

Company Information

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Geall Technologies Ltd. is an IT consultancy specialising in Enterprise and Application Architecture & Strategy. Key specialisms include documentation of existing architectural landscapes; analysis of business and technical drivers; development of target architectures and roadmaps; management/delivery of associated IT procurements to support the architectural roadmap for a programme.

Key Services

- Analysis and documentation of the current IT Architecture
- Analysis of Business and Technical drivers for change
- Analysis of national or global variances and requirements
- Development of a requirements-based Target Architecture
- Development of an Architectural Roadmap to achieve the target architecture
- Ratification of drivers, architecture & roadmap with key stakeholders
- Generation of a high-level project plan to achieve target
- Assistance with putting together a business case for funding
- Assurance of the Architectural Roadmap against a Product Roadmap
- Assurance of target architecture against departments architectural principles
- Guidance through Technical Design Authority reviews

Service Benefits

- Ensures the alignment of the IT Architecture with business strategy
- Ensures the alignment of the IT Architecture with technology strategy
- Ensures the correlation of the IT Architecture with business benefits
- Promotes reuse and alignment with wider architectural standards
- Identifies and mitigates risks within the process of architectural change
- Promotes and champions the chosen architecture within the wider department
- Ensures documentation of architectural change within agreed toolset
- Minimises costs through reuse and adherence to standards
- Minimises time to delivery through careful roadmap and project planning
- Enables measurement of business benefits by integrating MI and architecture

Service Delivery

The key services and benefits are usually delivered through the generation of the following items. The exact format and set of deliverables would be agreed as part of the contract initiation to ensure a successful outcome in line with the client's expectations.

- Current Enterprise Architecture – a review of the existing enterprise architecture would be carried out and the architecture documented. Documentation can be within the clients preferred toolset (i.e. Sparx Enterprise Architect; Microsoft Visio etc.).
- Business Drivers – by working with the team, users, and relevant key stakeholders the set of business drivers for change are identified, these are used to guide the development of the target architecture and ensure that, primarily, the target architecture will fulfil the business need.
- Technology Drivers – by working with the team, users, and relevant key stakeholders, any technology drivers will also be identified. These can include wider departmental technology standards or principles; preference for a cloud or on-prem solution; security considerations; reliance on current suppliers or preference for third-party suppliers going forward; build or buy considerations; non-functional requirements (volumes, service level agreements etc.); network considerations (LAN, WAN, secure encryption etc.). These technology drivers will be used to guide the definition of the target architecture to ensure it is fit-for-purpose.
- Product Roadmap – any existing requirements for the product roadmap will be analysed to ensure the target architecture can fulfil the long-term strategy for any products forming part of the project.
- Strategic Outcomes and Benefits – it is important to ensure the target architecture will both be able to deliver on the strategic outcomes for a project as well as ensuring, as much as possible, that the benefits can be measured using the technical solution. The ability to measure and demonstrate achievement of strategic outcomes and benefits is key to showing the success of the architecture long-term. Strategic Outcomes and Benefits will be identified as part of the analysis phase and their measurement incorporated into the solution.
- Functional Capabilities – the business, technology and product drivers will be analysed to develop a set of functional capabilities required by the target architecture. These will form the building blocks for the new architecture.
- Target Architecture – using all the information gathered during the initial phases of the project (see points above) the target architecture will be developed. The architecture will ensure that technology, business, and product requirements are met. The architecture will be documented within the clients preferred toolset.
- Target Architecture Roadmap – a roadmap will then be developed looking at the timeframe for change and identifying the best route to move from the current architecture to the target. The roadmap will build on the requirements from the business and technology to ensure any mid-point targets are met in terms of deliverables. It will also be developed to minimise risk and cost to the project for the migration from current to target architecture.

- High Level Project Plan – the roadmap will be used as the basis for developing a high-level project plan identifying key workstreams, resource and technology considerations for initiating a project to deliver the new architecture.
- Business Case – as required any of the information generated through the process can be used to input into the business case, if one is required, to gain funding for the project.
- Technical Design Review – as required any of the information generated through the process can be used to provide material for any technical design reviews if sign-off is required at a wider departmental or organisational level.
- Documentation – at the outset of the project any additional documentation required can be agreed to ensure all the relevant knowledge is shared and left with the team after the project has ended.

Ways of Working

The following methods are usually used to gain the required knowledge to generate the artifacts listed in 'Service Delivery'. An exact methodology and preferred ways of working can be agreed as part of the contract initiation.

- One-to-one meetings – an initial set of one-to-one meetings are usually set up with the team, users, and key stakeholders to gain a broad understanding of the project, requirements, and any issues.
- Workshops – to gain agreement on the defining drivers, both technical and business, it is usually useful to have a series of workshops to ensure all key participants can air their views and agree in the final decisions. Workshops will be prepared, facilitated, and documented by the consultants working on the project.
- Presentations – it is usual to prepare several presentations highlighting key areas of the project for knowledge sharing and sign-off up to the required level.
- Documentation – all work carried out during the project will be fully documented in the agreed toolset.
- Diagrams – Geall Technologies specialises in diagramming all aspects of the project both to document current and target architectures, but also to ensure understanding from both the business and technical teams. All diagrams are targeted for the designated audience.
- Remote or In-Person – either remote or in-person meetings and workshops can be facilitated based on the preference of the client.

Cloud Migration

An architectural review of the current architecture would identify possibilities to migrate functions or technologies, within their current environment, to the cloud; this would be in line with the architectural standards within a department and look at the possibility of shared, secure, or private cloud hosting depending on the security requirements of a project. The architectural review would identify these possibilities, and these would be built on through the generation of the target architecture and roadmap to minimise the risk of migrating functions or technologies to the cloud. The architectural roadmap would then be developed into a high-level project plan to identify the tasks required to migrate an architecture (wholly or partially) to the cloud. This would consider individual tasks to minimise cost and risk to a project in promoting the use of cloud technologies.

Quality Assurance

Quality assurance of the proposed target architecture is achieved by working with an organisation to progress the architecture through any internal or external technical design authority and to gain sign off. The architecture would also be reviewed by key stakeholders to ensure it satisfied all business and technical drivers. All consultants provided would have the relevant knowledge and experience in the field to be able to propose a suitable architectural solution for the project. No performance testing is provided as the service provides the design and planning for a solution rather than implementation and delivery