

## STRATEGIC TECHNOLOGY PLANNING

Long-term technology planning is a natural next step after an Information Strategy has been defined.

Just as the Information Strategy removes the uncertainty surrounding future growth and value to the organization, the Technology Strategy allows you to build an infrastructure that will sustain that growth.

Your company's technical strategy should be based on the long view of how the data integration and/or data warehouse environment is envisioned to be after years of growth. The only way to accomplish this is to look beyond the current project.

You will need to consider not only hardware and software scalability, but vendor staying power. Source applications will be replaced over time. The data warehouse user base will continue to expand, different groups may need different tools, and users may require information at different frequencies. As always, available technologies will change rapidly.

### WHAT SISG CAN DO FOR YOU

SISG understands that you don't want to pay now for functionality you won't need for years to come. But you also shouldn't have to revisit technology decisions every 2-3 years as previous decisions become obsolete.

We can help you select technologies that will grow with you. Whether working from an overall Information Strategy, or working from your first Data Warehouse (DW) or Enterprise Application Integration (EAI) project, you will need to look *beyond* this first project in order to make technological decisions. SISG has the experience to help you do that.

SISG technical architects have the industry experience to know how your DW/EAI is likely to grow. We also have the experience with tools and vendors to help you make better informed decisions about what will meet your needs.

#### High-level infrastructure planning

SISG will work with you to determine which hardware, software, and integration decisions should be made now, and which can be deferred. We will help you to determine the parameters for those decisions. And we can help you *make* those decisions.

Our templates provide a launching point to help you identify the high-level criteria that will eventually assist in infrastructure selection and in timing the acquisitions.

#### Data acquisition and ETL planning

Our architects are expert in EAI and other extract/transform/load (ETL) software, connectivity, compatibility, and configuration strategies. We will work with you to determine the best global and local strategies that will scale to sustain your prospective growth, yet be flexible enough to support multiple and changing sources.

#### Data access and distribution planning

We will help you develop a plan to satisfy the current user group, without locking into a narrow strategy. User needs can differ greatly from group to group, and the more autonomous are a company's divisions the less likely that one solution will satisfy all.

SISG also offers strategic **Tool Assessment** services to help you in specific tool evaluation and selection, after your strategy is in place.

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## STRATEGIC TECHNOLOGY PLANNING

When its time to build the solution, SISG's **Technical Architecture** service is that part of the DW/EAI lifecycle where the strategy is refined to specific designs that serve the current project within the overall strategic framework. Please refer to SISG's **Data Warehousing** or **Enterprise Application Integration** services for more information.

### DELIVERABLES

The primary deliverable for this engagement is a Technology Strategy document that provides

- High-Level technology requirements
- High-level infrastructure architecture diagrams
- Data acquisition (EAI/ETL) technology strategies
- Broad strategies for data delivery and security
- Plans for automated feedback to operational systems

### TIMEFRAME

The survey and analysis for this engagement lasts approximately 2 weeks, depending on the existence of an overall Information Strategy. Please refer to SISG's **Strategic Information Planning** engagement for more information.

### CLIENT BENEFITS

By allowing SISG to help formalize a vision for the future, clients of SISG will enjoy:

- Defined Technological Strategy
- Less likelihood of hidden or unexpected costs
- Greater likelihood of creating a budget you can stay within
- Measurable return on investments
- Perfect positioning for Tools Assessment
- Firm foundation for project-level technical architecture

### LEADING TECHNOLOGIES

SISG can support these and other leading technology solutions:

| SOURCE/TARGET APPLICATIONS      | DATABASE MANAGEMENT | DATA INTEGRATION /ETL TOOLS  | ANALYTICS PACKAGES     | META DATA MANAGEMENT  | DATA ACCESS & ANALYSIS    | WEB INTEGRATION                  |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|--|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Oracle Financials               | Oracle              | Informatica Data Integration Suite (PowerCenter, Connectors, etc.) | Informatica Analytics  | Informatica SuperGlue | Informatica PowerAnalyzer | IBM WebSphere Application Server |
| SAP                             | DB2/UDB             | MQ Series, MQ Integrator   | Jaros Analytics        | ERwin                 | Actuate                   | IBM WebSphere Portal Server      |
| Siebel                          | Informix            | SeeBeyond  | PeopleSoft EPM         |                       | Brio                      | BEA WebLogic Application Server  |
| PeopleSoft                      | SQL Server          | Tibco  | SAP Business Warehouse |                       | Business Objects          | IBM Directory Server             |
| Other custom-built applications | Sybase              | Other JMS-compliant messaging toolsets                             |                        |                       | Cognos                    |                                  |

**For more information please contact:**

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