Can we supercharge architecture governance with a user-centric centre of excellence?

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We are explorers!

With the quest for rapid digital transformation, many organisations are facing a challenge to balance between robust architecture governance and a greater demand for agility.

Let’s explore if we have an opportunity to not only ease this challenge but also supercharge architecture governance with a user-centric centre of excellence so that digital transformation can be powered by people.
Architecture Governance

In a simplistic way the key objectives of the architectural governance are to:

- Ensure enterprise architecture compliance.
- Support the business and technology decision-making process.
- Foster adoption of the architectural standards and principals.
- Provide architecture assurance for all key stakeholders.
- Ensure architectural coherence.
- Keep reinventing itself to meet changing requirements of the enterprise.
How is architecture governance done traditionally and evolving recently?

A framework or a modified framework is followed.

Domain-specific Center of Excellence and communities of Practice are on the rise. I.e. Innovation, Cloud, Low-code No-code etc.

Increasing focus on Monitoring, Events and alerts to trigger EA modification.


Heightened awareness of consequences for non-compliance pushing for expedited governance activities.
## Contemporary common challenges with the architecture governance

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Challenge</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ubiquitous quest for rapid digital transformation / digitisation / industrial revolution</td>
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<tr>
<td>Difficulty to balance robust architecture governance and a greater demand for agility</td>
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<td>End users and non-technical developers are on the rise</td>
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<td>End user driven subscription and easy integration</td>
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<td>Still IT is largely seen as a Cost centre rather than Opportunity centre</td>
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<td>Scaling safely, securely and in a compliant way.</td>
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Is user-centric Center of Excellence (CoE) a solution? Let’s explore..

The user-centric CoE is a team, shared facility or entity that can act as a self-governing coach.
Types of CoE

Centralised

Hybrid

Decentralised
How a CoE can operates?

- Monitor and Discover
- Experiment and Nurture
- Adopt and Govern
- Mature and Manage

Diagram showing levels of maturity:
- Basic maturity
- Intermediate maturity
- Fully matured

Axes:
- Complexity
- Risk
Who is in the CoE?

- **Crowd**: Crowd sourcing, Conferences, researches
- **Extended Community**: Internal and external resources on demand
- **Community**: All users / customers, Alumni, Regulator, Vendors, Fans
- **Core Team**: Architecture community, Power users

*Adapted from "Exponential Organisation"*
Lessons and observations

- Envision long term
- Have a specific purpose
- Define and commit to the scope early
- Have a common communication language
- Define and follow a method
- Focus on people
- Benchmark and improve
- Assess and address risks
- Keep it honest
- Be useful
Could we conclude…

A user-centric centre of excellence can potentially supercharge architecture governance by

- Changing Shadow IT into Citizen IT
- Deliver more value with less effort
- Nurturing new ideas and perspectives
- Powering digital transformation by people
Thank you!