Abstract

The aim of this study is to understand the nature of the relationship between the Enterprise Architecture and Integration Architecture. Enterprise Architecture has been advocated as a first new step towards systems integration. The nature of its attributes - namely the holistic vision of the organization as the Information System itself and its full orientation towards the business process - along with the advantages of its adoption, seems to fit well with the characteristics of Enterprise Application Integration (EAI), promoting the planning and implementation of a more consistent and flexible integration architecture. However, until very recently, there were no modeling methodologies for systems integration in the context of the design of Information Systems Architecture. This shows that this broad and current topic implies much work to be done. Based on a proposed conceptual model that relates the two architectures on the equivalence of its layers and the focus on business processes, this study left for a practical ground in order to prove its validity, looking for a matching pattern between the conceptually expected and the empirically observed through a case study. The importance of the research seems to meet the outlined in its objective, i.e., understanding the nature of the relationship between the two architectures and ultimately contribute to the explanation of the importance and difficulties in the implementation of SOA and BPM.

Key words

EAI, Enterprise Architecture, Information Systems Integration and Architecture, SISP.