

**Business-Technology Alignment
Architecture Working Group Process
Version 1.0**

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**F E D E R A L
S T U D E N T A I D**

We Help Put America Through School

DRAFT



The AWG is guided by strong principles.

1. Business Needs met through Technology

- Business needs drive technical policies and standards
- Understand business impacts and technical levers created by modernization projects
- Investments on emerging technology bring business rewards
- Add new technical changes to the architecture when it makes business sense

2. Make good use of an Enterprise-Wide Architecture

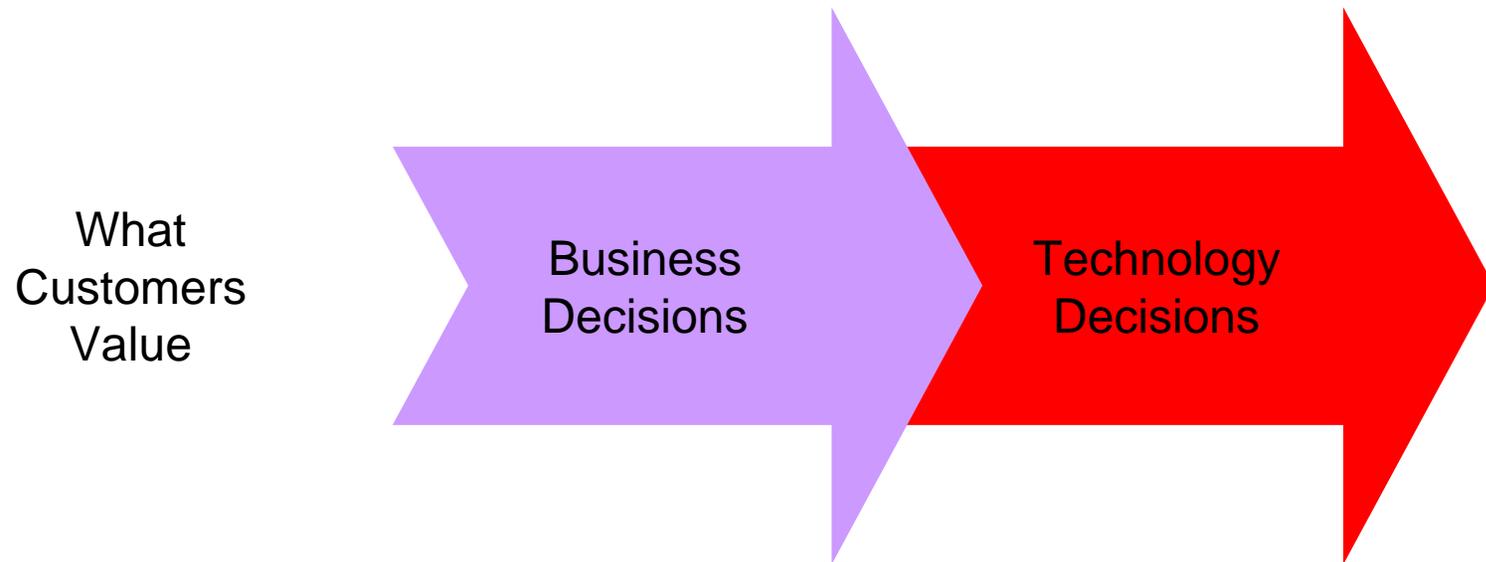
- Leverage FSA standard technologies
- Promote the sharing of data
- Cross pollinate knowledge of business applications

3. Align Ideas to Strategy and Customers

- Shape ideas to align with FSA's strategic direction
- Align the goals of the organization with what customers value



The AWG responds to key forces affecting technology decisions.





Your involvement in the AWG is highly valued.

What will you receive through your involvement?

- Identifying technological options that will meet pressing business needs
- Ensuring your business priorities are addressed through FSA technology decisions
- Communicating knowledge of FSA capabilities and how they can be applied to real business requirements

What will you bring to the AWG?

- Providing your business unit's perspectives on FSA's overall business issues.
- Sharing perspective on potential technologies that can address business needs.
- Assessing FSA assets that can be leveraged for your business unit.



The AWG and Project Teams ensure architectural integrity of business solutions.

Who is involved in the AWG?

- Representatives from Business Units, Mod Partner, FSA CIO, & major projects
- At least 75% business representation
- “Trusted Advisors”: consultation, coaching, mentor roles

What does the AWG do for Project Teams?

- Respond to requests for exceptions to the published FSA standards
- Bring insights from day-to-day implementation and use of architectures
- Identify projects that can meet business units' needs

What does the AWG do?

- Advise projects regarding technology choices, business impacts, and issues relating to FSA architecture and standards
- Identify business and technical issues and implications
- Advise the IRB & MC on issues as necessary

What do FSA CIO and Mod Partner do for the AWG?

- Peer reviews with Project Teams to identify issues for AWG attention
- Maintain and publish architecture documentation
- Determine when changes to architecture are required and shepherd them through the approval process
- Conduct technology, cost and risk evaluations for new technologies