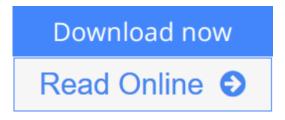


The Adaptive Enterprise: IT Infrastructure Strategies to Manage Change and Enable Growth (IT Best Practices)

By Bruce Robertson, Valentin Sribar



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The Adaptive Enterprise brings together powerful best-practice strategies for using today's loosely coupled, event-driven distributed e-Business technologies to manage change and enable growth. In conjunction with Intel's IT Best Practices Program, two leading consultants from the META Group show how to plan infrastructure that supports simpler and more cost-effective application development, deployment and integration. This end-to-end infrastructure planning guide gives IT practitioners practical techniques for "making everything work together." The book introduces a powerful five-step infrastructure planning process, covering platforms, patterns, and services. Learn how to transform IT infrastructure without disrupting existing applications and business functions; and rapidly address new challenges and opportunities as they arise. Identify key infrastructure patterns within your organization and derive reusable adaptive infrastructure services that improve reliability and performance while reducing time to market. Part of the Intel Press IT Best Practices Series, focused on identifying and sharing best-practice strategies for delivering Internet-based solutions that meet key business challenges. For every IT decision-maker and implementer.



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Editorial Review

From the Back Cover

The agile business embraces change rapidly and gracefully. To be ready, the business needs an infrastructure that supports change without disruption or excessive cost. An adaptive infrastructure enables the business to cope with unforeseen circumstances and competitive demands. To build, use, and manage adaptive enterprise solutions, you need an infrastructure planning process that supports new and growing business initiatives.

The strategies and processes described in this book will give you clear and practical ways to guide your company through Internet-induced change:

- Plan your infrastructure end to end. This book provides a number of successful models to help you plan efficiently and effectively, to show you how to implement an adaptive enterprise infrastructure.
- Design an adaptive infrastructure. This book explains the fundamental concepts of adaptive infrastructure and explains how to address the major opportunities and challenges you will face.
- Execute a reuse strategy. This book tells you how to identify key infrastructure patterns within your organization, and how to use those patterns to derive reusable adaptive infrastructure services.
- Address people, processes, and technology. You can make great technology choices, but without the right people and processes, your technology choices won't bring the success that you expect.
- Achieve an optimal balance between immediate needs and long-term goals. You must be able to change what you are doing while you are still doing it. This book shows you how to attain the balance needed to transform while you are performing.

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About the Author

BRUCE ROBERTSON leads META Group's infrastructure development program, working with clients to plan their e-Business and enterprise systems from a pattern perspective. His areas of technical specialization include directory and security services, networking, middleware, and e-Business infrastructure. Previously, he was a senior technology editor at *Network Computing Magazine*, a director of consulting for a Los Angeles technology consulting firm, and manager of an online services marketing joint venture.

VALENTIN SRIBAR is general manager of META Group's Infusion offerings, helping clients adapt their processes and organization to cope with any combination of dramatic business and technology changes. Previously, he was a senior consultant with the technology services practice of Ernst & Young, where he developed information technology architectures and networking designs.

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The Adaptive Enterprise has one clear objective: to provide you with IT strategies to manage change and enable growth.

Starting in 1999, META Group developed information on IT infrastructure and operations to serve a group of clients who were adapting to the new demands of online commerce. Working with these clients, we coined the term "adaptive infrastructure" to describe their results.

The IT Best Practices Series published by Intel Press explains the strategies for developing Internet-based capabilities and solutions to meet key challenges in your business. It reflects Intel's Best Practices program, which was developed with leading researchers, vendors, and end-users to show business and IT decision makers how to make it all work together for increased business performance. Unlike the mainframe era, distributed e-Business is a loosely coupled and event-driven phenomenon in which Internet-based solutions run on a diverse set of multivendor configurations. That has changed the rules for business, and The Adaptive Enterprise is designed to help IT decision makers manage change and enable growth in their new, customer-centric e-Businesses.

The Adaptive Enterprise is for executives and IT professionals at companies large and small. In this book, we explain how to achieve success in infrastructure planning by changing the way things are done, by making applications become easier, more cost-effective, and quicker to integrate. We explain how to run these services for the long term with high quality.

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