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How to assess your capabilities

Start affecting business outcomes

You want to understand the links between your business strategy, business capabilities and IT systems to enable clear conversations on how IT can best support the business.
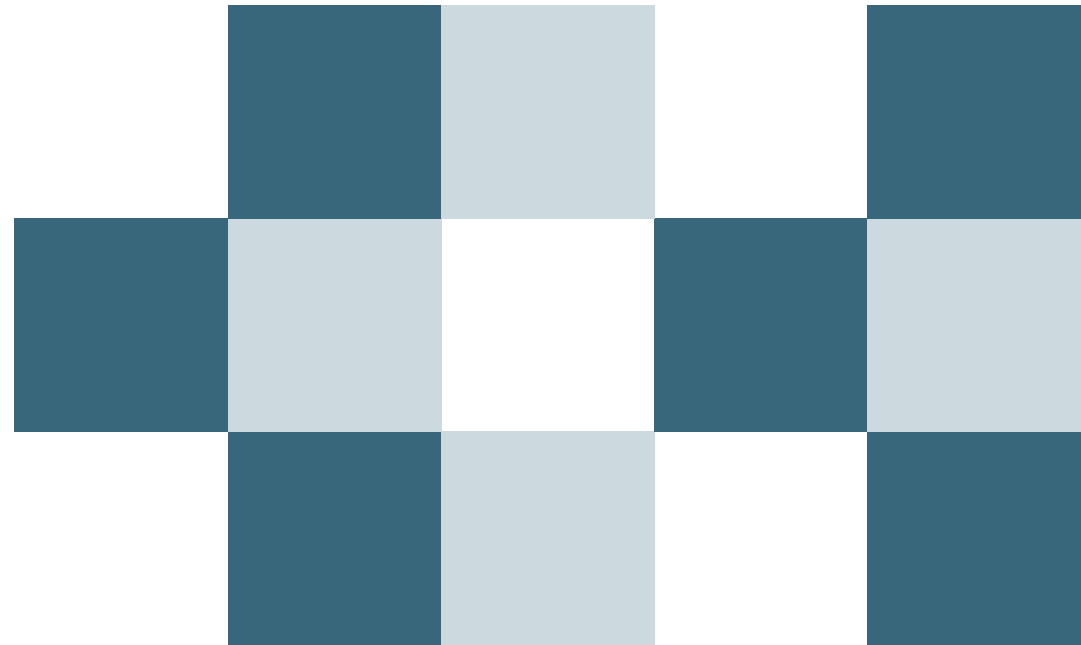
What progress looks like

Understanding of the relationship between each IT platform and key business capability

Clarity on user perception of each IT platform's effectiveness

Planned remedies for missing or poorly performing IT capabilities

You have questions like these:

- What are my core business capabilities?

- Is there duplication of capabilities?

- Which business capabilities are strategically important?

- Which business capabilities need improved IT platforms?

- Can we be more efficient with our investment in IT platforms?

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Capability assessment criteria

Capabilities are assessed on three key criteria that have relationships with one another.

Strategic importance

Business capabilities link to the strategic objectives of an enterprise. Assessment is needed to prioritise and focus investment on those critical to success.

Things to consider include:

- Is a strategic goal dependent upon it?

- What does it contribute to operations?

- What future opportunities could it provide?

Platform suitability

Appropriate IT systems need to be in place for each business capability. Assessment is based on user perception covering functionality and performance.

Things to consider include:

- Are strategic processes being done manually or on spreadsheets?

- Does each IT platform provide the functionality needed?

- What is the impact of any shortfall in the IT system?

Adaptability

Business capabilities need to be flexible and resilient to change. Assessment is needed to ensure responsiveness to the environment.

Things to consider include:

- What are the future capabilities needed to drive business success?

- Do we have IT systems in place to support future capabilities in a timely manner?

- Are key risks and potential business impact known and mitigated?

Conducting a successful business capability assessment

Capability-based planning looks at the big picture of your business, and the alignment of business and IT transformation to strategy.

Assessing your capabilities is one part of a bigger process. A successful business capability assessment shows how your information and technology can come together to achieve your goals.

1. Engage business stakeholders

2. Map business strategy and by business area

3. Capture business area capabilities and their alignment to strategy

4. Identify supporting IT systems

5. Assess for deficiencies and opportunities

Start affecting business outcomes

A successful business capability assessment will:

Determine which areas require management attention and investment priority.

Make a case for investing where it counts—and when.

Demonstrate the business activities in action, with their strengths and current limitations.

Empower your C-suite to advance strategies and guide investment plans.

Business architecture
from Peru Consulting

Architecture, done well, creates value by synchronising business and technology, enabling your business outcomes, future-proofing the organisation and supporting enterprise agility.

From the fundamentals of enterprise, data and application architecture to the expertise of solution, technology and network architecture, Peru Consulting can help you plan and shape your digital transformation efforts.

- Assess and enhance IT services

- Leverage technology for better solutions

- Align technology strategy with business goals

- Streamline operations for improved efficiency

Recognised as part of the Financial Times UK's Leading Management Consultants, Peru Consulting helps businesses to unlock value in their IT investments, make performance improvements quickly, and deliver meaningful change at pace.

Find out how we can improve your business architecture

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