

Manager of Applications

Fact sheet

Do your applications meet business targets?

Learn how Alfabet from Software AG helps Managers of Applications gain control of the application landscape and support the business in hitting its targets.

The company expects you, as Manager of Applications, to deliver an application landscape that is in line with current business needs and is transparent and cost effective. In addition, the application landscape should be agile so that the company can react to changing business models and market conditions.

Unfortunately, the application landscape is often plagued with redundant functionality and lack of transparency. The result: uncontrolled costs and a reluctance to change anything—which in turn frustrates the business.

Help is here: Leading international companies use integrated IT portfolio management (ITPM) and enterprise architecture (EA) capabilities to ensure that the application landscape is transparent and proactively managed to control costs and deliver agility. Interested in knowing how?



The challenges of optimizing application landscapes

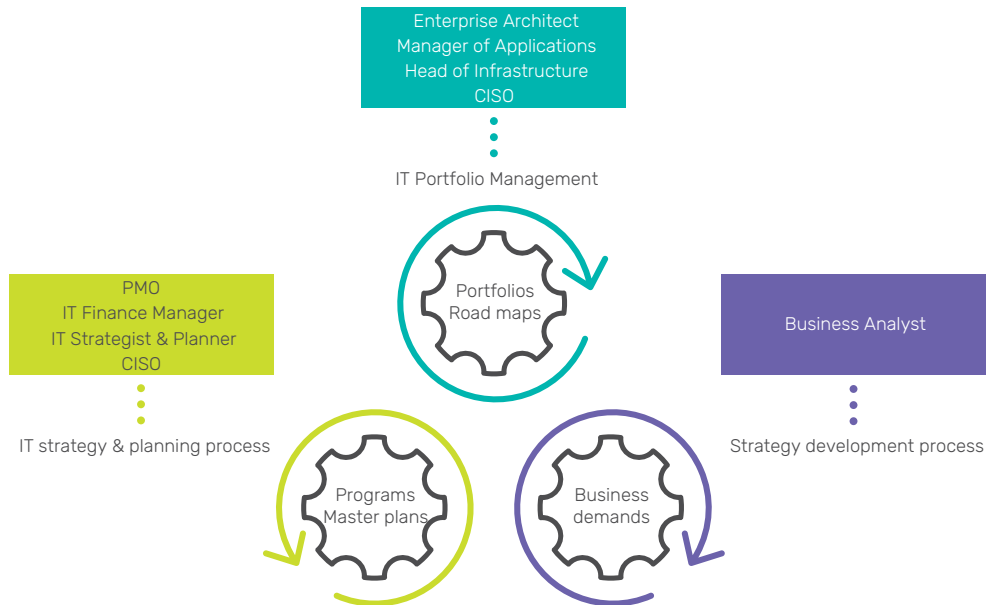
Being in charge of the application landscape means needing to know which applications you have, what they do and who uses them. Additionally, you need the tools to optimize application costs and plan changes to the application portfolio. Prerequisites for this are good governance and processes to ensure that information on the application landscape is available and up-to-date and that application portfolios are proactively managed. However, there are several challenges that need to be overcome.

Do you have a reliable system of record for all applications? Is this inventory of applications accurate and up-to-date? Are ownership and management processes in place to ensure this is the case? If not, you cannot manage the application landscape.

Are the business functions and services provided by the applications documented? Is it known which organizations, processes and business capabilities are supported by the application? If not, you will struggle to effectively consolidate the application landscape and deliver agility.

Can you manage variants and versions of applications? Can you capture indicators such as cost, risk and user satisfaction and aggregate them for business analysis? Do you have portfolio analytics? If not, your application landscape probably costs more than it should.

Can you create and manage application road maps and life cycles—in a form that can be iterated with business and within IT? Do you have application architecture governance in place? If not, you will fail to create consistent and viable plans.



Alfabet, the market-leading solution for ITPM and EA, assures applications are on target with business needs.

To overcome the challenges of optimizing application landscapes, CIOs, managers of applications and business managers need to integrate people, processes and information to introduce the necessary governance and transparency into the business-IT relationship.

Meeting these challenges with ITPM and EA

With ITPM and EA, best-in-class Managers of Applications implement the necessary processes and governance into application landscape management and IT planning. By doing this, you can support different stakeholders with core capabilities to meet the challenges of optimizing application landscapes: Are applications aligned to business needs? Are running costs optimized? Is your landscape flexible enough for future business needs? These key questions are answered by the following essential capabilities.

Application portfolio governance

Application portfolio governance gives you tools to inventory your applications and break them down into manageable portfolios. Application data responsibility and management processes can be implemented. Life-cycle management capabilities give planners and strategists the insight they need. Definition and planning of services, information flows and technologies facilitate projects such as Service-Oriented Architecture (SOA) implementation, data governance and technology standardization.

IT financial management

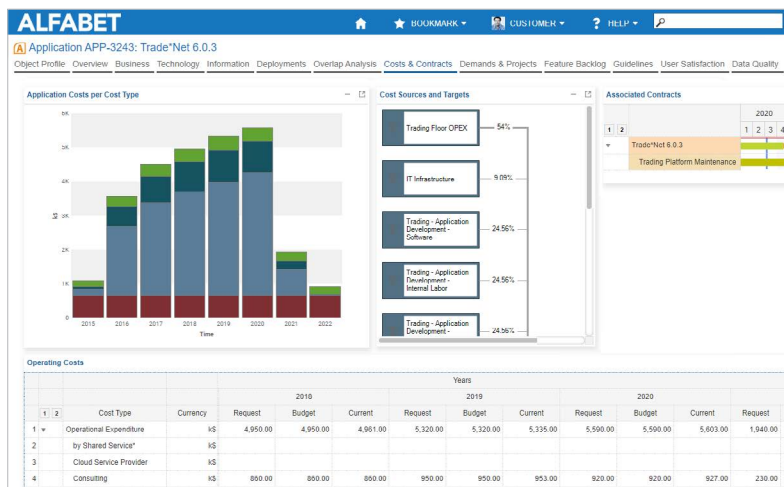
IT finance management allows you to assign costs and budgets to the applications—enabling the analysis of life-cycle costs and exposing IT cost drivers in business terms—processes and capabilities. Application portfolios can be optimized for costs and budget approvals for spending on applications can be managed in accordance with business priorities. This implements better governance and ensures cost effectiveness.

IT planning

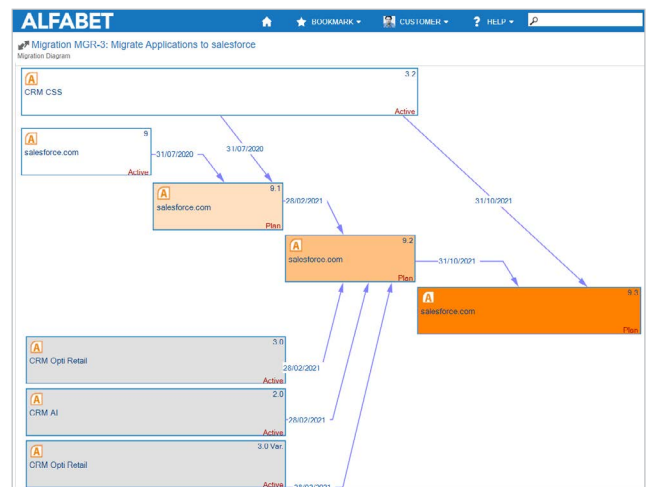
IT planning converts business demand into executable and funded IT programs. It enables target application landscapes and scenarios to be iterated with the business and broken down into roll-out plans and project milestones. Applications are directly associated with projects and demands, enabling impact analysis and exposing conflicts in application road maps.

IT risk management

IT risk management enables you to conduct risk assessments on your application landscape to ensure business continuity and to fulfill your compliance obligations. Risk and controls assessment surveys can be designed, executed and tracked. The results—already consolidated into one source for analysis—can then be used to drive mitigation strategies.



Understand application cost drivers.



Road-map application consolidation.

“Enhanced by strategic boldness at the project level, organizations using Alfabet typically pursue their strategic goals more aggressively by putting more projects on their transformation roadmaps.”

– David O’Connell “Integrated Portfolio Management: A Source of Boldness and Tenacity”, Aite Group



Take the next step

Contact your Software AG representative today to see how Alfabet can help your enterprise transform into a successful digital business. Also visit www.softwareag.gov/products/alfabet/.

Leader in ITPM and EA

Internationally renowned companies across the globe use the market-leading solution for ITPM and EA—Alfabet. The platform provides a set of core capabilities to sustainably manage and ensure IT’s contribution to the business value. ITPM and EA aim at planning and monitoring the performance of IT support throughout its entire life cycle—ensuring that business strategy and demands are completely understood, prioritized and executed on and that the costs, quality and risks to IT support are known and considered during decision-making.

About Alfabet

Alfabet is a leading enterprise platform with standard modules that support effective ITPM and EA, offering:

- Over 1,500 standard reports
- Best-practice ITPM and EA processes
- A single, central repository
- Role-based access
- Workflow engine
- Integration to other management systems
- Support for federated enterprises

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|---|---|--|---|
| <p>Business strategic planning</p> <p>Business model definition</p> <p>Business strategy validation</p> <p>Business capability management</p> <p>Innovation management</p> | <p>Business IT relationship management</p> <p>Demand management</p> <p>Operating model planning</p> <p>Business IT synchronization</p> | <p>IT planning</p> <p>Target architecture design</p> <p>Scenario management</p> <p>Agile portfolio & feature management</p> <p>Project & release design</p> <p>Project portfolio governance</p> | <p>Enterprise architecture management</p> <p>Application portfolio governance</p> <p>Information portfolio governance</p> <p>Technology portfolio governance</p> <p>Service portfolio governance</p> |
| <p>IT financial management</p> | <p>Contract & vendor management</p> <p>Cost driver analysis</p> | <p>Investment optimization</p> <p>OpEx optimization</p> | |
| <p>IT risk management</p> | <p>Application risk management</p> <p>Information risk management</p> | <p>Project risk management</p> <p>Compliance management</p> | |

With Software AG’s Alfabet solution, essential EA and ITPM capabilities are integrated for optimal results.

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Software AG Government Solutions delivers leading edge software that helps the Government connect existing, new and future technologies together whether on premise or in the cloud. Leveraging our Government Integration Hub, webMethods, and our strategic IT portfolio platform, Alfabet, along with our highly effective “Prove IT First and Prove IT Fast” approach to solving mission critical IT challenges, we specialize in helping customers optimize large scale, mission critical solutions across complex extended enterprises. Learn more at www.SoftwareAG.gov.com.

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