

IT Asset Management in Today's Complex Data Center



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- The IBM Worldwide Design Centers comprise certified IT architects and specialists using state-of-the-art methodologies and technologies in the IBM portfolio.
- We work with global clients and business partners to design and architect advanced IT infrastructure solutions. Proven strategies and best-practices through years of experience.
- IBM understands that achieving real business results requires an open, integrated and adaptive infrastructure that provides a scalable, available, secure and energy-efficient environment.



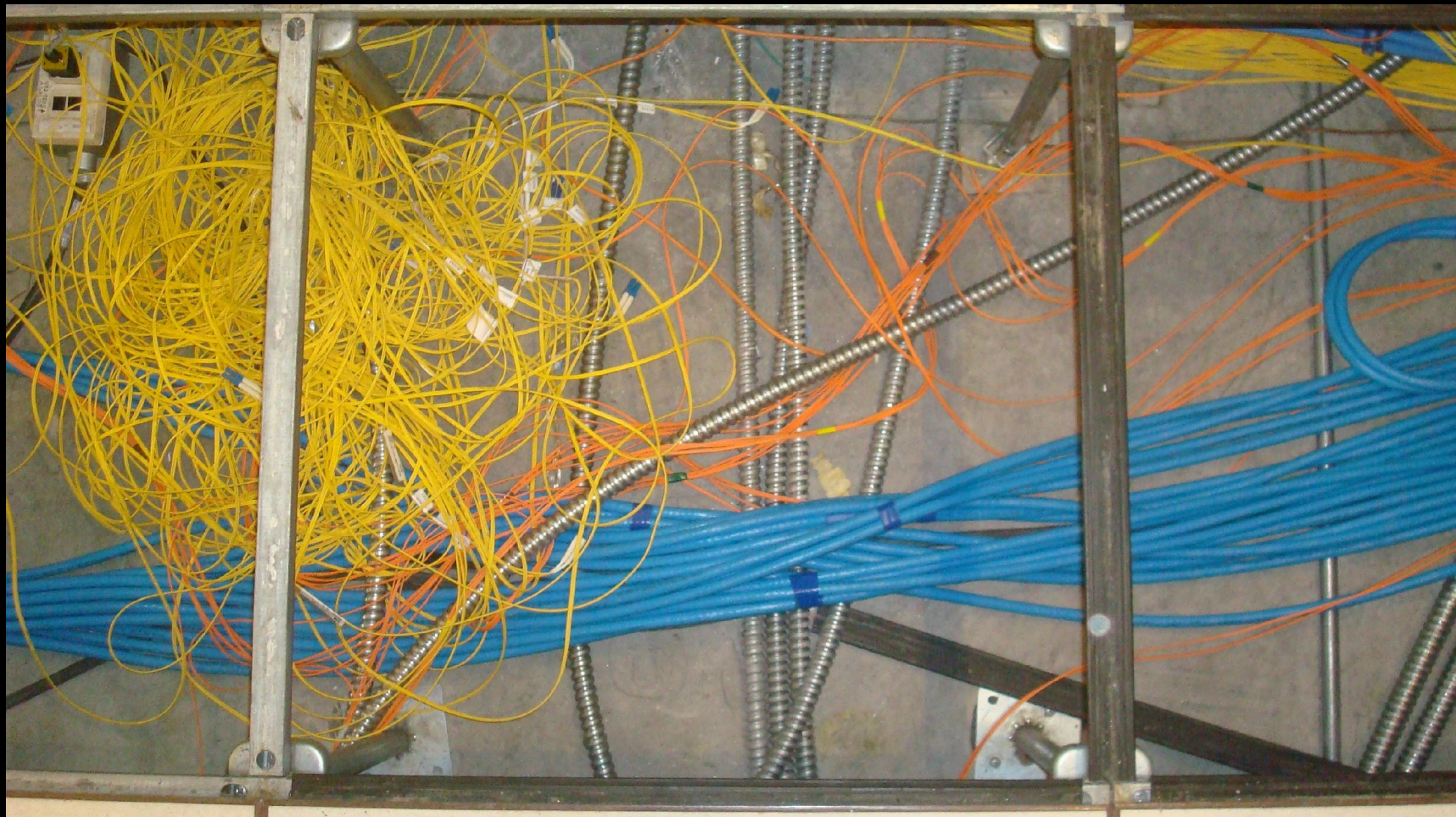
The Design Center



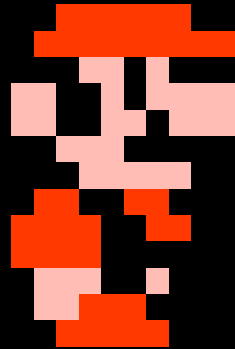
The business



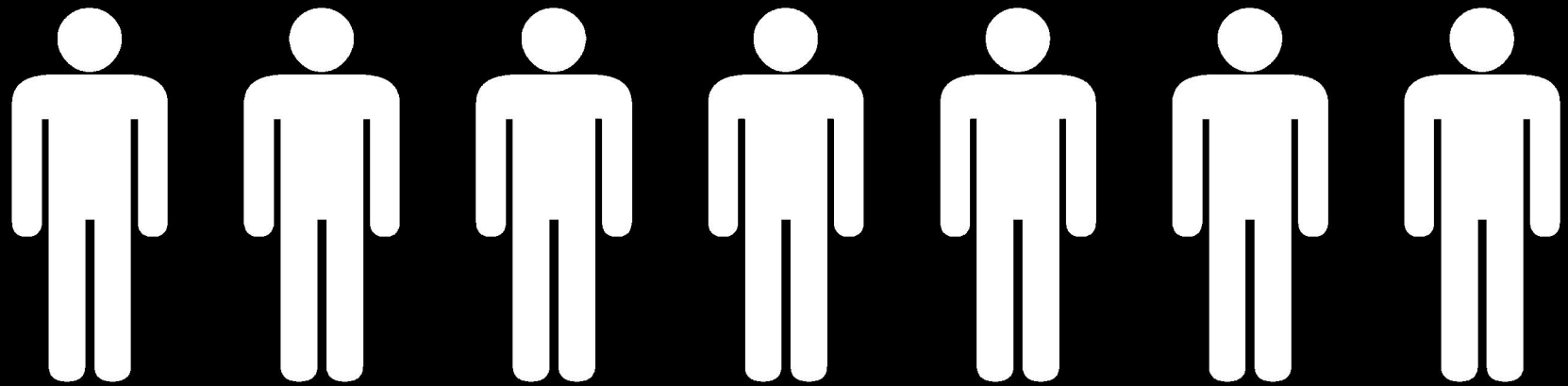
The Future



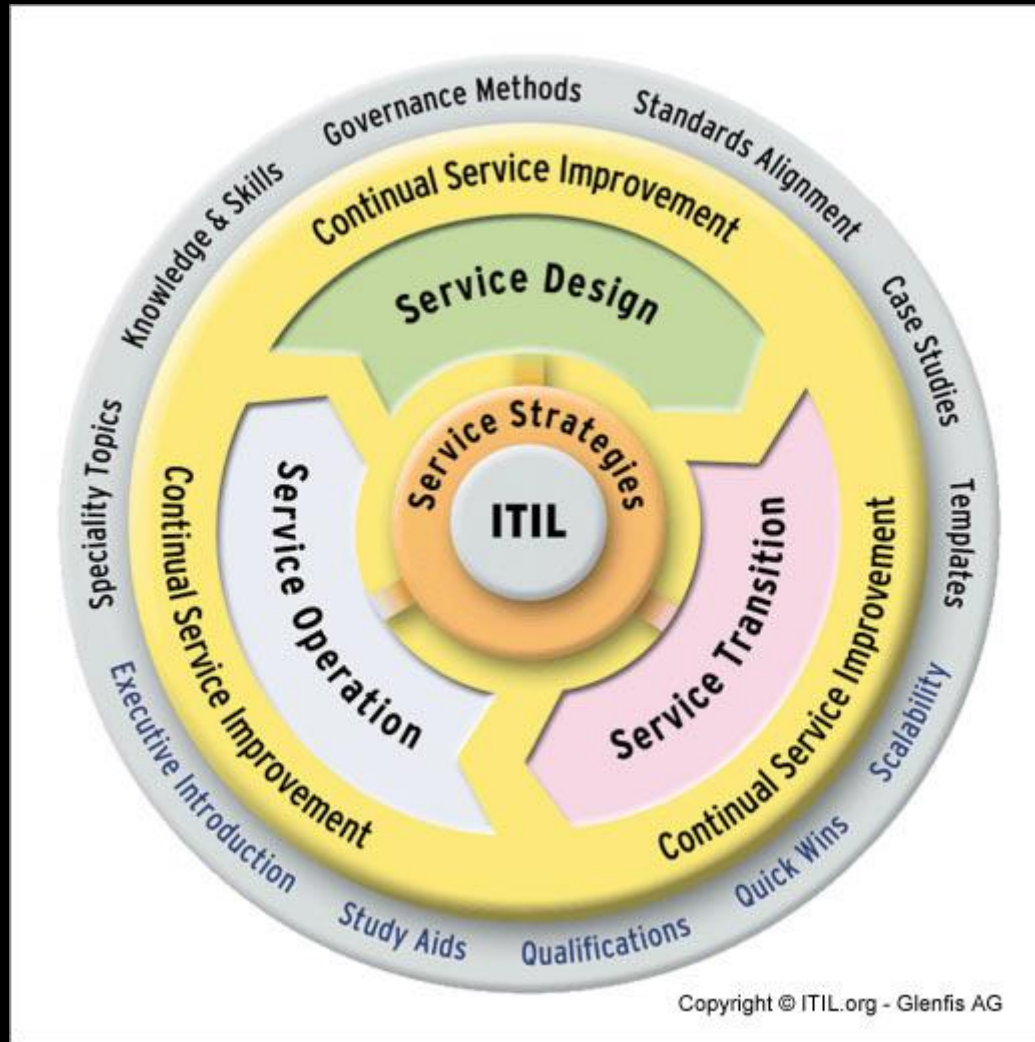
The Problem



The Problem



The Problem

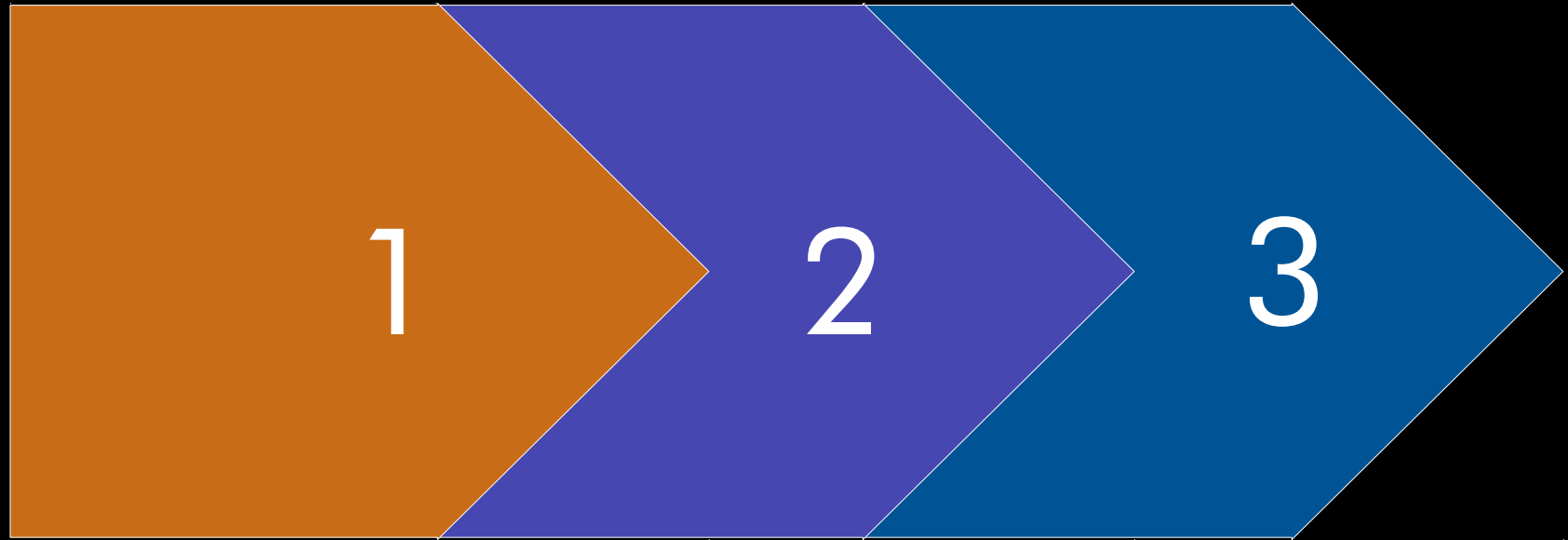


The Problem

BUSINESS-PLAN



The Idea



Phased Approach



1

- Goal: A single place to store and manage all assets
- Start work on the basic architectural components from Team Solution Design
 - Architectural Decisions
 - Functional and non functional requirements
 - Use Cases with Roles/Actors
- Import from existing assets tools

Inventory



2

- Focus on scheduling
- Requires the inventory system
- Enable automation of different aspects of the overall benchmark process.
- Reports should be able to be drawn on what is available

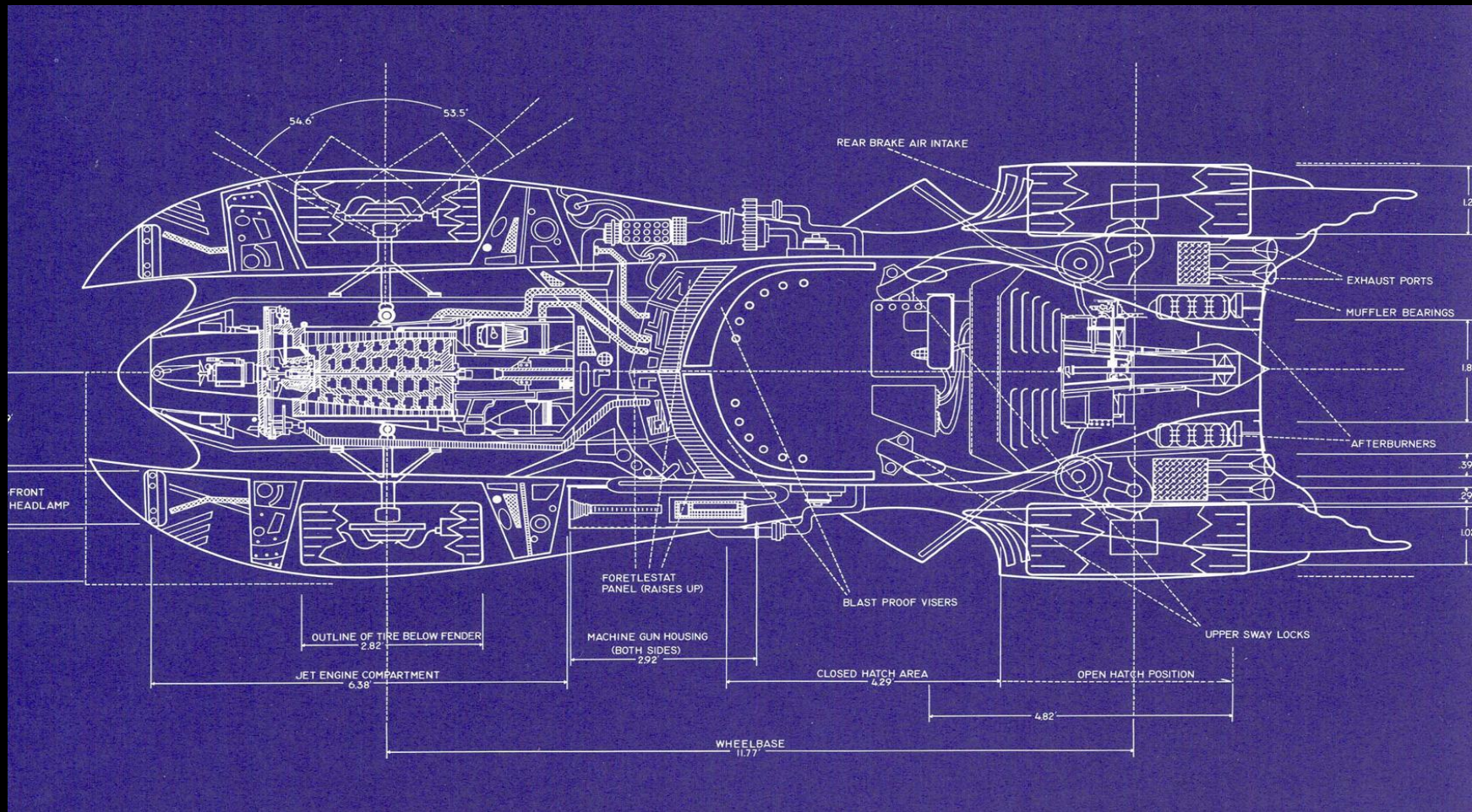
Scheduling



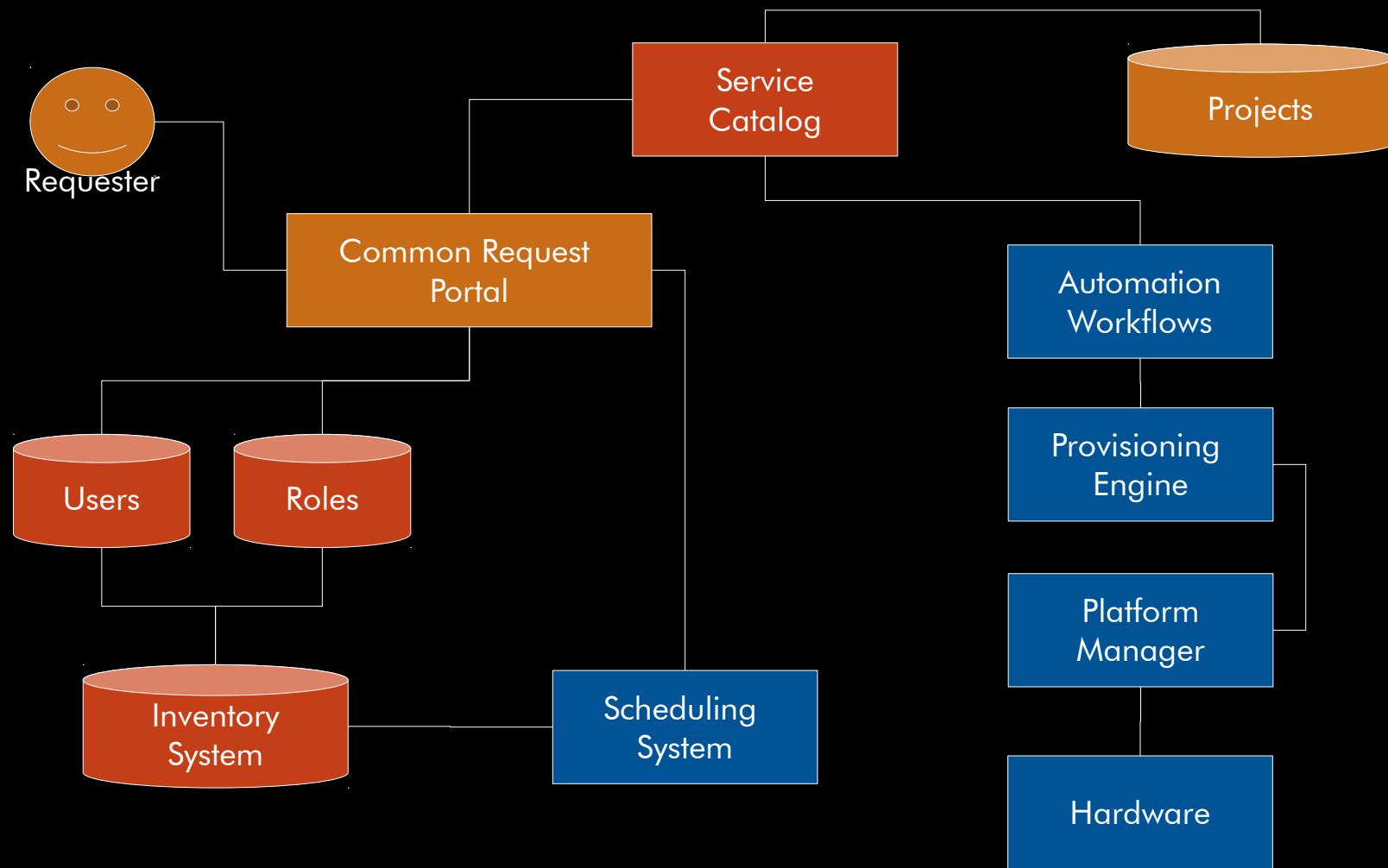
3

- ITIL compliance
- Self service
- Catalog of services
- Can be used by both benchmark personal and external entities

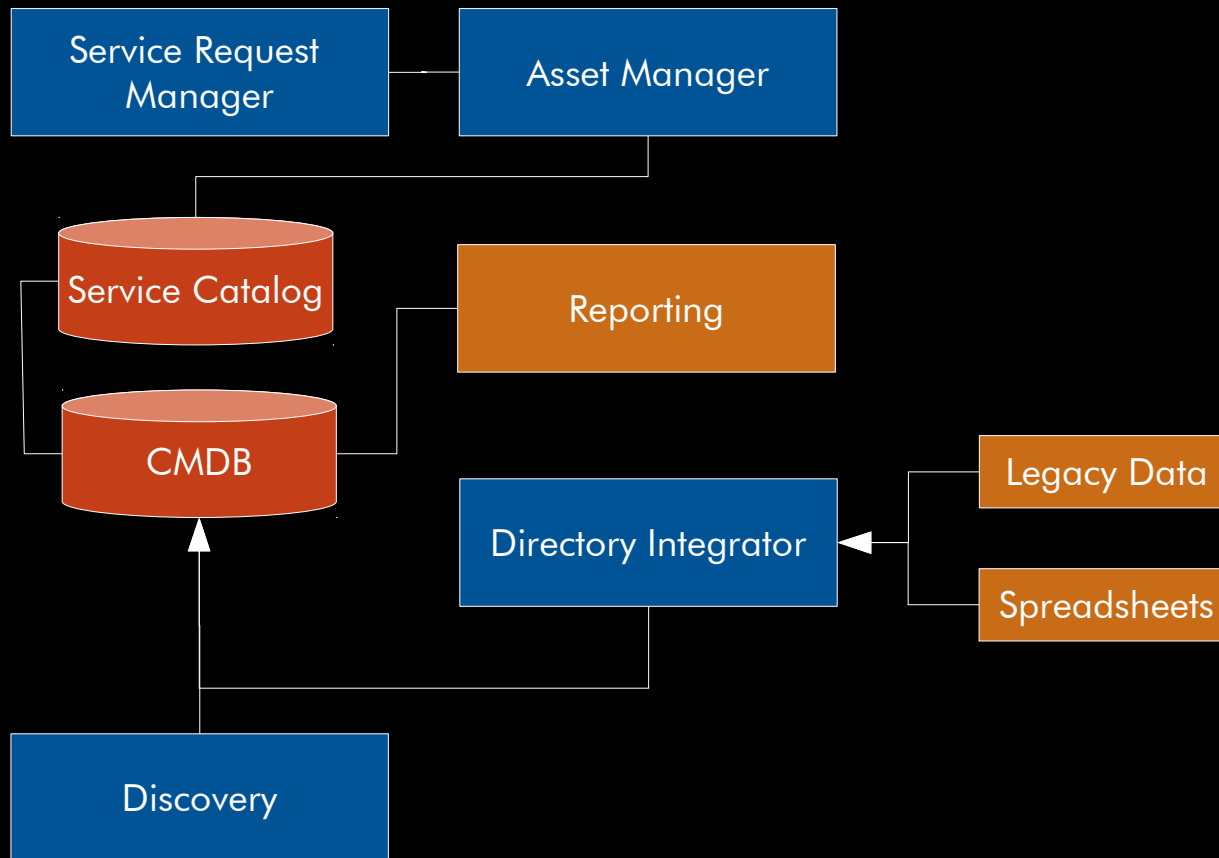
Automate



The Architecture



The Component Model



The Component Model

ID	Description
FR-001	There must be a common request portal.
FR-002	Information required for a service request should be based and adequate to the type of request.
FR-003	The Inventory System must have machine level location (e.g. Slot) for each asset.
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The Requirements

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UC-007	Change type of processor from shared to dedicated System z
UC-008	Change type of processor from shared to dedicated System p
...	...

The Use Cases

Usecase overview	The Requester requests to have a machine moved from one building to another
Actor(s)	Service Requester, Inventory Manager
Success	The machine is moved and the inventory system is updated
Failure	The machine is not moved or the inventory system is not updated

UC-001

Step	Actor	System
1	Requester connects to the Common Request Portal.	
2		Common Request Portal displays the Service Catalog that the actor can select from based on the access permissions.
3	Requester requests the machine locate service and enters in the appropriate information required by the service.	
4		The Common Request Portal routes the request to the Request Resource Approver.
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6	The Hardware Administrator is notified of the request and is set the required information.	
7	The Hardware Administrator moves the machine, and updates the work item.	The closer of the work item is noted as a change record in the Inventory System.
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UC-001

Name	Description
Request Qualifier	Determines whether an engagement is accepted based on revenue and resource availability
Hardware Administrator	Assembles and racks systems; also connects electrical power
Build Administrator	Builds everything up to the operating system
Resource Approver	Approve resource request.
Requester	Requests engagement.
Network Administrator	DNS, Switches, IP allocation, VPN.
Storage Administrator	Configures the storage zones and volumes.
Inventory Management	Ensures that hardware is properly entered in the inventory system. Also manages sending and receiving physical assets.
System Architect	Defines the resource configuration and works with Procurement Admin to ensure proper assets are ordered
Asset Owner	Ensures that the assets are in the inventory tool correctly.
Service Administrator	Defines services; updates the common request portal

The Actors



The Solution

- Service request management
- Change, Configuration and Release Management
- IT asset lifecycle management
- Service catalog instance.
- Support for Service Providers

Report an Issue

Tell me the description and details of your problem, and submit the new record. If the 'Attachments' tab is displayed, you can attach logs or additional files or take a screen capture of your desktop and attach that along with your submission.

Describe the Issue

*Summary:

IT Asset Move Request

Details:

Font: Size: Format: None

Reported For:

MAXADMIN

Priority:

Class Description:

Request for Service \ IT \ Move/Swap Asset

Phone:

E-mail:

Attributes

Filter

1 - 5 of 5

Download

Description	Value
Current Location	
Move to Location	
Requested Move Date	
Additional Contacts	

Add to Favorites

Submit Now

Cancel

Profile Sign Out Help

My News

Recent Activity

No recent activity

View My News...

My Requests

In Progress (1) Total (1)

Recent Activity

New Asset Request

In Progress

Show All My Requests...

My Assets

NOT READY (1) Total (1)

Current Assets

ITAM2093

NOT READY

Show All My Assets...

The Prototype



The Deployed Assets

View Record List > dcx46

Computer Processors Storage Software Network Communication Media Adapters Displays Image Devices Users Partitions

Computer:

dcx46

Site:

Parent:



Role:

ComputerSystem

Promoted?:

YES

Computer Details

Serial Number:

1S794852X2K038NW

Logon:

Asset Tag:

Domain:

pbm.ihost.com

Manufacturer:

IBM

GUID:

08AF739C9EFD372EBA85B0C7169A1A6D

Make/Model:

IBM System x3450 794852X

NRS GUID:

08AF739C9EFD372EBA85B0C7169A1A6D

Platform:

Actual Configuration Item Number:

>>

Partition ID:

Status:

The Deployed Assets



















The Assets

Assets

Bulletins: (0) Reports Profile Sign Out

Find:

Select Action



View Record List > 1001

Asset

Spare Parts

IT Details


Meters

Specifications

Relationships

Work

Topology

 You can view or enter information about IT assets. IT assets are assets that are classified under the IT hierarchy when the asset record is created. [More information](#)

Asset:
1001

Site:
POK

Status:
NOT READY

Location:
POK

Configuration Item:

Configuration Item Name:

Details

Serial #:

Rotating Item:

Asset Tag:
1234_dcx

Usage:
Server

Primary User:
MIKE

Partition?
☒

GL Account:

Partition ID:
2

Deployed Asset

Node Name:
dcx46

Site ID:

Link Rule:
PROMOTED

The Assets



The Configuration Items

View Record List > 10.10.10.15~1890

CI Summary CI Details Related Configuration Items CI Topology Interested Parties

Configuration Item Name:
10.10.10.15

Classification:
CIROOT \ CI.IPNETWORK \ CI.IPINTERFACE >> CI.IPINTERFACE

Configuration Item Number:
10.10.10.15~1890

Associated Asset:
ITAM1013 >> Lenovo Thinkpad T61

Status:
NOT READY

Physical Location:
ITHARDWARE >>

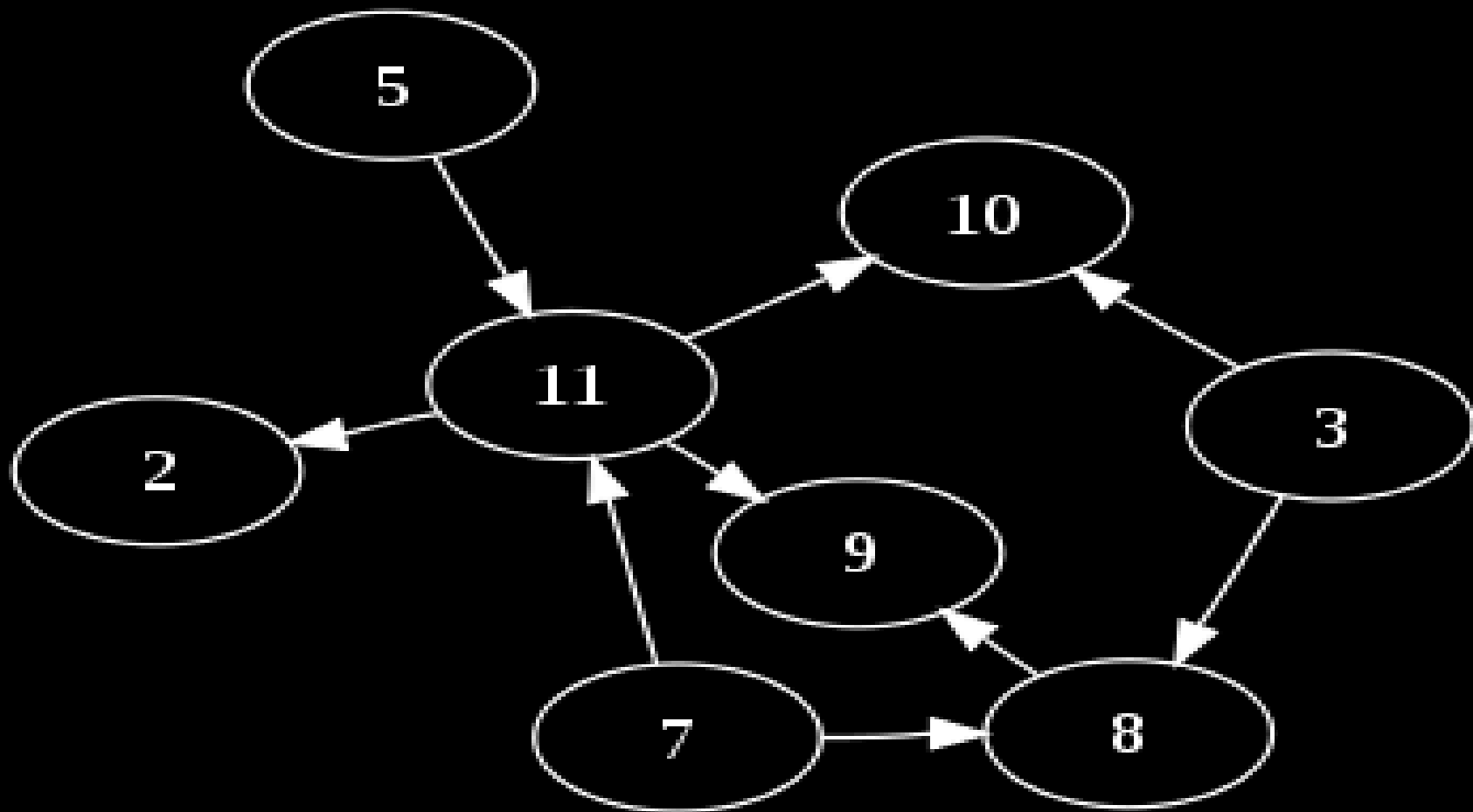
Site:
PMSC RTP

Organization:
PMSC IBM

CI Owner:
>>

Owner Group:
>>

The Configuration Items



The Relationships

View Configuration Item Relationship History

Configuration Item Name:

10.10.10.15

Configuration Item Number:

10.10.10.15~1890

As of:

2/4/13 11:08:26

Target Configuration Items

Filter >

1 - 1 of 1

Download

Relation	Target Configuration Item	Description	Start Date	End Date	Change By
RELATION.BINDSTO	CAESAR.LAB.COLLATION.NET:ERI0		2/11/10 15:18:01		MAXADMIN

Source Configuration Items

Filter >

1 - 3 of 3

Download

Source Configuration Item	Relation	Description	Start Date	End Date	Change By
	RELATION.NETWORKS		2/11/10 15:18:02		MAXADMIN
CAESAR.LAB.COLLATION.NET:ROUTER	RELATION.ROUTES		2/11/10 15:18:02		MAXADMIN
CAESAR.LAB.COLLATION.NET	RELATION.CONTAINS		2/11/10 15:18:02		MAXADMIN

OK

The Relationships

Relationship

Relationship:

RELATION.CONNECTEDTO

[Attachments](#)

Type:

UNIDIRECTIC

Classification:

ACTUALCIROOTCLASS \ RELATION.CONNECTEDTO >>

Use With:

CI

Allow Override?

☐

Imported?

☒

Relationship Rules

Filter

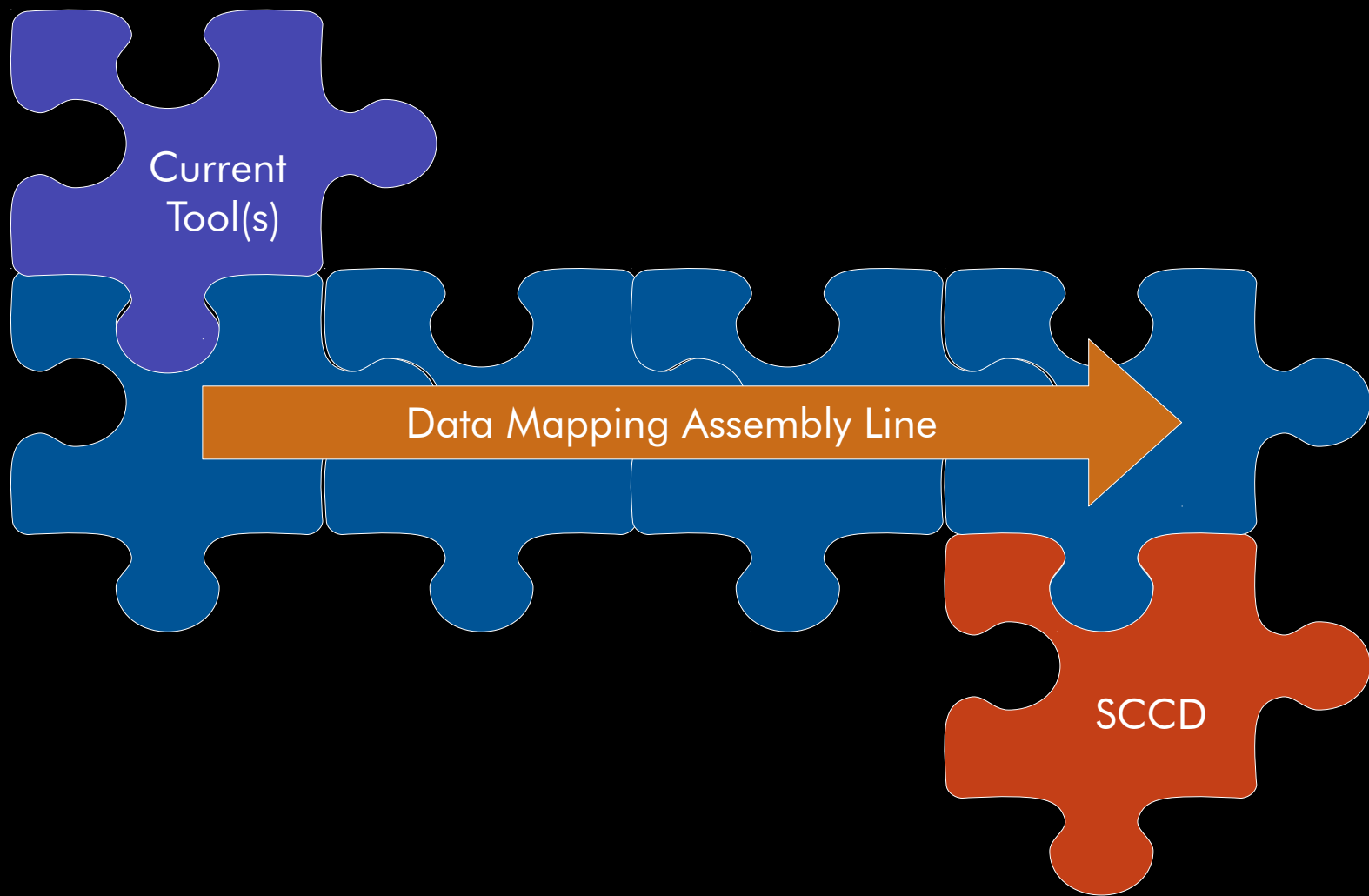
1 - 6 of 608

Download

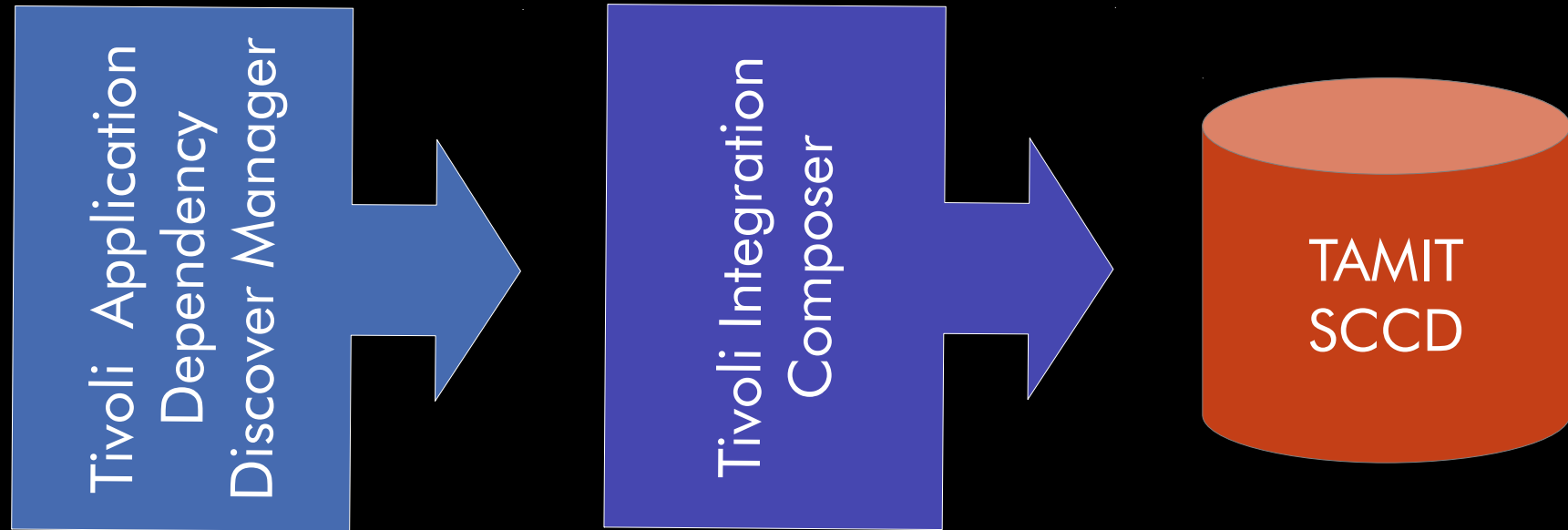
Source Classification	Target Classification	Cardinality	Propagate Change?	Containment?	Is Target Parent?	Imported?
ACTUALCIROOTCLASS \ SYS.COMPUTERSYSTEM \ DEV >>	ACTUALCIROOTCLASS \ SYS.DOS.DOSUNITARYCOMPU >>	1:1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ACTUALCIROOTCLASS \ DEV.SCSIPROTOCOLCONTROL >>	ACTUALCIROOTCLASS \ SYS.COMPUTERSYSTEM >>	1:1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ACTUALCIROOTCLASS \ DEV.SCSIPROTOCOLCONTROL >>	ACTUALCIROOTCLASS \ SYS.SUN.SUNSPARCVIRTUALC >>	1:1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ACTUALCIROOTCLASS \ SYS.COMPUTERSYSTEM \ DEV.1 >>	ACTUALCIROOTCLASS \ SYS.FREEBSD.FREEBSDUNITAR >>	1:1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ACTUALCIROOTCLASS \ DEV.SCSIPROTOCOLCONTROL >>	ACTUALCIROOTCLASS \ SYS.ZOS.ZSERIESCOMPUTERS' >>	1:1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ACTUALCIROOTCLASS \ DEV.SCSIPROTOCOLCONTROL >>	ACTUALCIROOTCLASS \ SYS.SYSTEMPCOMPUTERSYSTI >>	1:1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

New Row

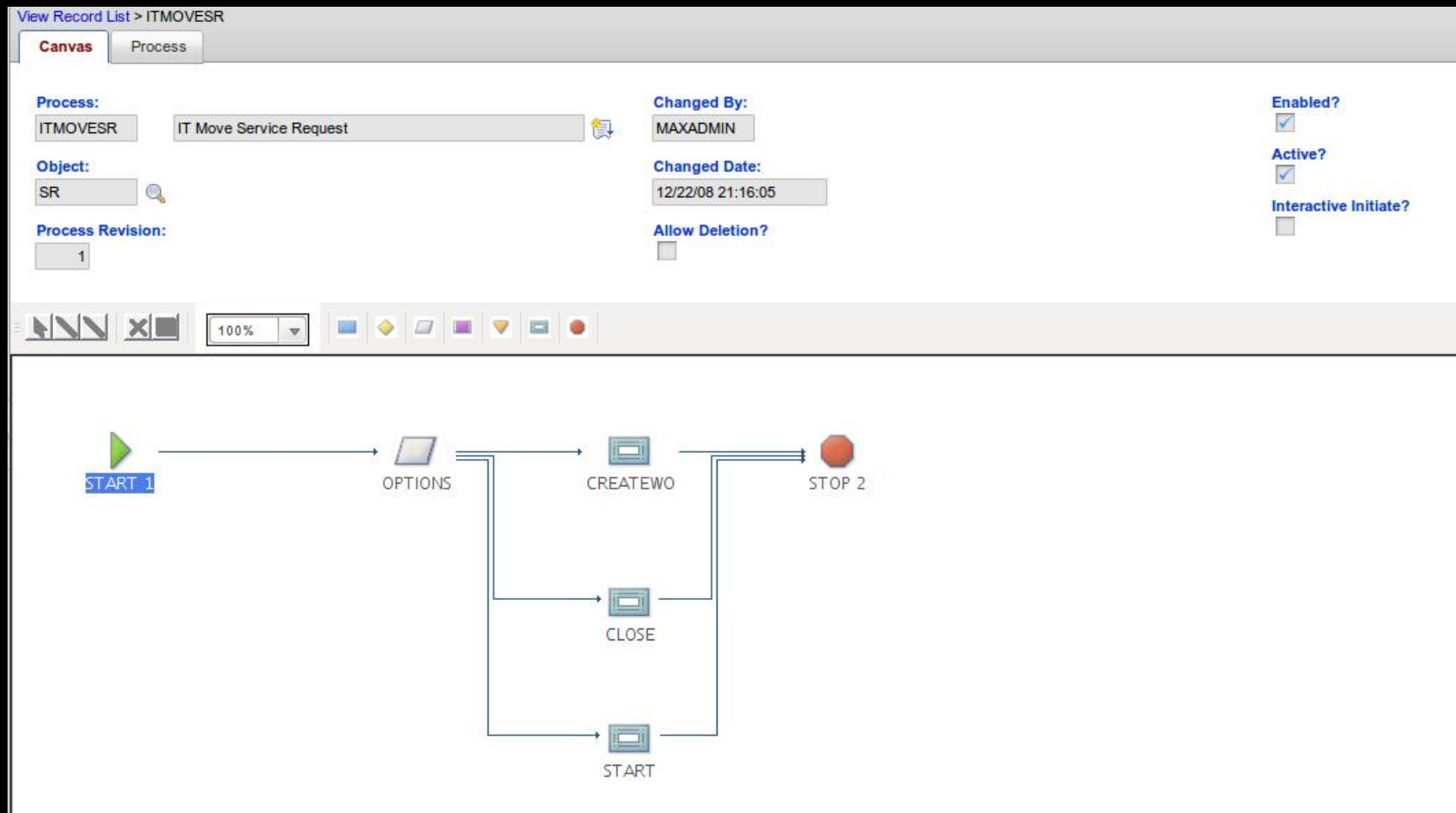
The Relationships



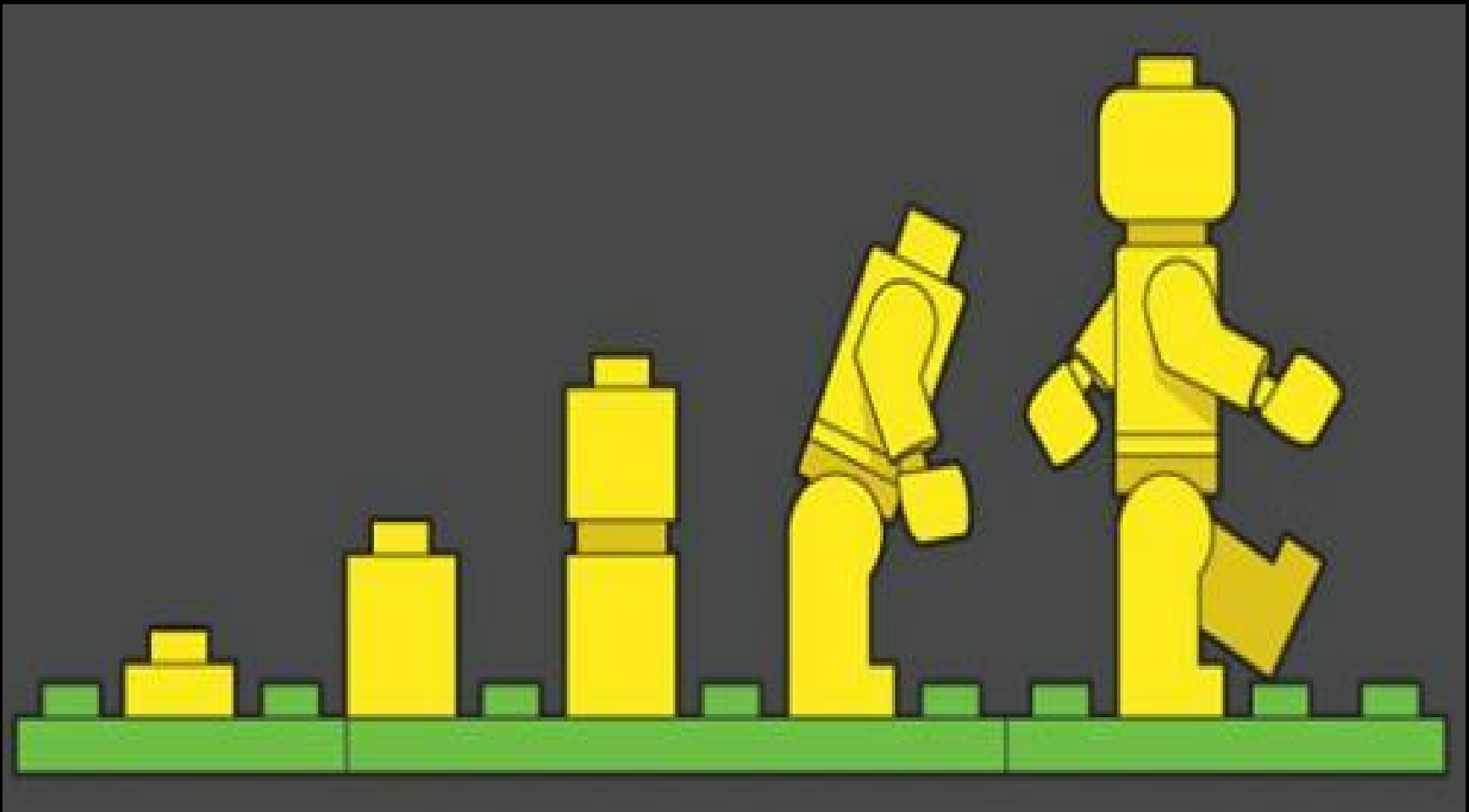
The Integration



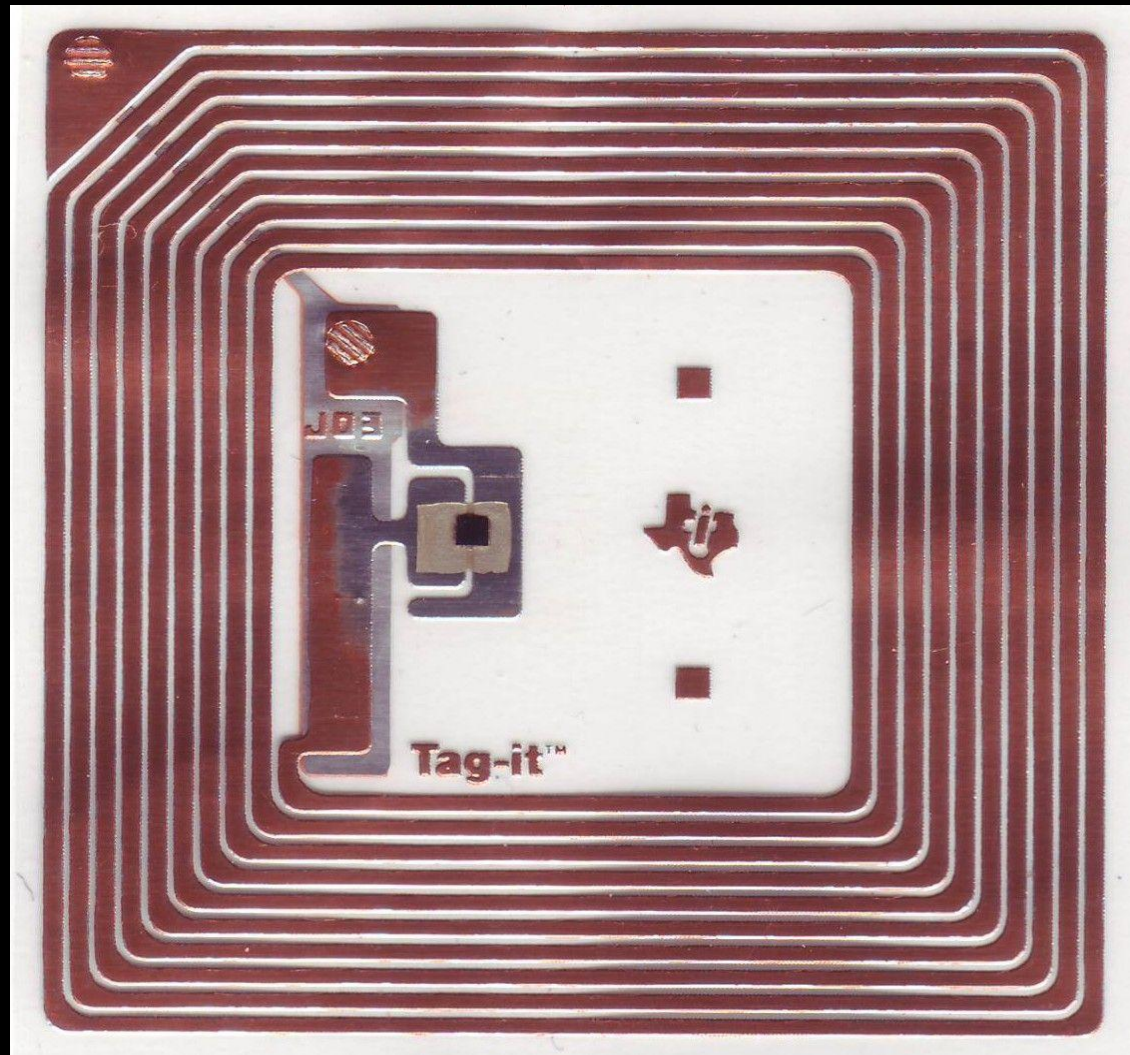
The Integration



The Process



Other Evolutions



RFID



Barcodes



QR Codes

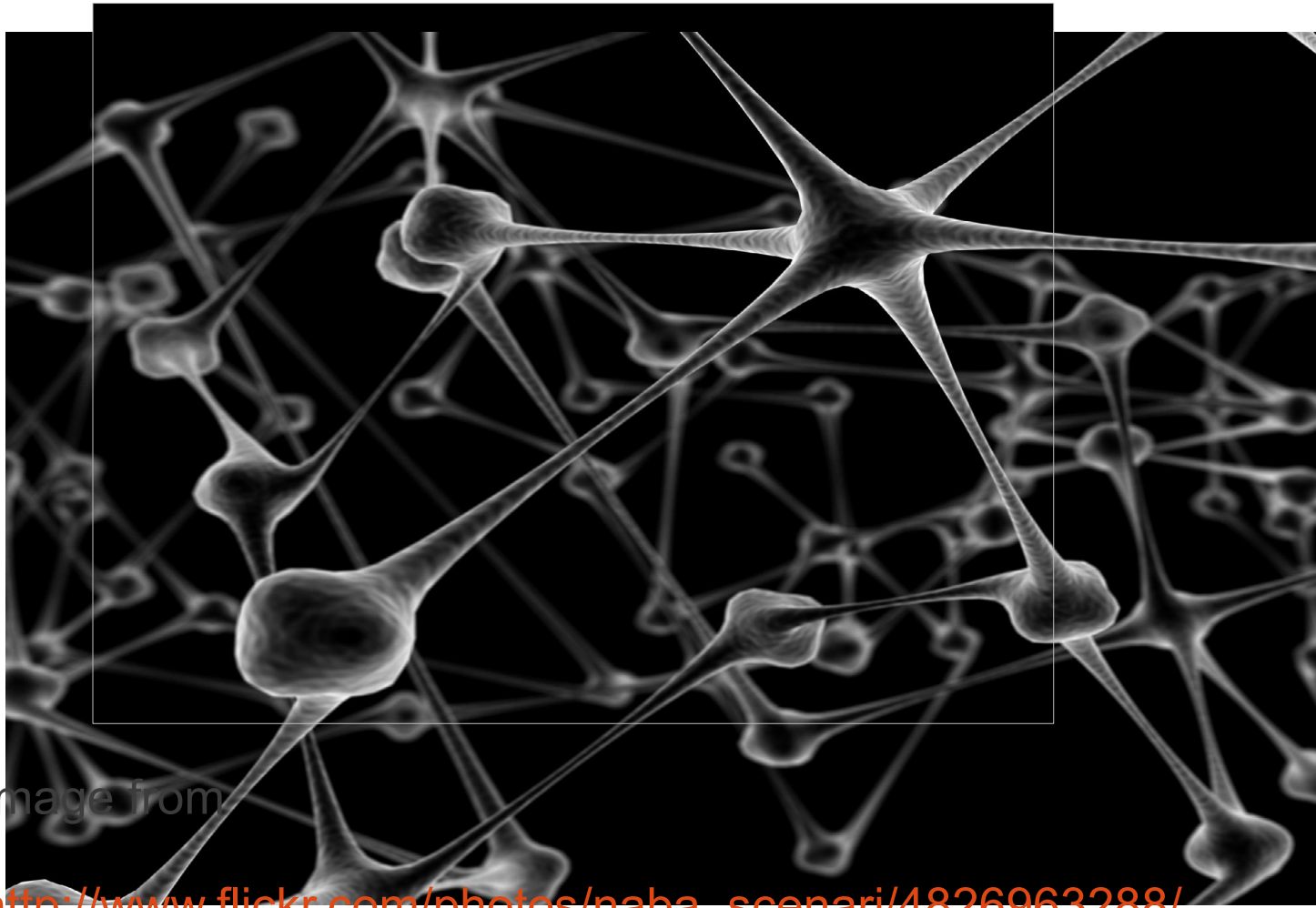
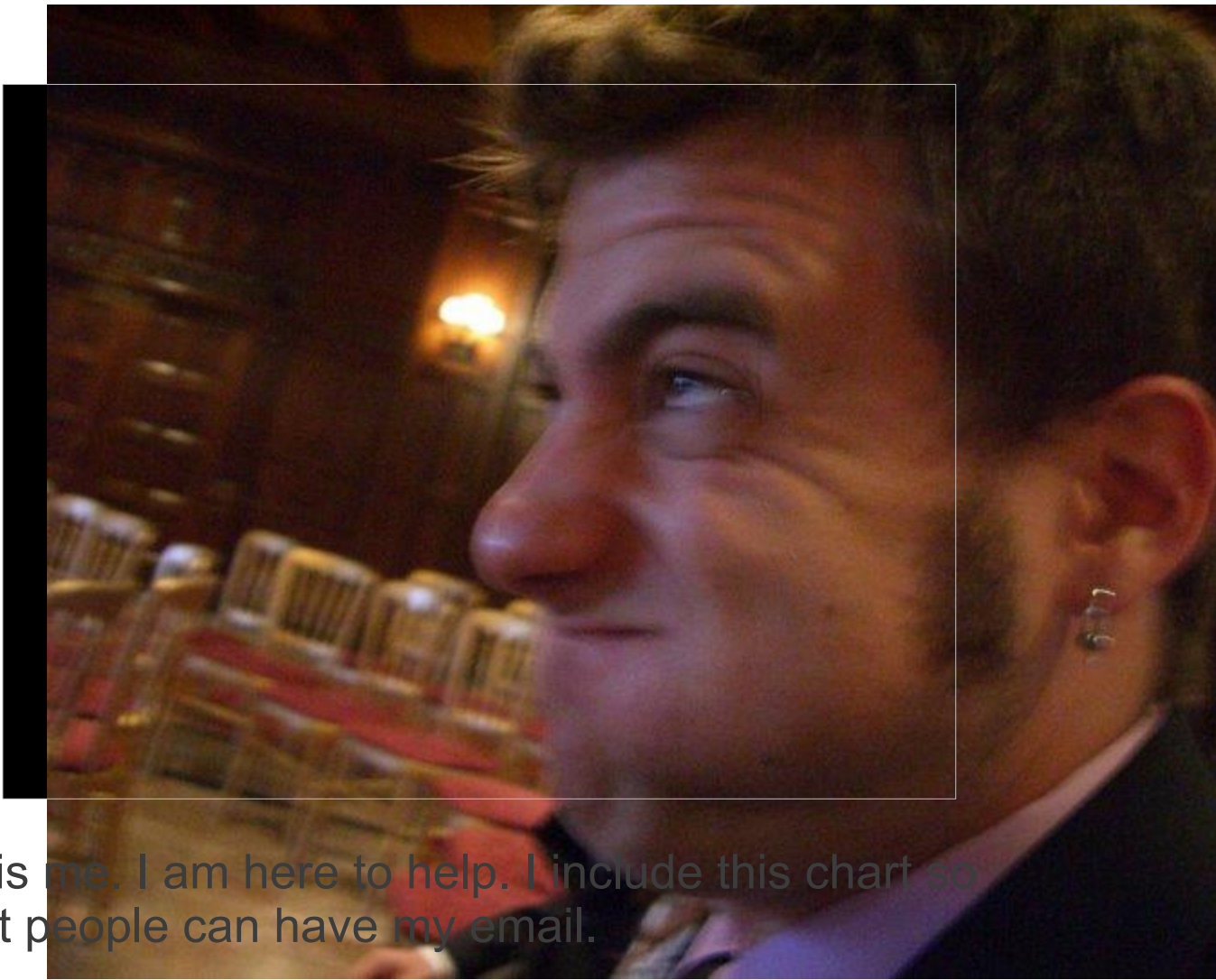


Image from:

http://www.flickr.com/photos/naba_scenari/4826963288/

Based on experience with the IBM Benchmark center, this session will cover the issues with a dynamic environment's asset management process.

Enterprise data centers must change their day-to-day process to meet the business demands. In this session we will walk through the process of one organization's attempt to achieve modernization, automation and service orientation of their datacenter and the services they support.



This is me. I am here to help. I include this chart so that people can have my email.

Although I might look young, I have been in the IT field for almost 15 years.

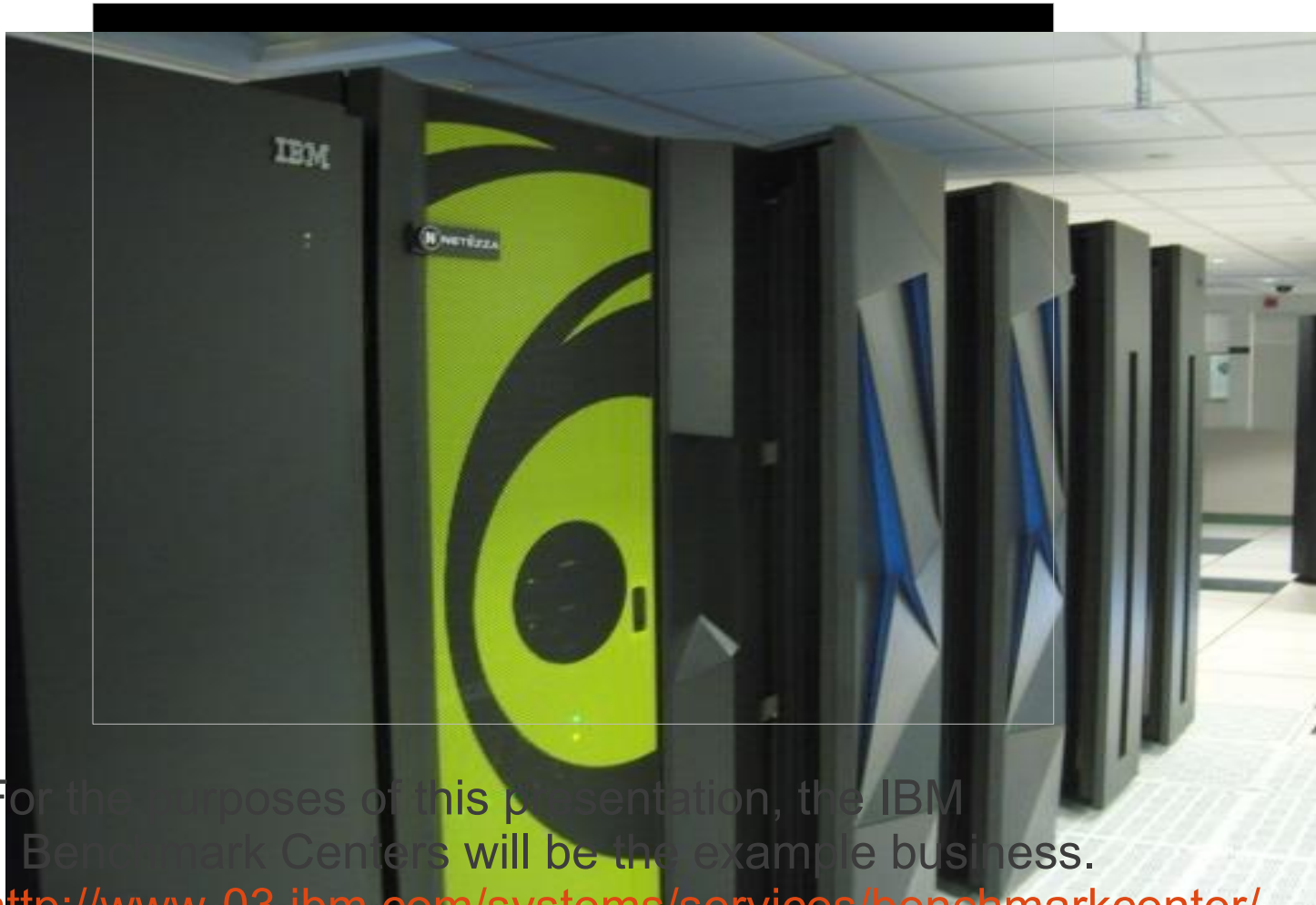
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The Design Center

<http://www-03.ibm.com/systems/services/designcenter/index.h>

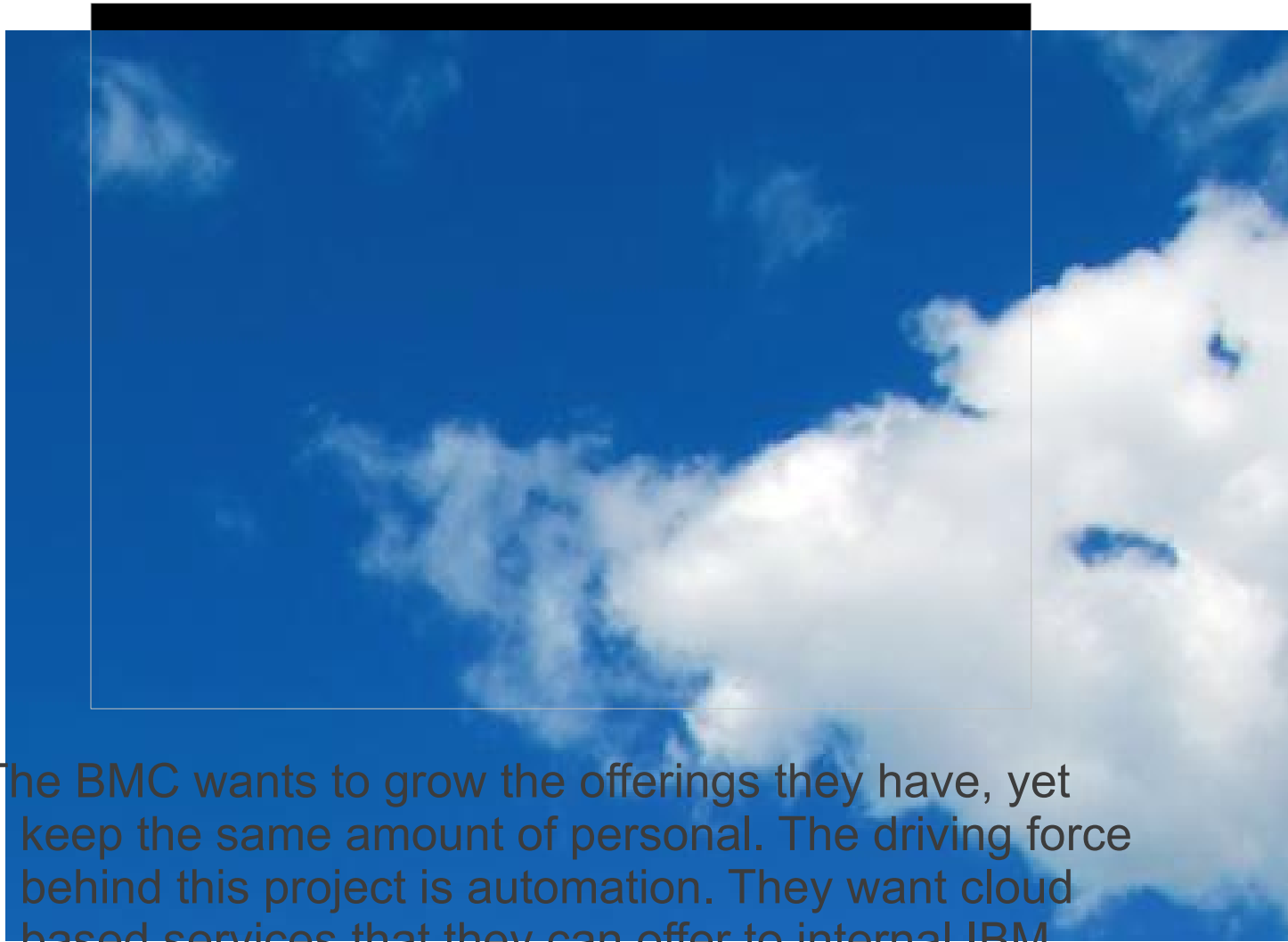




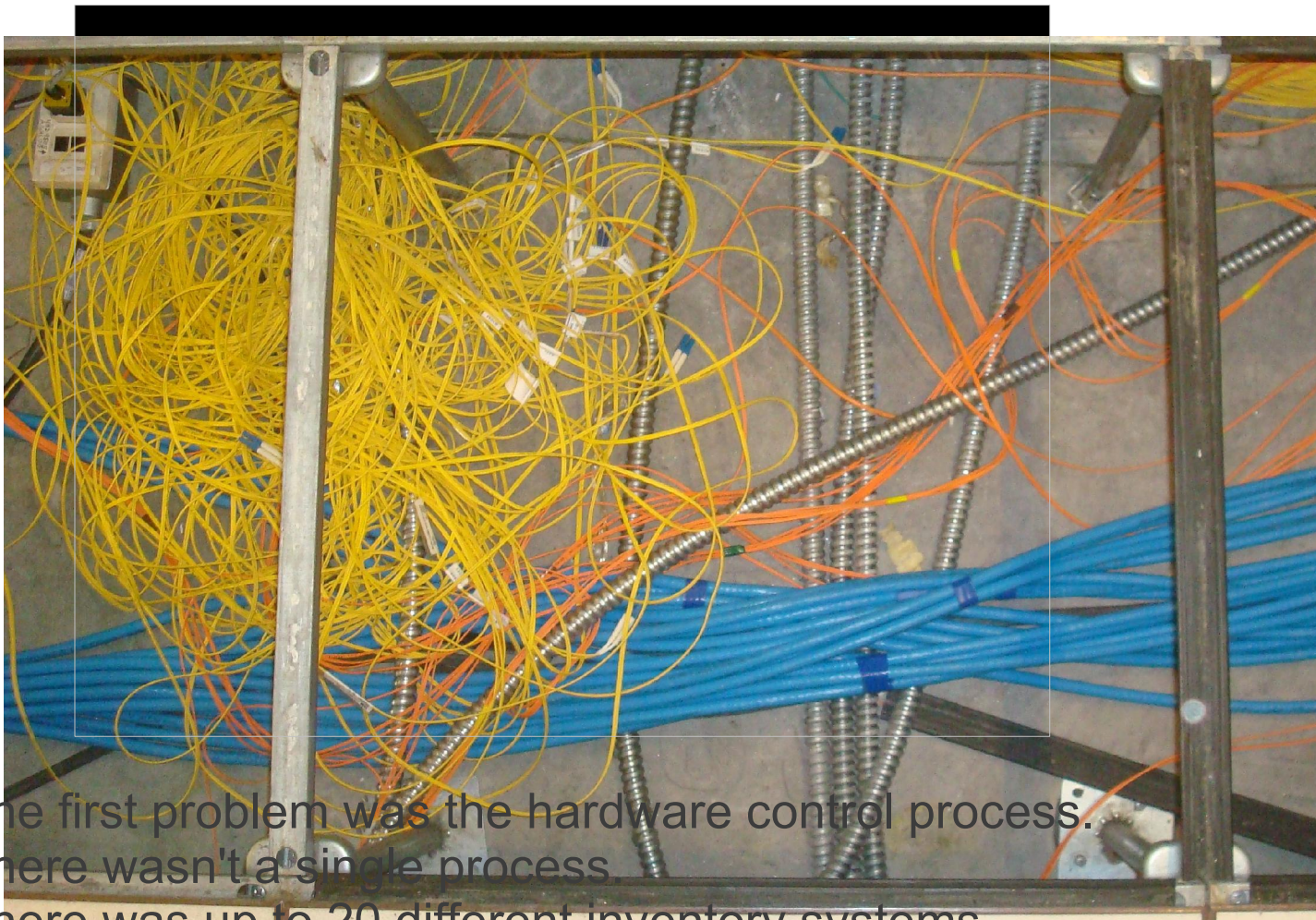
For the purposes of this presentation, the IBM Benchmark Centers will be the example business.

<http://www-03.ibm.com/systems/services/benchmarkcenter/>

“IBM Benchmarking Centers provide access to IBM server technologies, including IBM System z®, IBM Power Systems for IBM AIX and Linux and System i, IBM System x, Blue Gene equipment and IBM storage devices. All IBM supported operating systems, including Linux and other IBM software, are also available.”



The BMC wants to grow the offerings they have, yet keep the same amount of personal. The driving force behind this project is automation. They want cloud based services that they can offer to internal IBM clients as well as external clients.



The first problem was the hardware control process.
There wasn't a single process.
There was up to 20 different inventory systems



The Problem

The next issues was growth. Over the years, the BMC has grown and merged with all of STG's product lines.

This made things difficult, because like many organizations, the workload increased, but the personal didn't.

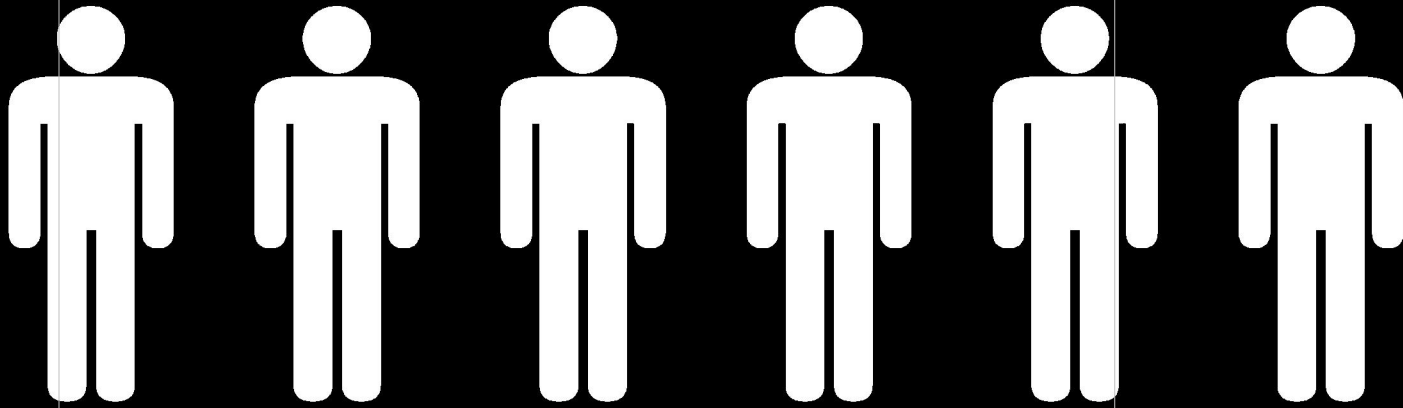
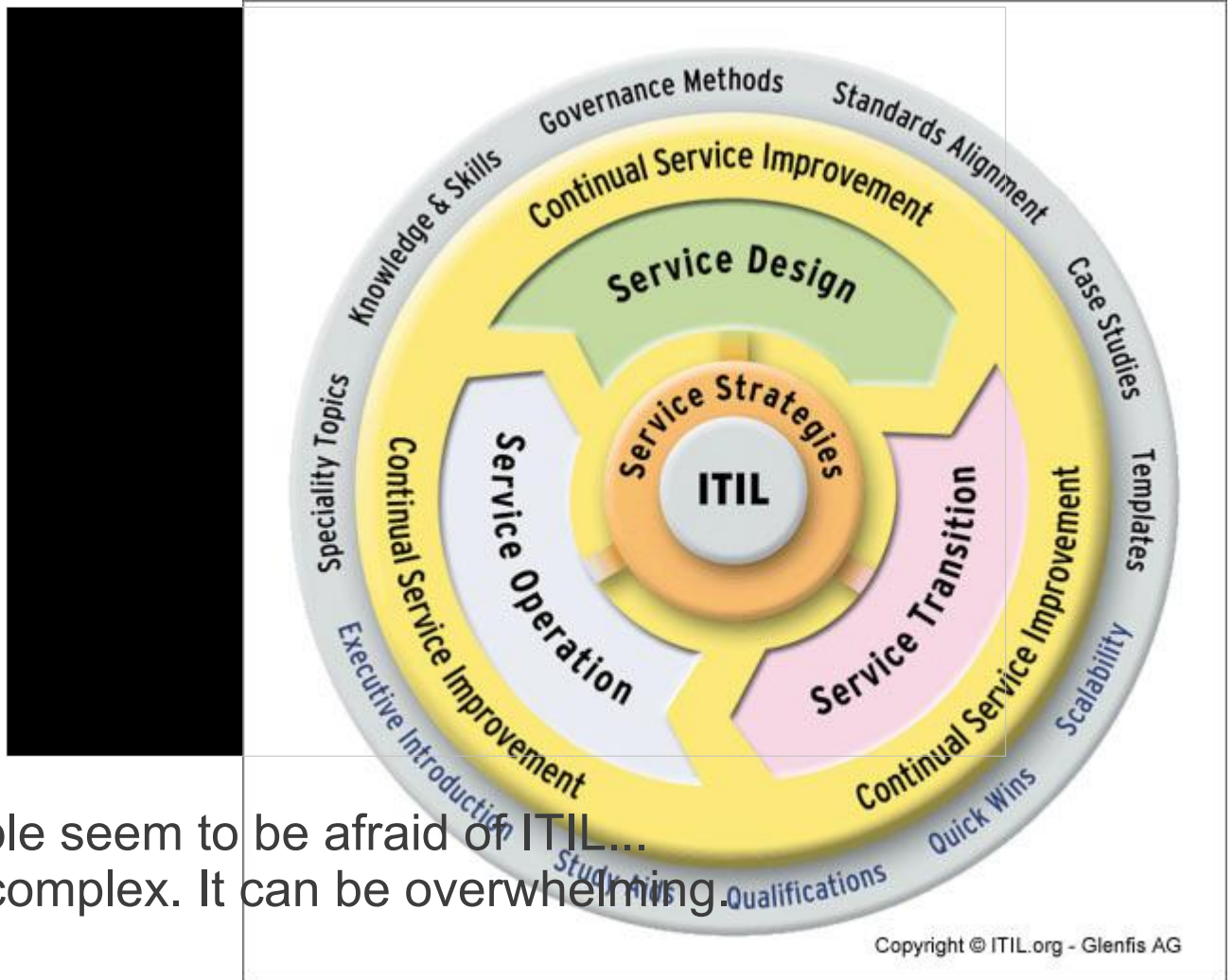


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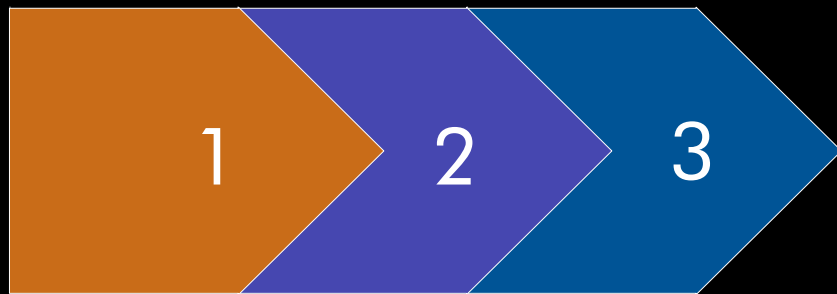
<http://www.sxc.hu/photo/1391608/?forcedownload=1>



BUSINESS-PLAN



That's all we need. Simple. We need to invest in a proper inventory tool.



Phased Approach

- Each phase would build on a single architecture
- They would be completed in sequence
- They would build off one another
- They have semi-independent goals so there is gain at the end of each phase
- The architecture would evolve as each phase progressed



1

- Goal: A single place to store and manage all assets
- Start work on the basic architectural components from Team Solution Design
 - Architectural Decisions
 - Functional and non functional requirements
 - Use Cases with Roles/Actors
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Inventory



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Scheduling



3

- ITIL compliance
- Self service
- Catalog of services
- Can be used by both benchmark personal and external entities

Automate

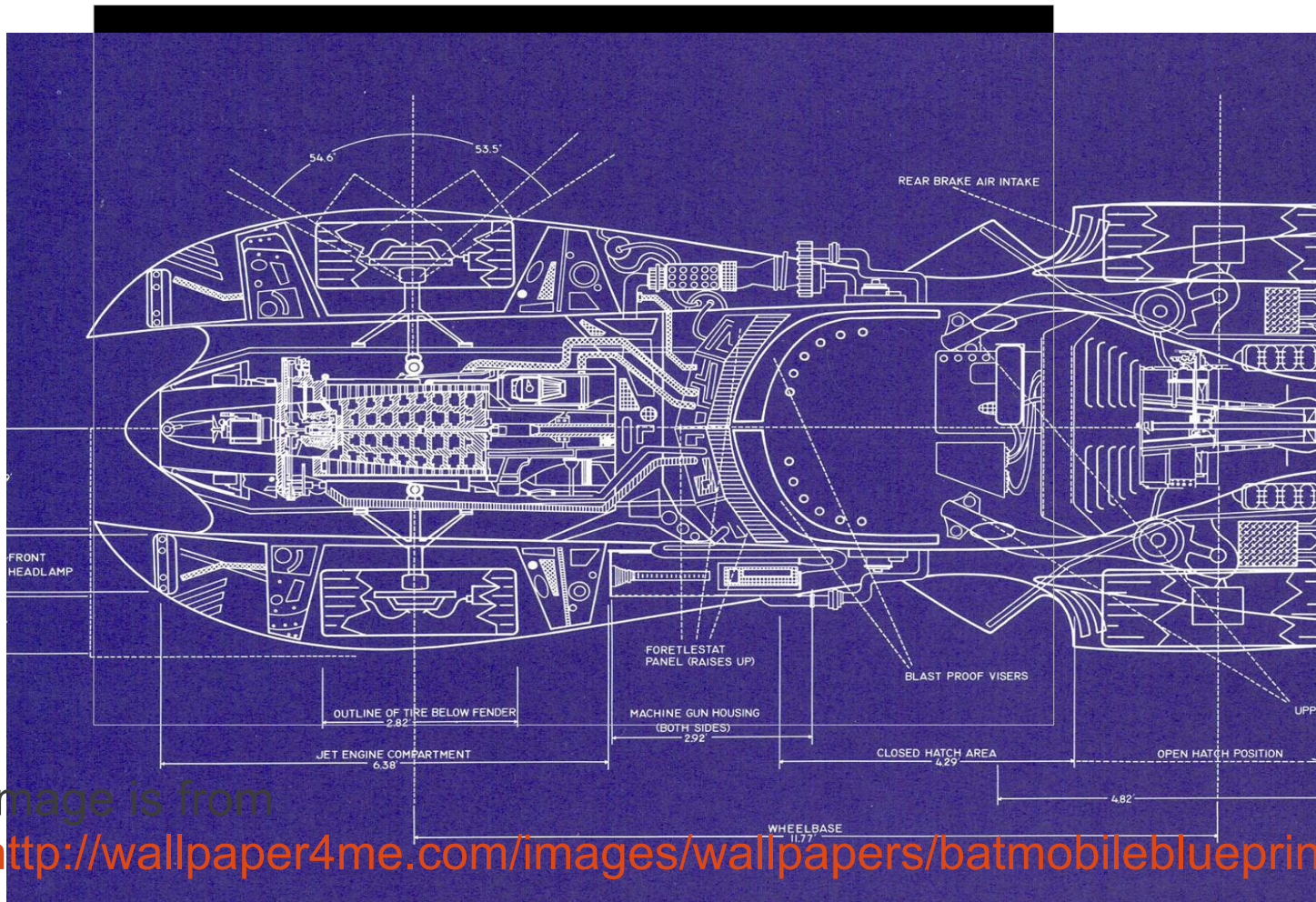
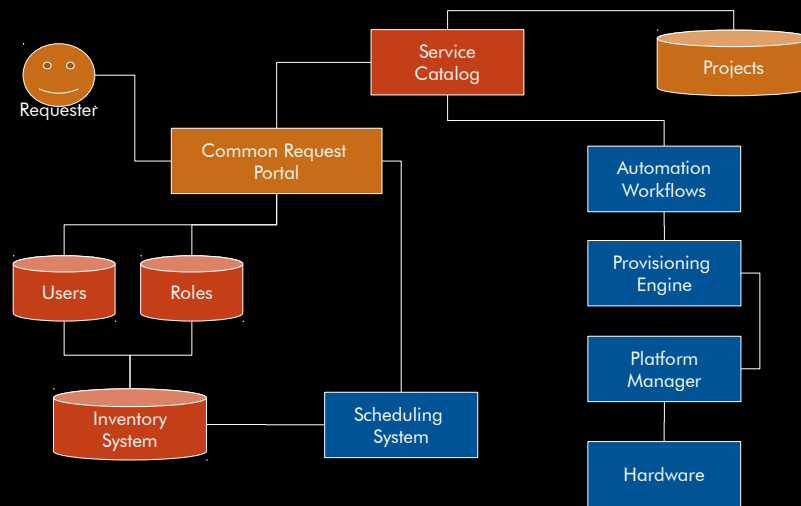


Image is from
<http://wallpaper4me.com/images/wallpapers/batmobileblueprint>

It is important to understand how all the pieces are going to fit when building any complicated infrastructure. Since our group is so diverse, we spend months gathering data. It takes a long time to gather the appropriate requirements, define the component model and map that to a solution.

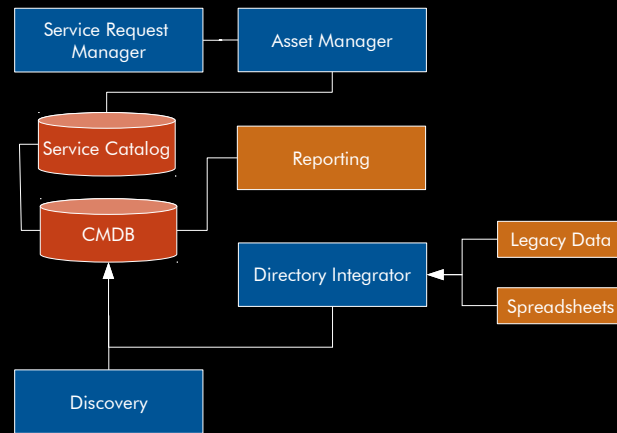


The Component Model

Not Part of
Phase One

Product

Currently Exists



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Service Administrator	Defines services; updates the common request portal

The Actors

- 
- Service request management
 - Change, Configuration and Release Management
 - IT asset lifecycle management
 - Service catalog instance.
 - Support for Service Providers

The solution that meet all the requirements is Smart Cloud Control Desk
<http://www-142.ibm.com/software/products/us/en/smartcloudcontroldesk/>

- Service request management gives you an efficient service desk for handling service requests and managing incidents.
- Change, configuration and release management provides advanced impact analysis and automated change procedures designed to reduce risk and support integrity of services.
- IT asset lifecycle management provides inventory management and software license compliance capabilities. Helps to manage assets throughout their lifecycle, optimizing usage of digital and physical assets and minimizing compliance risks.
- Service catalog helps users solve their own problems. Provides an intuitive self-help portal and a complete catalog of services.
- Support for service providers supply service support and service delivery capabilities for multiple customers in a single deployed instance. This can help increase profitability and improve customer satisfaction.

This is an example of request one of the use cases. This use case was deemed one of the most important.



Since SCCD comes with deployed asset hooks, we start there.

There are 4 types of deployed assets

- Computers
- Network Devices
- Network Printers
- Software

•

This makes sense. We are taking about deployed IT assets that are already deployed. The only way to automatically find this is if they are connected to a network.

Storage	Software	Network	Communication	Media Adapters	Displays	Image Devices	Users	Pa
						Site: <input type="text"/>		
						Role: ComputerSystem		
<hr/>								
						Logon: <input type="text"/>		
						Domain: pbm.ihost.com		
						GUID: 08AF739C9EFD372EBA85B0C		
						NRS GUID: 08AF739C9EFD372EBA85B0C		
						Actual Configuration Item Nu <input type="text"/>		
						Status: <input type="text"/>		

Example deployed assets that was imported.



Image From

<http://www.zdnet.com/cool-runnings-ibms-recipe-for-a-happy-d>

DPA can be promoted to assets, based on rules that you define.

The term asset is very very vague. It is pretty much anything, a chair, a computer, a CPU, a light. You need to define what assets are under your control.

Assets

Find: [] Select Action []

View Record List > 1001

Asset Spare Parts **IT Details** Meters Specifications Relationships Work Topology

You can view or enter information about IT assets. IT assets are assets that are classified under the IT hierarchy when the asset record is created. [More information](#)

Asset: 1001 Site: POK

Status: NOT READY Location: POK >> []

Configuration Item: >> []

Configuration Item Name: []

Details

Serial #: [] Rotating Item: >> []

Asset Tag: 1234_dcx Usage: Server

Primary User: MIKE >> Michael Buzzetti Partition? ☒

GL Account: [] Partition ID: 2

Deployed Asset

Node Name: dcx46 Site ID: []

Link Rule: PROMOTED >> []

The Assets

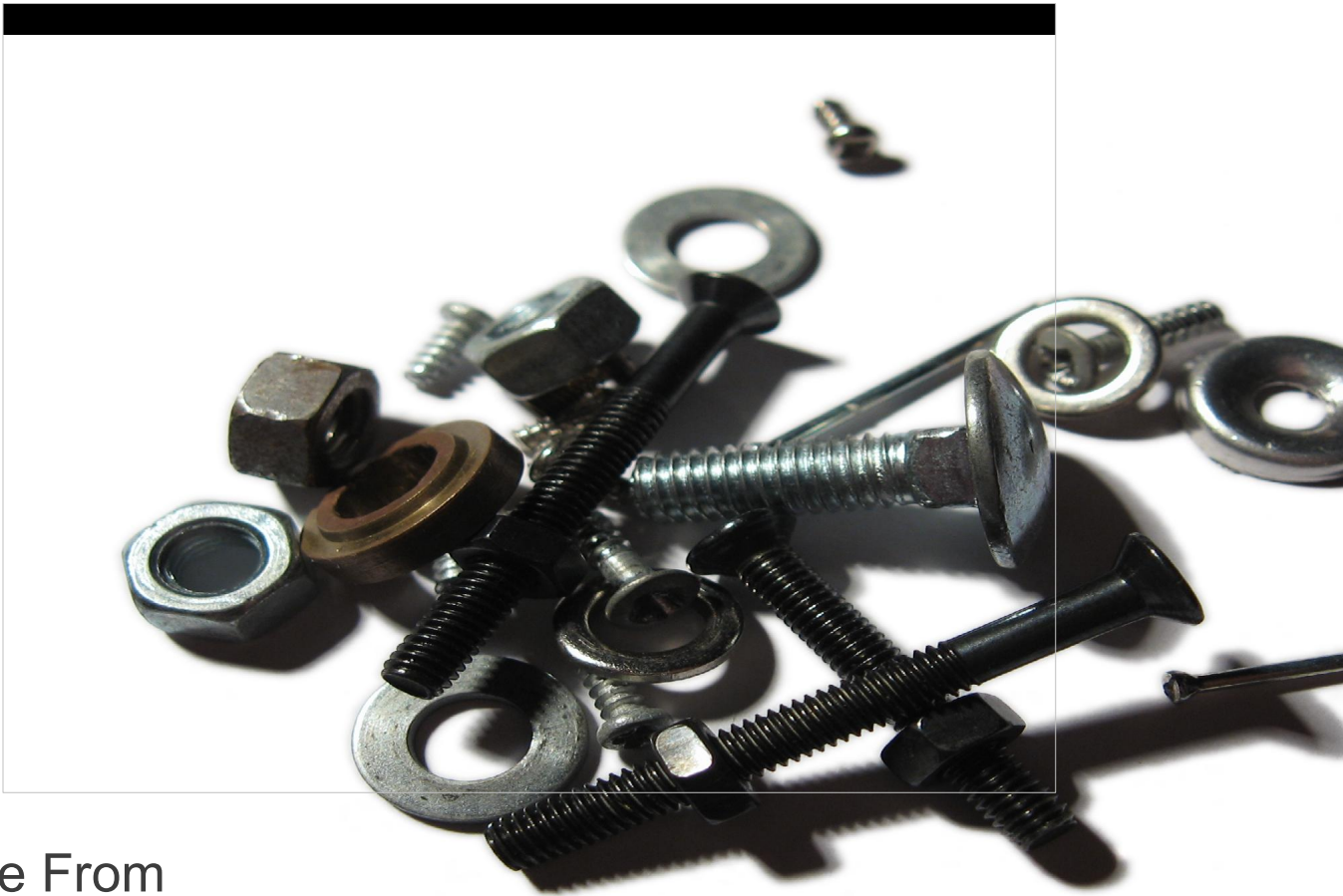


Image From

<http://www.sxc.hu/photo/770540>

Even more generic than the Assets, these are the parts that make up the service management components. By defining the

CI Summary

CI Details

Related Configuration Items

CI Topology

Interested Parties

Configuration Item Name:

10.10.10.15



Status

NOT I

Classification:

CIRoot \ CI.IPNETWORK \ CI.IPINTERFACE



CI.IPINTERFACE

Physi

ITHAF

Configuration Item Number:

10.10.10.15~1890

Site:

PMSC

Associated Asset:

ITAM1013



Lenovo Thinkpad T61



Organ

PMSC

CI Ow

Owne

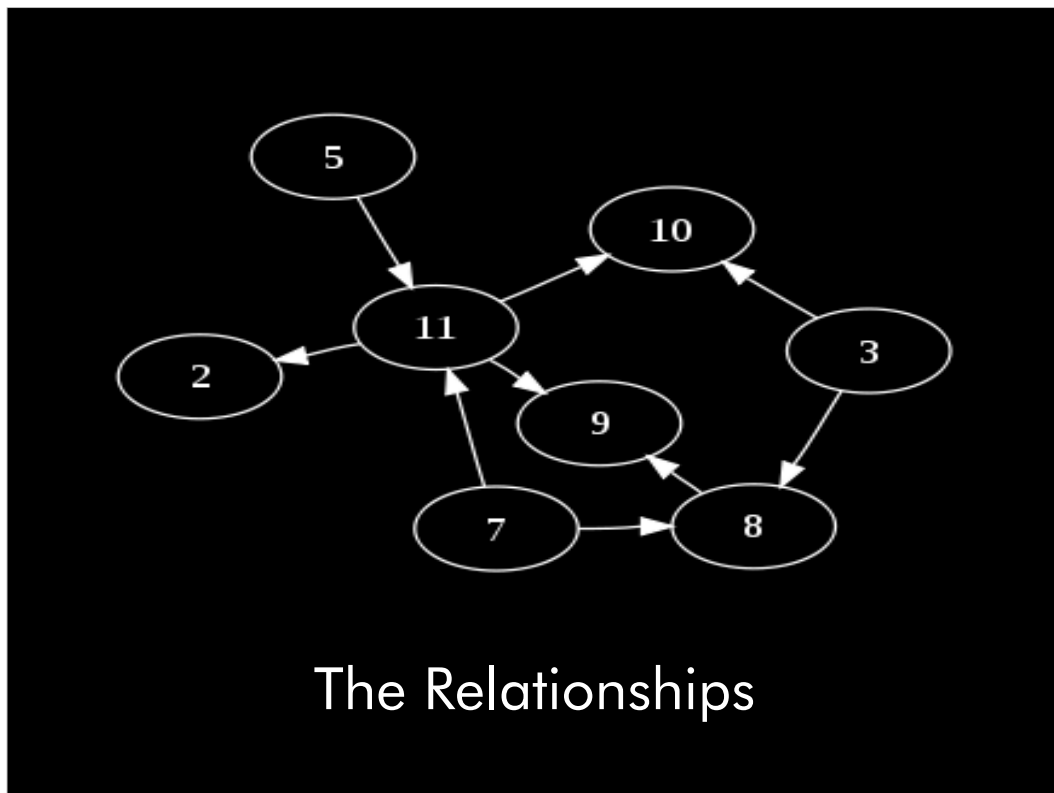


Image from

<http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/3/39/Di>

There are a couple of different relationships that we use. One is for automation of the DPA to Assets. This is based on serial number.

The other is the creation and linkage of assets to Cis. This can require assets to have relationships with other assets. This is handled by the classification structure withing CCMDDB

View Configuration Item Relationship History

Configuration Item Name:

10.10.10.15

Configuration Item Number:

10.10.10.15~1890

As of:

2/4/13 11:08:26

Target Configuration Items

Filter

1 - 1 of 1

Relation	Target Configuration Item	Description	Start Date
RELATION.BINDSTO	CAESAR.LAB.COLLATION.NET:ERI0		2/11/10 15:18:01

Source Configuration Items

Filter

1 - 3 of 3

Source Configuration Item	Relation	Description	Start Date
	RELATION.NETWORKS		2/11/10 15:18:02
CAESAR.LAB.COLLATION.NET:ROUTER	RELATION.ROUTES		2/11/10 15:18:02
CAESAR.LAB.COLLATION.NET	RELATION.CONTAINS		2/11/10 15:18:02

This is a CI relationship for a network device. This is how one can see what other CI's this CI is connected to. You can see that this is connected to a routed network.

Relationship

Relationship:

RELATION.CONNECTEDTO

[Attachments](#)

Type:

UNIDIRECTIC

Classification:

ACTUALCIROOTCLASS \ RELATION.CONNECTEDTO >>

Use With:

CI

Allow Override?

☐

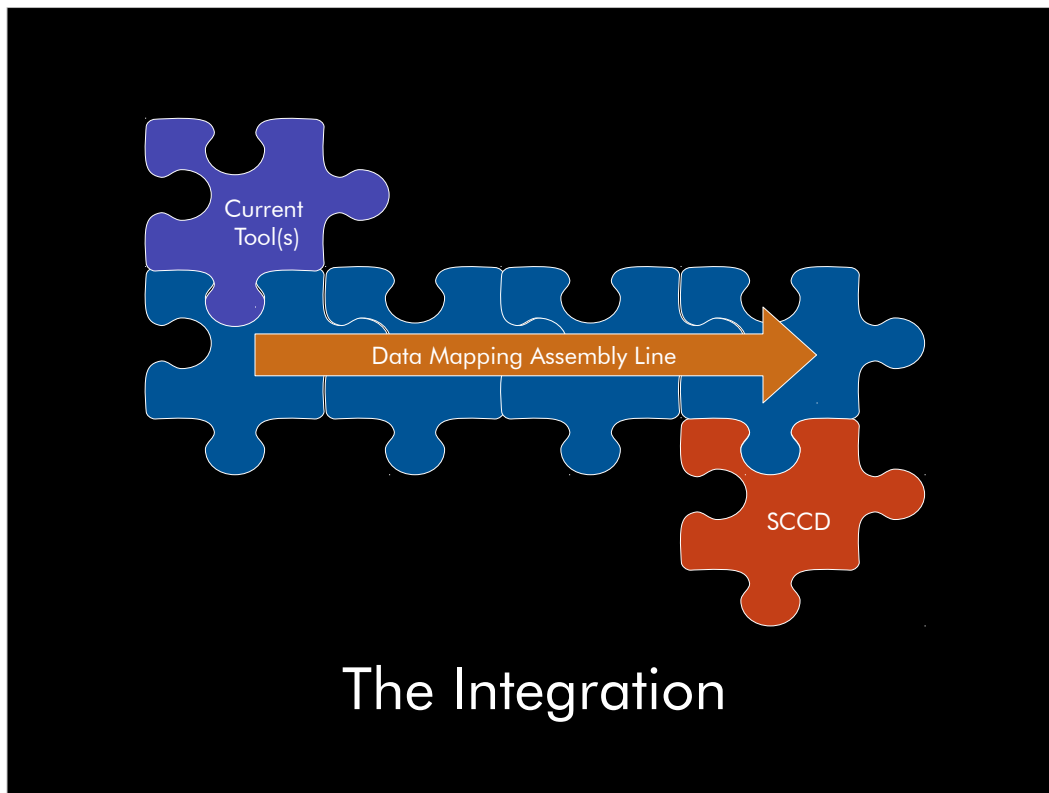
Imported?

☒

Relationship Rules Filter 1 - 6 of 608

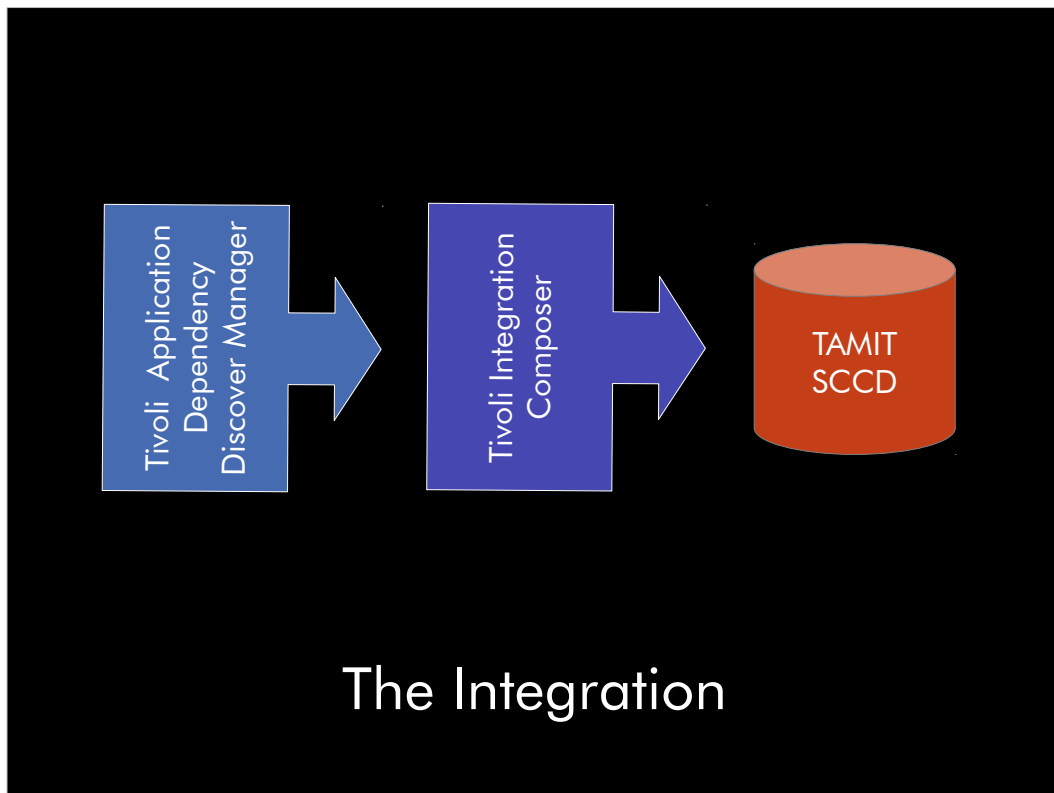
Source Classification	Target Classification	Cardinality	Propagate Change?
ACTUALCIROOTCLASS \ SYS.COMPUTERSYSTEM \ DEV >>	ACTUALCIROOTCLASS \ SYS.DOS.DOSUNITARYCOMPU >>	1:1	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACTUALCIROOTCLASS \ DEV.SCSIPROTOCOLCONTROL >>	ACTUALCIROOTCLASS \ SYS.COMPUTERSYSTEM >>	1:1	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACTUALCIROOTCLASS \ DEV.SCSIPROTOCOLCONTROL >>	ACTUALCIROOTCLASS \ SYS.SUN.SUNSPARCVIRTUALC >>	1:1	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACTUALCIROOTCLASS \ SYS.COMPUTERSYSTEM \ DEV. >>	ACTUALCIROOTCLASS \ SYS.FREEBSD.FREEBSDUNITAF >>	1:1	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACTUALCIROOTCLASS \ DEV.SCSIPROTOCOLCONTROL >>	ACTUALCIROOTCLASS \ SYS.ZOS.ZSERIESCOMPUTERS' >>	1:1	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACTUALCIROOTCLASS \ DEV.SCSIPROTOCOLCONTROL >>	ACTUALCIROOTCLASS \ SYS.SYSTEMPCOMPUTERS >>	1:1	<input type="checkbox"/>

This is an example relationship for connected to.

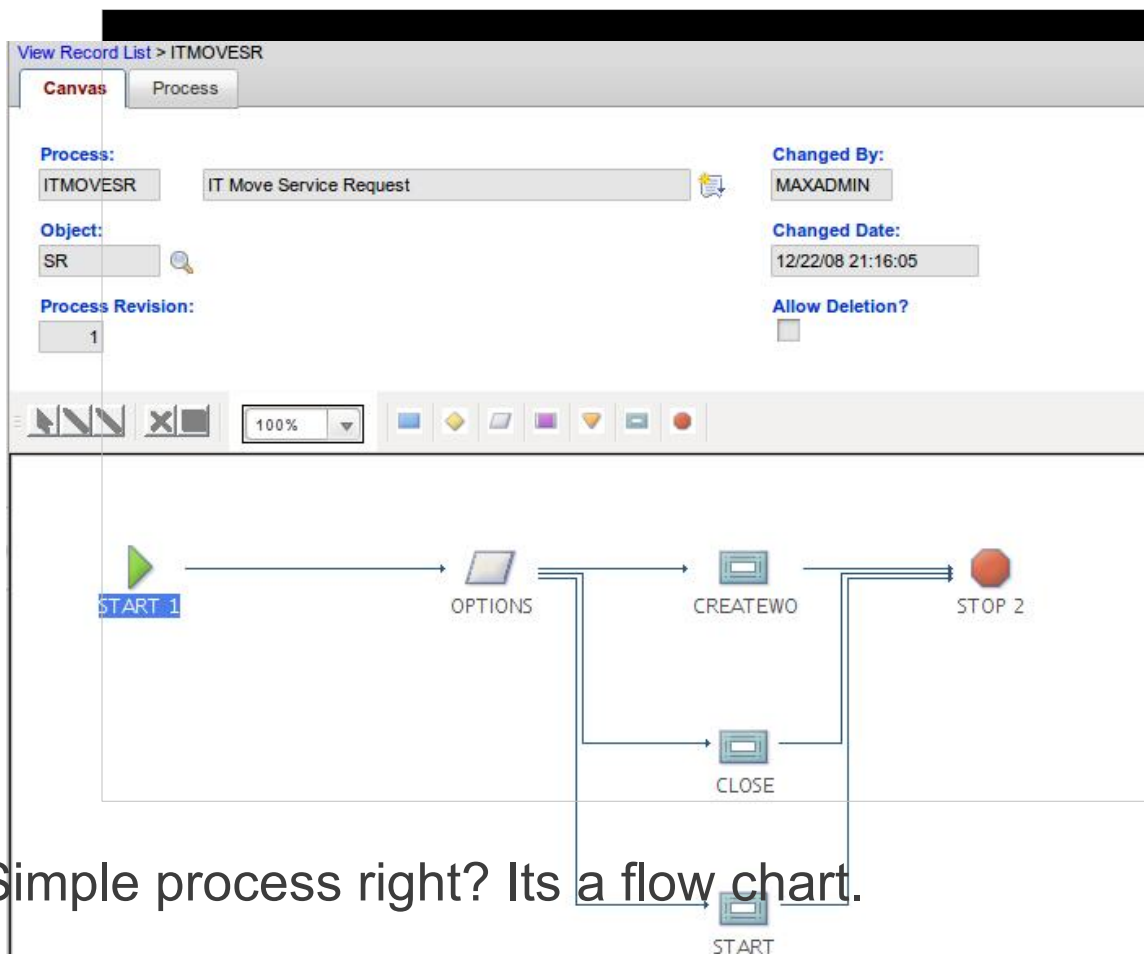


We have spreadsheets, databases, and even flat files that store our assets.

In order to input this data in to SCCD, we build assembly lines in Tivoli Directory Integrator. TDI ships with support for TPAE and DPA. In this case, we are just adding assets, not Deployed assets, although we could.



We also installed TADDDM. We build TADDDM to do basic discover and through the mapping system the TIC provides, to import Deployed assets.



Simple process right? Its a flow chart.

We can add many things in here, like approval rules, email templates, escalation, etc.

This is the hardest part. Trying to get each team to right down their process has been very difficult.

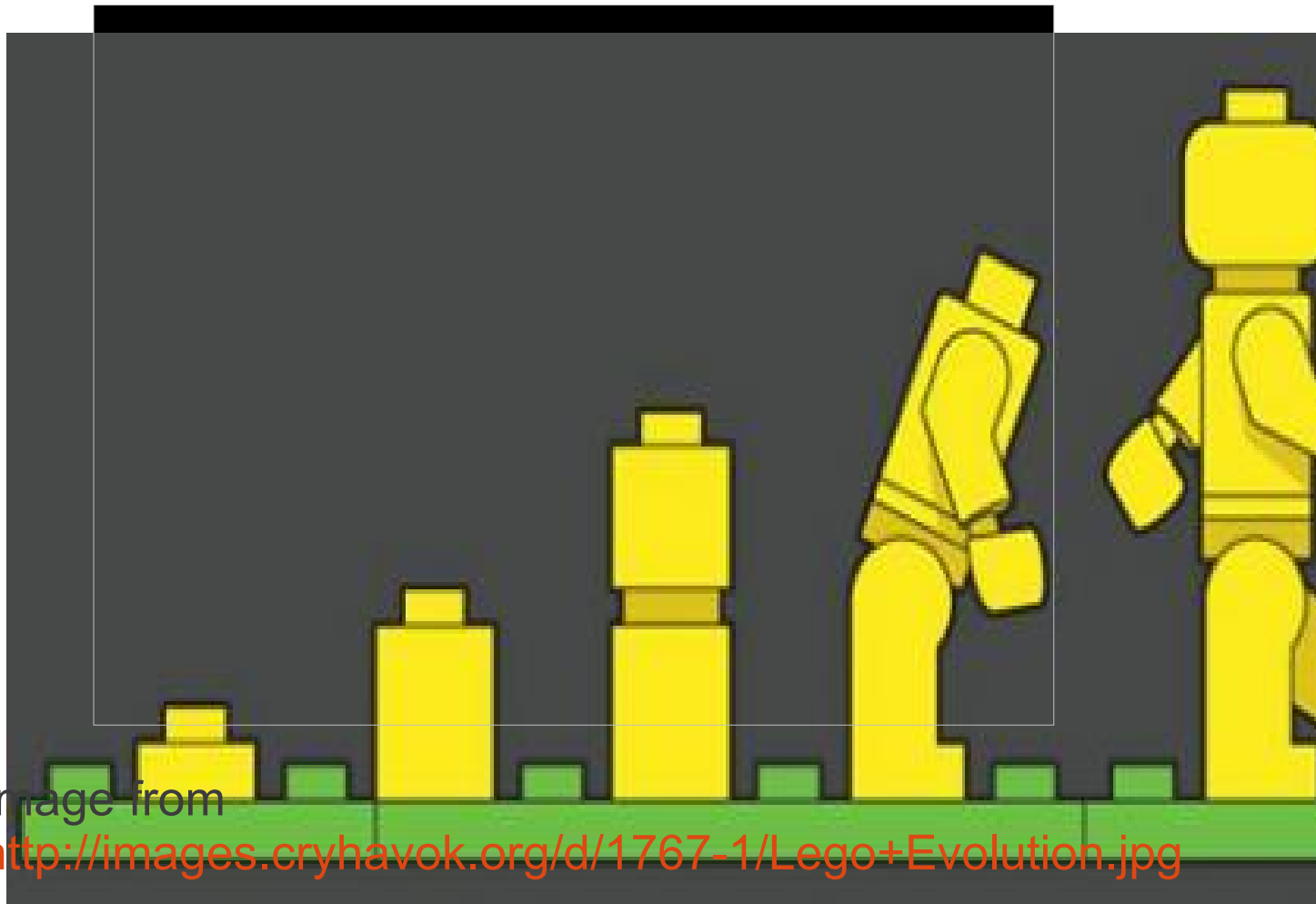


Image from

<http://images.cryhavok.org/d/1767-1/Lego+Evolution.jpg>

Many other things are happening within our data center (s).

As stated earlier, the group is growing both in the number of assets and the number of locations Worldwide.

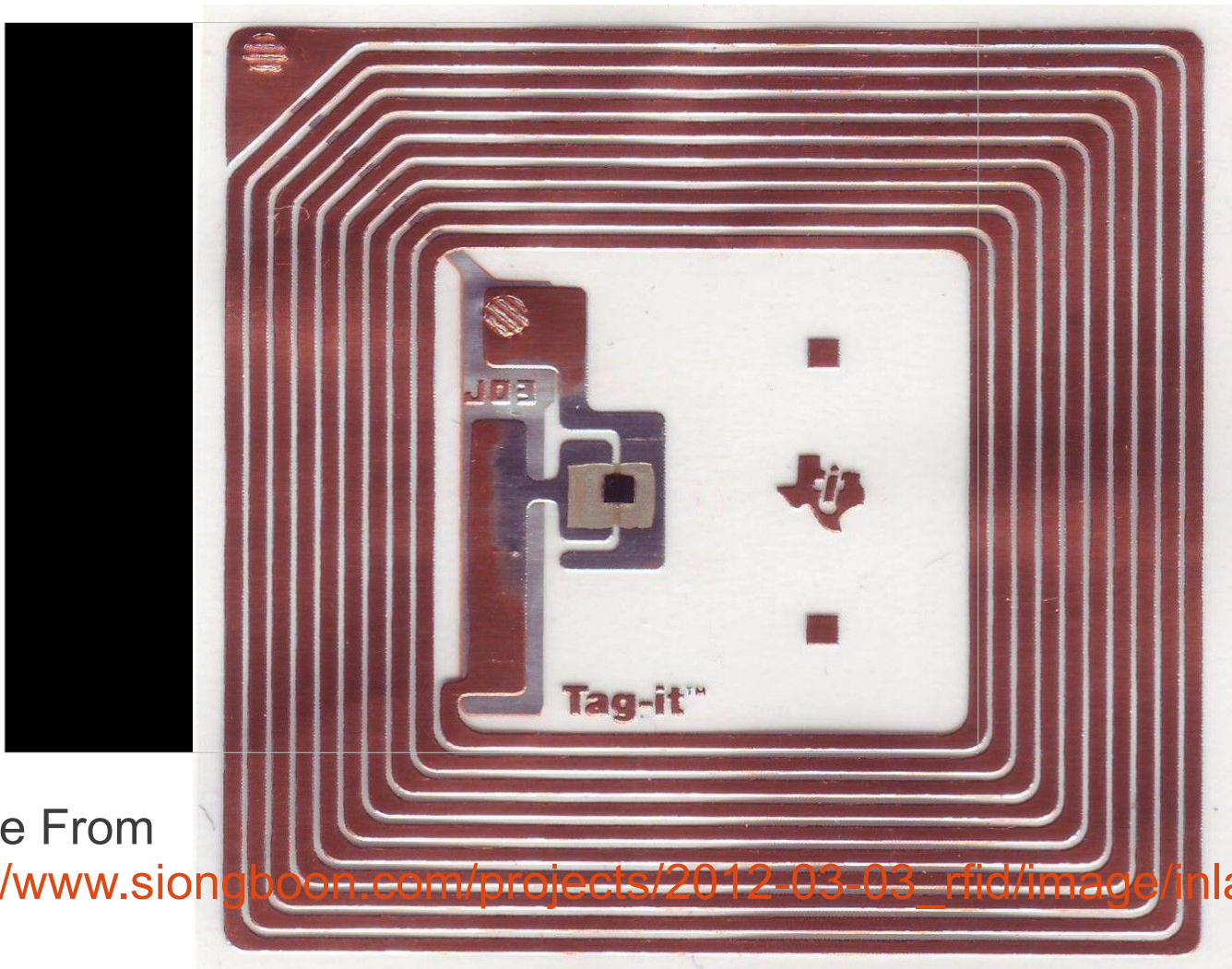


Image From

http://www.siongboon.com/projects/2012-03-03_rfid/image/inla

The procurement process is outside the realm of the benchmark center, but the higher level organization wants to attach RFIDs to select items. We have already started the process of integrating this data into our tool to help with moving and locating equipment.



Image from
<http://www.sxc.hu/photo/655205>

We manually add machines to the asset system. There are lots of errors, since the serial number are very small.



Finally we are also adding QR codes to certain devices. This can do two things. Link right to the asset management page, and aid in adding equipment to the system.

This is the QR code for this session.