controlling
- Problem solving
- Communicating
- Negotiating
- Staff development & Human resource functions

General management provides the foundation for project management skills. On any given project, skill in any number of general management areas may be required. The term Project Manager often applies to an individual with the responsibility for managing one functional area or a specific project; often with responsibility for planning, execution, monitoring and controlling, and closing of a finite work effort supporting a stated project objectives. Key project management responsibilities include creating clear and attainable project objectives, building the project requirements, and managing the triple constraint of cost, time, and scope within the confines of quality control. Each must be managed effectively. All must be managed together if the project, and the project manager, is to be a success.

Portions of this newsletter were paraphrased from a presentation by Lane Chambers, PMP during the August 2008 meeting of the CDC Project Management Community of Practice (PMCoP). For more information on the CDC PMCoP, or the CDC Unified Process (UP) please visit the CDC UP website at http://www.cdc.gov/cdcup/.

Contact the CDC Unified Process Team

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For questions about the CDC UP, comments regarding this newsletter, suggestions for future newsletter topics, or to subscribe to the CDC UP Project Management Newsletter please contact the CDC UP Team at cdcup@cdc.gov

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