SOA ASSESSMENT:
A ROAD MAP TO BUSINESS AGILITY

Tier1 Innovation's Service Oriented Architecture assessment will answer:

- *How to solve hard business problems*
- *Critical SOA methods necessary for robust operations*
- *Realistic phasing of SOA evolution - "crawl, walk, run"*
- *Skills needed to accomplish SOA goals*

The *Service-Oriented Architecture Assessment* is a focused engagement designed to evaluate the business benefit and technical readiness for real time enterprise integration using a service-oriented architecture (SOA) approach. The engagement provides a structured approach with documented findings and recommendations for an organization's fitness for migrating from existing enterprise architectures to an SOA to achieve real-time business integration.

The primary areas of focus in this engagement are:

- **Business Drivers:** What are the key business initiatives driving the need for real-time integration?

- **Technical Architecture:** What is the current state of the technical architecture? What pieces of the architecture can most benefit from real-time integration?

- **Awareness:** What are the core elements of an SOA framework and how do they integrate with the technical architecture?

- **Organization:** What is the level of confidence in the organiztion's capabilities, how does the organization affect development of distributed software, and are the right skills in place?

The Tier1 Service-Oriented Integration Assessment consists of a 1-day on-site visit to meet with key stakeholders from the business and technical architecture teams to discuss the topics outlined above. The format of this meeting will be a combination of a facilitated interactive session and one-on-one interviews. This approach is designed to quickly accomplish the following objectives:

- Educate the key stakeholders on how enterprise companies get value from SOA.

- Identify specific ways an SOA framework can help existing or planned integration initiatives.

- Develop alignment between SOA architecture and current or future business challenges facing the organization.

- Assess the overall state of readiness for SOA architecture, including critical topics such as the organization's understanding of how to use Services in architecture, process modeling capabilities for service orchestration, use of appropriate standards, error handling frameworks, and XML data modeling.

As a catalyst for IT and Business Transformation, our Service-Oriented Architecture Assessment Solution can help your stakeholders overcome internal barriers and get aligned quickly on the real priorities that can be addressed with SOA architecture

At the conclusion of the engagement, our team will document a report with preliminary recommendations on how an SOA approach can benefit the organization's technical architecture, supporting the key business initiatives discussed during the on-site visit. A final wrap-up session will be held to review the report and summarize the conclusions and recommendations, discuss any architectural issues and considerations, and qualify any assumptions that were made.

The Service-Oriented Integration Assessment is designed to suit the needs of organizations that are already assessing service-oriented architectures. The organization understands the value of real-time integration, but would like to understand at a deeper level the technologies, processes, and infrastructure required to undertake such an initiative.

Deliverables
There are three main deliverables that are included in this engagement:

1. SOA Education

- Gain an understanding of a service-oriented architecture and the core technical elements of a services approach

- Gain an understanding of the basic processes behind planning, managing, and deploying a service-oriented architecture

- Gain an understanding of the skill sets required to operate and maintain applications and integration in a service-oriented environment

2. Recommended Priorities for achieving SOA Benefits for your Enterprise
Once a general understanding of the SOA is attained, specific business scenarios for your organization will be reviewed and put into the context of an SOA framework. This has the following important benefits:

- The organization can see how real, high priority business needs can use an SOA approach. This reinforces basic SOA concepts and highlights specific technical advantages over alternate approaches.

- A high level technical architecture is mapped onto the specific business needs. This process allows an organization to see the concrete architecture required to support strategic business initiatives and provides further credibility to the viability and feasibility of the solution.

3. High level Roadmap for Getting Started
Our documented report summarizes our recommended SOA migration approach based on your current technical architecture, organizational readiness, and identified key business initiatives.

The Service-Oriented Integration Assessment is delivered by Tier1 Innovation. You may qualify for a complementary assessment. For more information please contact Gary Jaycox at 303.376.3510 or gjaycox@tier1innovation.com