

ARCHITECTURE, STRATEGY AND DESIGN

*OneVA EA September 2013 Architecture
Release Overview and Summary*

SEPTEMBER 2013

DRAFT

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Office of Information and Technology
Architecture, Strategy, and Design

Table of Contents

1	Introduction.....	3
2	General OneVA EA Overview.....	6
2.1	Architecture Guidance.....	6
2.2	Architecture Release Process.....	6
2.3	OneVA EA Development.....	6
2.4	OneVA EA Governance.....	7
2.5	OneVA EA Configuration Management.....	8
3	OneVA EA Content Changes.....	9
3.1	Internet Publication.....	9
3.2	ESS/SOA Webpages.....	9
4	OneVA EA Changes.....	11
4.1	Reference Documents.....	11
4.1.1	OneVA EA Vision and Strategy.....	11
4.1.2	Architecture Development Methodology.....	10
4.1.3	Architecture Style Guide.....	11
4.1.4	Configuration Management Document.....	11
4.2	Architecture Models.....	10
4.2.1	Business Reference Model (BRM).....	12
4.2.2	Organizational Model (OM).....	12
4.2.3	Conceptual Data Model (CDM).....	13
4.2.4	System Interface Model (SIM).....	13
4.2.5	Business Process Models.....	13
4.3	OneVA EA Reports.....	13
4.3.1	Organization to LRP Mappings Report.....	13
4.3.2	OneVA EA Conceptual Data Model (CDM) Report.....	13
4.3.3	OneVA EA Data Dictionary Report.....	13
4.3.4	Strategic Plan Mappings Report.....	13
4.3.5	FEA BRM Mappings Report.....	14

4.3.6	CDI Encyclopedia	14
4.3.7	OneVA EA Compare Report	14
4.3.8	OneVA EA Encyclopedia.....	14
4.4	Supplemental Artifacts	14
4.4.1	Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) Artifacts	14
4.4.2	National Cemetery Administration (NCA) Artifacts.....	15
4.4.3	Veteran Lifetime Electronic Record (VLER) Artifacts.....	15
5	OneVA EA Website Access	15
5.1	Changes.....	15
5.1.1	OneVA EA Website Update.....	15
5.1.2	Visualization Enhancements	Error! Bookmark not defined.
5.2	Technical Requirements	15
6	Summary	15
6.1	OneVA EA September 2013 Release Planning	16
Appendix A	List of Acronyms	Error! Bookmark not defined.

Table of Figures

Figure 1-1,	Vision for OneVA EA	3
Figure 1-2,	OneVA EA Content Scope	4
Figure 2-1,	Parallel Development Process.....	6
Figure 2-2,	Sample OneVA EA Release Schedule.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Figure 2-3,	Parallel Development Process.....	7
Figure 2-4,	OneVA EA Governance Process.....	8

List of Tables

Table 3-1,	OneVA EA April 2013 Architecture Release Deliverables	10
------------	---	----

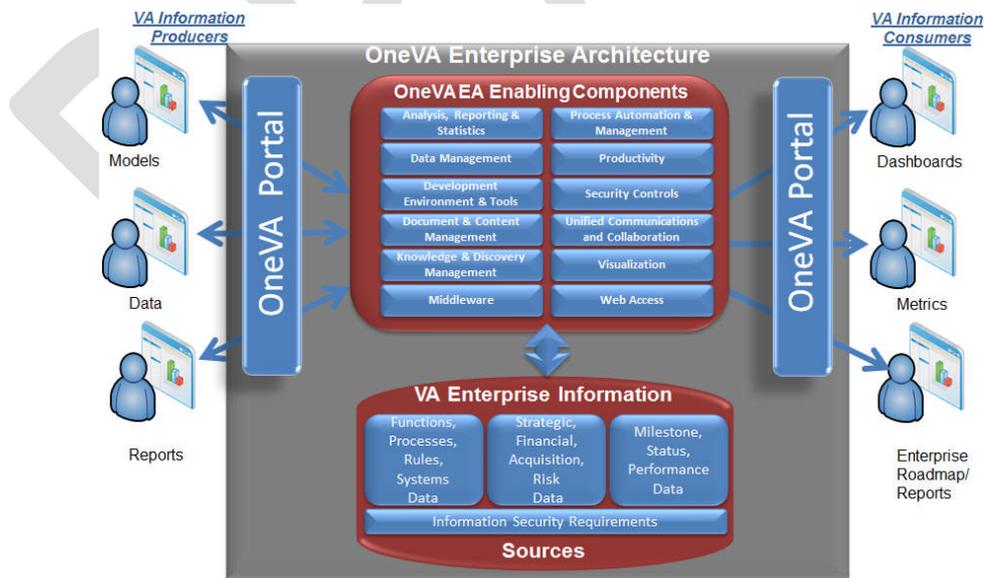
1 Introduction

The purpose of the OneVA EA Overview and Summary document is to provide an overview of the latest OneVA EA release; outlining changes made since the prior release. The types of changes include: architecture content, supporting products, and changes to enhanced visualizations of the content. This document provides information for functional and technical business transformation planners, architects, and managers at the Enterprise, Segment, and Solution levels of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and other federal organizations.

The OneVA EA is the enterprise architecture for the VA and reflects the organizing logic for business processes and IT infrastructure reflecting the integration and standardization requirements of VA's business transformation priorities; the Business Capabilities required to support those priorities; and the combinations of systems and Initiatives that enable those capabilities. The OneVA EA extends the DoD Architecture Framework (DoDAF) 2.0 naming conventions and comprises a set of integrated products including the All Viewpoint (AV), Capability Viewpoint (CV), Operational Viewpoint (OV), System Viewpoint (SV), Services Viewpoint (SvcV), Standards Viewpoint (StdV), and Data & Information Viewpoint (DIV). Together, the aforementioned Viewpoints display capabilities, activities, processes, data, information exchanges, business rules, system functions, services, system data exchanges, technical standards, terms, and linkages to Laws, Regulations, and Policies (LRP).

The vision of the OneVA EA is to be the authoritative reference for the requisite strategic, business and technology information used to make informed decisions for the Department of Veteran Affairs (see Figure 1, Vision for OneVA EA). This vision will be achieved via an ongoing, collaborative effort between the VA's Staff Offices and Administrations supporting the delivery of benefits and management of the Department. Together, these organizations document the current and desired relationships among business processes and IT and plan the transition to the desired state. They also develop business rules, development standards and decision-making criteria that support the transition to the desired state.

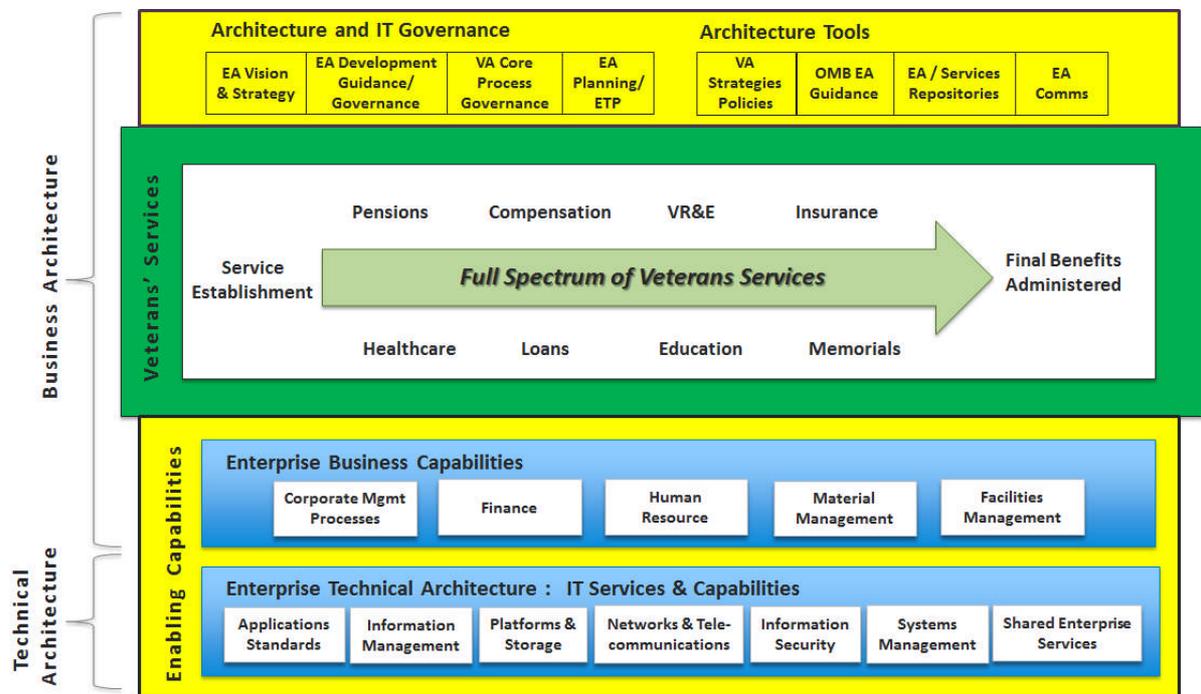
Figure 1-1, Vision for OneVA EA



The VA is envisioning its OneVA Enterprise Architecture (EA) as the mechanism for creating and housing the aggregation and alignment of its strategic, business, and technology domains of information. Figure

1-2, *OneVA EA Content Scope* provides a conceptual depiction of the breadth of information to be made available via the OneVA EA.

Figure 1-2, *OneVA EA Content Scope*



The OneVA EA responds to several drivers that affect its content. These drivers can be grouped into three categories: Transformational Needs, Legislative Mandates, and Policies and Directives. Transformational needs are existing business areas VA has identified that require enterprise wide changes in underlying strategy and processes. Legislative Mandates establish the statutory basis for building and using the OneVA EA. Lastly, Policies and Directives provide guidance in several areas ranging from EA frameworks to methods for assessing EA maturity. All of these drivers will be continuously revisited during the evolution of the OneVA EA.

The main focus areas for OneVA EA support the intended uses of the architecture:

- **Investment Management** – Support alignment of services, systems and solutions to the prioritized strategic capabilities of the Department.
- **Business System Interoperability** – Support the development of business systems through identification of standard data used within the business processes of the VA.
- **Transition Planning** – Support the replacement of outdated business systems with new business systems that have been developed from an enterprise perspective.

As the VA moves towards developing and managing from an enterprise perspective, visualizing the department's portfolio across the Administrations becomes more critical. OneVA EA improves the conformance of the VA to standards such as the Object Management Group Business Process Modeling Notation (BPMN 2.0) and Semantics for Business Vocabulary and Rules (SBVR). The content improvements enrich the quality of the Segment requirements captured as part of the Business Reference Model. As in previous releases, content and structural updates were made to improve the overall integrity and integration of the architecture.

DRAFT

2 General OneVA EA Overview

2.1 Architecture Guidance

The OneVA EA addresses VA Enterprise-level business and strategic plans, goals, and objectives and continues to be an outcome-based architecture focused on the Strategic Plan Refresh FY 2011-2015 and the Strategic Plan Addendum FY 2011-2015.

2.2 Architecture Release Process

The OneVA EA is released on an annual basis. Informational Releases can be published between annual releases. This allows updated OneVA EA models and products to be made available prior to the annual release. Planning for each release begins with the identification of specific gaps or business capability improvements to be addressed in a future release of the OneVA EA.

The key milestones for releases and the approximate timeframes for key activities within the high-level release process are presented in *Figure 2-1, Sample OneVA EA Release Schedule*. Although relative timing of milestones will differ from release to release, this type of timeline has been used for overall release planning to depict the key milestones in the process. The sample indicates one Informational Release prior to the annual OneVA EA release.

2.3 OneVA EA Development

A parallel development process, depicted in *figure 2-1*, was used for the OneVA EA. This process modification involved multiple resources performing real-time architecture content development across products as well as cross product integration during the workshops. The parallel development process enabled delivery of a fully integrated product suite that met significantly tighter deadlines. In addition to modifying the content development process, the OneVA EA allowed remote access to stakeholders enabling their participation during phases of the VA development life-cycle within which they were previously uninvolved. This proved to be an agile and effective development process that will be continued in future releases.

Figure 2-1, Parallel Development Process

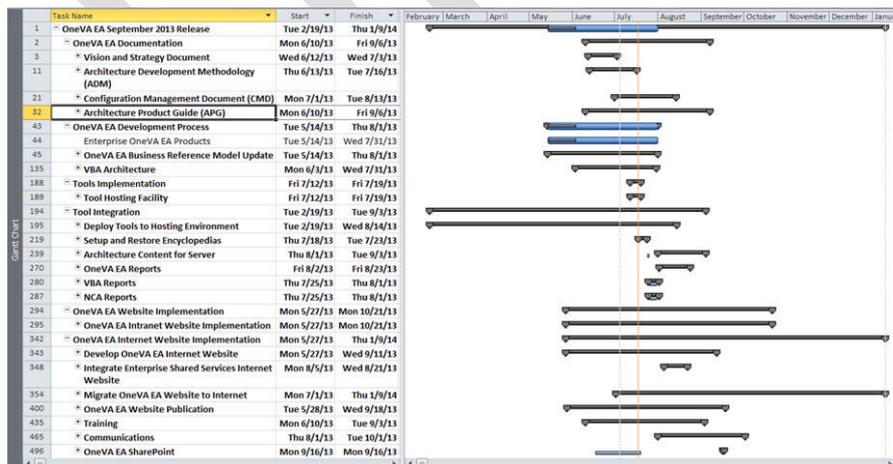
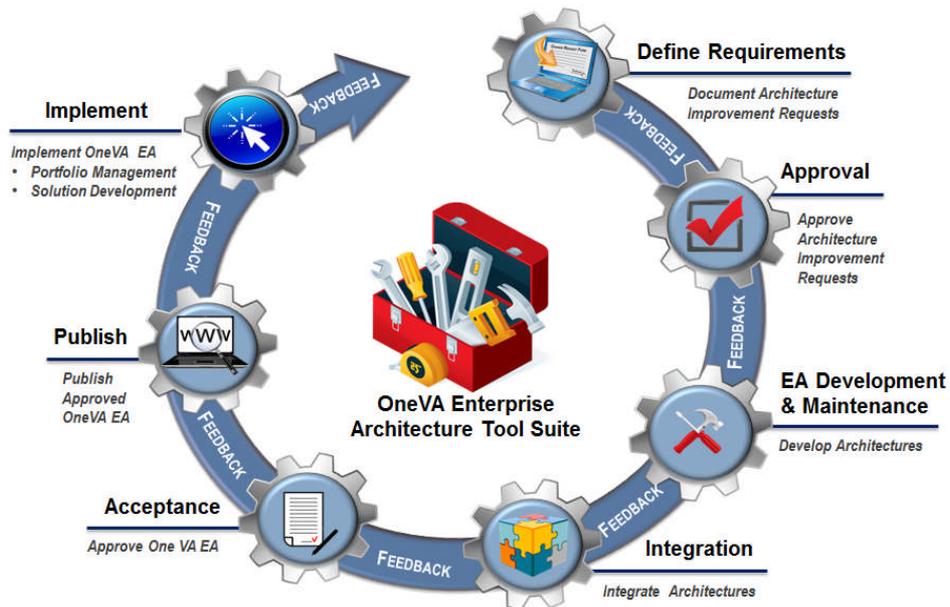


Figure 2-2, Architecture Development Process



The OneVA EA development process is a data-centric approach that enables concordance between views in the Architectural Description while also supporting essential data relationships are captured to support a wide variety of analysis tasks. The views created as a result of the architecture development process provide visual renderings of the underlying architectural data and convey architectural information of interest needed by specific user communities and decision makers.

Throughout the process, Independent Verification and Validation (IV&V) support was included as an embedded member of the development team to provide near real-time input for timely resolution. IV&V reports on deliverables subsequent to each architecture release.

The OneVA EA guides and constrains both investment and implementation of interoperable VA system solutions. It also defines the business capabilities required to support the business requirements of VA, the combinations of business systems and initiatives that enable those capabilities and the planned steps for future implementation of the defined capabilities.

The key driver for development of the OneVA EA is the VA Strategic Plan. OneVA EA development efforts focus on alignment with the defined goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan.

2.4 OneVA EA Governance

OneVA EA governance provides the framework and structure that links IT and business resources and information to VA's mission, goals and objectives. The respective governance bodies strive to ensure that the OneVA EA program is properly managed to produce artifacts and views that are representative of each Administrations' assets, and establishes best practices for planning, acquiring, implementing, and monitoring business and IT performance.

OneVA EA development is guided by a governance process that involves the VA Enterprise Architecture Council (EAC), OneVA EA stakeholders and the OneVA EA architecture development team. OneVA EA content is driven by the identification of capability gaps and improvements by various OneVA EA stakeholders. The stakeholders relay identified capability gaps and improvements within their respective

areas to their functional representatives who translate them into requirements that drive architecture content improvements. In addition to these content improvements the architecture development team identifies structural improvements for the OneVA EA.

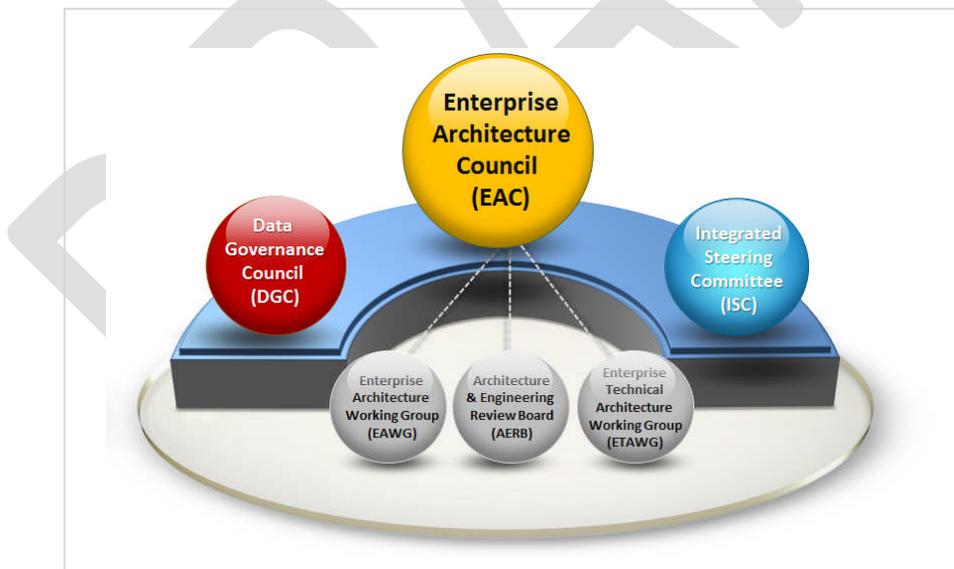
The EAC is a high level governance board that oversees any content or structural changes to the OneVA EA. The EAC is composed of senior level managers and decision makers who have the responsibility of overseeing the effective and efficient use of all Information Technology (IT) assets of the VA and have the authority to make appropriate changes to those assets.

The Enterprise Architecture Working Group (EAWG) is a person or team that is appointed by the EAC to research and analyze specific issues. The EAWG can include representatives from the many stakeholder communities with the VA including Segments, Solutions, Major Initiatives Human Resources, Finance, etc.

All proposed architecture content and structural improvements are submitted in the form of a business case documented via a Content Management Proposal. The Content Management Proposal is submitted to the EAC representing the stakeholders for review, approval and prioritization to determine the scope of each release of the OneVA EA. An approved Content Management Proposal is then scheduled for development.

The final result of all changes made in the architecture is reviewed by all content stakeholders and is approved by the EAC. *Figure 2-3* below illustrates the OneVA EA governance process.

Figure 2-3, OneVA EA Governance Process



The other VA units depicted in the above figure are indirectly involved with the direct development of the OneVA EA but provide guidance to that development.

- **Data Governance Council (DGC):** Guides the enforcement of VA data standards and data governance policy for every information technology project and business process initiative.

- **Integrated Steering Committee (ISC):** Supports the integration of multiple opportunities across the major initiatives within VA, with participation from the three Administrations.
- **Architecture and Engineering Review Board (AERB):** Evaluates new investments for compliance against established “architecture compliance” standards. The board is also responsible for granting and tracking waivers to projects and programs and tracking the time period of usage of technologies not contained in, or approved by, the Technical Reference Model (TRM). The AERB recommends and offers the EAC assessments of compliance and risk in moving new efforts through the development cycle into production.
- **Enterprise Technical Architecture Working Group (ETAWG):** Serves as the principle oversight body for the development, maintenance and implementation of the OneVA EA ETA and associated compliance criteria, working under the guidance of the Enterprise Architecture Council (EAC).

2.5 OneVA EA Configuration Management

The OneVA EA Configuration Management Document (CMD) defines the processes associated with establishing, documenting, maintaining, and controlling OneVA EA related program deliverables, associated products (tools/databases) and related plans, processes and procedures. It also describes the processes used to identify, capture and track all changes to the OneVA EA and is provided on the OneVA EA public website to promote best practices for architecture development efforts. These processes and procedures are an integral part of the OneVA EA development effort, and assist all users of the OneVA EA in identifying changes from one release to the next. Configuration control of the architectural development process is necessary to fully enable the concepts of re-use to support sharing of information across the VA and other Federal Agencies.

The architecture configuration management process is based on the use of the following configuration documents that are recorded and managed during the development of an OneVA EA release:

- **Change Management Proposal (CMP):** Document that captures requirements and analysis information to support modifications or enhancements of the OneVA EA in support of a business need. The CMP is the formal document to initiate changes to the OneVA EA. Each CMP addresses the Strategic Goals, Integrated Objectives and Major Initiatives identified in the Strategic Plan. A CMP provides the rationale, change description and impact on one or more OneVA EA products and models. A CMP may lead to OneVA EA business product content changes or structural changes of new OneVA EA products, models or features.
- **Change Request (CR):** Document request that identifies a planned capability improvement, such as adding new capabilities, addressing identified architecture gaps, addressing enterprise changes across stakeholders, or addressing updates to the compliance requirements. A CR tracks the work effort, assigned architects and items changed. There are currently the five types of CRs:
 - **Content:** The addition of new content or the modification of existing models.
 - **UserProp:** The change to the underlying OneVA EA metamodel to add new models or change existing models.
 - **Visualizations:** The format changes to the output reports from the OneVA EA.,
 - **Documentation:** The changes to the controlling documents for the OneVA EA.
 - **Website:** The content and structural changes to the OneVA EA Website.

3 OneVA EA Content Changes

The majority of the content changes made in the OneVA EA are a result of addressing the capability gaps and improvements that originated from previous OneVA EA releases. Content changes relative to the OneVA EA release are documented herein and are organized by the submitting stakeholder, or the primary VA organizational unit. The changes are described from a value added perspective as it relates to business transformation efforts. In addition, a description is given that defines architecture improvement needs while also providing details on how OneVA EA addresses those needs.

Table 3-1, OneVA EA April 2013 Architecture Release Deliverables

April 2013 Deliverable Activity
System Interface Models (SIMS)
Business Process Information Model Diagrams
Architecture Product Guide (APG)
EA Vision and Strategy
Enterprise Roadmap
Data Dictionary
System Interface Models (SIMS) <i>Compare Report</i>
System Interface Models (SIMS) <i>Diagram Report</i>
Business Process Information Model Diagrams <i>Compare Report</i>
Business Process Information Model Diagrams <i>Diagram Report</i>
Strategic Plan Mappings
Strategic Plan Mappings <i>Compare Report</i>
Systems to Major Initiatives
Services Reference Model (SRM) Report
Services Reference Model (SRM) <i>Compare Report</i>

3.1 Internet Publication

Previous releases of the OneVA EA have been deployed with in the VA Intranet only and published on the Enterprise Content Management System (ECMS) for internal consumption only. This year’s effort to federate the EA across the VA Enterprise has yielded information documenting the Enterprise Architecture which is of interest to external stakeholders and the general public. To be consistent with Federal Information Transparency and Open Government policies, the September 2013 release of the OneVA EA will have portions made available to the Internet community at large via the public facing VA Network ECMS for the first time.

Consistent with Federal Register, Vol. 74, No. 15, (Jan. 26, 2009), transparency and open government “promotes accountability and provides information for citizens about what their Government is doing.” Information maintained by the Federal Government is a national asset. To disclose information in forms that the public can readily find and use, the OneVA EA website is an effort to harness technology to

provide the public with information about VA operations, while at the same time, also soliciting public feedback.

3.2 ESS/SOA Webpages

The Enterprise Shared Services (ESS) group within the Architecture Standards and Design division of the VA is charged with identifying and documenting VA Services for use across the Enterprise. This information naturally pairs with the Enterprise Architectures and should be presented for internal VA consumption and eventually to external, interested parties. The September release of the OneVA EA will, for the first time, include a website for Enterprise Shared Services which will be integrated with the OneVA EA website published to the VA Intranet. This site will consist of approximately 33 pages of ESS content with relevant downloadable documentation and links to related content across the VA.

4 OneVA EA Changes

The following describes the items that were changed or developed for this release of the OneVA EA.

4.1 Reference Documents

The reference documents are available in the Architecture Development Library on the OneVA EA Website.

4.1.1 *OneVA EA Vision and Strategy*

The *OneVA EA Vision and Strategy* is the authoritative reference for the requisite strategic, business and technology information used to make informed decisions for the Department of Veteran Affairs (see *Figure 1-1, Vision for OneVA EA*). This document articulates the “OneVA EA Vision and Strategy” which will be achieved via an ongoing, collaborative effort between the VA’s Staff Offices and Administrations supporting the delivery of benefits and management of the Department.

4.1.2 *Architecture Development Methodology*

The *OneVA EA Development Methodology* (ADM) document describes the overall approach and process for developing the OneVA Enterprise Architecture (OneVA EA), one of the primary tools used to drive transformation within the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). The ADM reflects the current methodology and process steps for developing the content for the OneVA EA Enterprise Level, incorporating lessons learned across the architecture development life-cycle and identifying best practices from the successful development of previous releases of the OneVA EA.

4.1.3 *Architecture Style Guide*

The *OneVA EA Architecture Style Guide* (ASG) is developed for the internal use of architects, analysts and modelers, and interfacing external organizations, as a guide to describe the methods, rules, and modeling conventions to be used for the development of the architecture models that comprise the federated OneVA EA.

4.1.4 *Configuration Management Document*

The *Configuration Management Document* (CMD) defines the processes associated with establishing, documenting, maintaining, and controlling OneVA EA related program deliverables, associated products (tools/databases) and related plans, processes and procedures.

4.2 Architecture Models

While the OneVA EA has been envisioned as the complete mechanism for creating and housing the aggregation and alignment of the strategic, operational, and technology domains of the VA, not all of the necessary models have been developed in this version of the OneVA EA. This release includes the following models:

- Federated Business Reference Model
- Organizational Model
- Conceptual Data Model
- System Interface Models
- Business Process Models

Additional models will be developed in subsequent releases of the OneVA EA.

4.2.1 *Federated Business Reference Model (BRM)*

For the September 2013 Architecture Release of the OneVA EA, the presentation approach was changed for the Business Reference Model (BRM). This change in approach allows the VA to leverage the VBA and NCA Segment Architectures' Business Function Model by creating a linkage into their architecture repositories. Linking to the segments' BFM provides the foundation which facilitates visibility from the Enterprise level to the Segment Architectures which align to the VBA and NCA segments, thus creating a Federated Node Tree. The future vision of the Federated Node Tree capability may include automated reporting (i.e., dash board type publishing of reporting metrics), Data Discovery capability (i.e., filtering down to the appropriate architecture level in order to reuse data for VA architectures), and also offer a method to test alignment throughout the VA architectures.

The Federated Node Tree begins with the Veterans Affairs Capability Model (VACM) structure and incorporates the NCA and VBA structures down through the leaf level objects.

The Federated Node Tree is provided with a supplemental report, which depicts all the hierarchically decomposed structures and definitions captured within the node tree. You may filter by any object depicted in Figure 2 and assess the stakeholder for that object up through the overarching Category. This report is intended to help the VA stakeholders better understand how to categorize their IT needs against the higher level categories or more granular sub-categories.

As part of the Federation Pilot Effort the OneVA EA Team developed a methodology and tool to link/federate the various architectural repositories within VA. This provides a federation of the OneVA EA repository with the VBA and NCA segment repositories. The federation is established by linking the an enterprise level *Line Of Business* function to the segment level *Line Of Business* function in the selected segment architecture.

4.2.2 *Functional Organizational Model (FOM)*

The latest copy of the VA Functional Organization Model (FOM) version 1.0 was used to guide the development of the Organizational model. Laws, Regulations, and Policies (LRP) information related to some of the organizations described in the manual was also leveraged in the model development. This view is intended to be used to promote a common understanding of the VA organizational structure and to help inform other future architectural development (e.g., leveraging an organization name and description to build a process model; and derive Business Rules from the LRP identified for that organization in the Organizational Model).

4.2.3 *Conceptual Data Model (CDM)*

The CDM describes the general groupings OneVA EA data in terms of Entities and Relationships between the Entities. The CDM comprises a single data model. The Entities are mapped to high level OneVA EA Business Functions to indicate the cross functional uses of VA data.

4.2.4 *System Interface Model (SIM)*

A SIM graphically displays the system-to-system and system-to-organization interfaces within the scope of a Major Initiative or an emerging priority (e.g., Customer Data Integration (CDI)). The SIM CDI focuses on five databases, which contain CDI data and their interfaces to other IT Systems or Services.

4.2.5 *Business Process Models*

A sub-set of the Data Governance Business Process Models released in April 2012 was leveraged for the CDI effort. As a result of the Business Process Models used for CDI, updates were identified and captured. The following Business Process Models were updated:

- Outpatient Pharmacy
- Outpatient Clinical
- Inpatient Clinical
- Inpatient Pharmacy
- Fee Basis
- Enrollment
- National Cemetery
- Private Cemetery
- Veterans Group Life Insurance
- Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment
- Education
- Compensation
- Service Members Group Life Insurance
- Home Loan Guaranty
- Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance
- BVA Appeals

4.3 OneVA EA Reports

The reports are available in MS-Excel format, and are accessible through the homepage of the OneVA EA Website.

4.3.1 *Organization to LRP Mappings Report*

This report is a listing of VA Organizational Units and their related LRPs, which provide the organization's statutory/regulatory guidance to operate.

4.3.2 *OneVA EA Conceptual Data Model (CDM) Report*

This report contains a listing of entity names and descriptions contained in the CDM.

4.3.3 *OneVA EA Data Dictionary Report*

This report is a listing of all the terms and acronyms used in this release of the OneVA EA. The OneVA EA DD contains all descriptions and terms that are used in the other OneVA EA models. The DD is an accompanying reference to the OneVA EA models. The key to long-term interoperability resides in the accuracy and clarity of these definitions, and its value lies in unambiguous definitions.

4.3.4 *Strategic Plan Mappings Report*

This report lists the Strategic Plan Refresh and Addendum Mappings of the Mission, Core Values and Characteristics to the federal goals as mandated by The *Government Performance and Results Act* (GPRA) (P.L. 103-62).

4.3.5 *FEA BRM Mappings Report*

This report lists the OneVA EA BRM Lines of Business (LoBs), which serve as the OneVA EA leaf level, to the 2007 Federal Enterprise Architecture (FEA) BRM Functions. This report assists in OMB reporting.

4.3.6 *CDI Architectures*

The CDI Architectures is a repository .BAK file which allows for archiving and reuse of information contained within the CDI Architecture in IBM Rational System Architect (SA). This content includes the CDI System SIM, and the 16 Business Process Models published on the OneVA EA website. *Please note that you must have IBM Rational System Architect to access/use this file.*

4.3.7 *OneVA EA Compare Report*

This report provides a detailed comparison of changes between the OneVA EA April 2013 and September 2013 releases. No new models will appear on this report; only those models that have been changed will appear.

4.3.8 *OneVA EA Encyclopedia*

The System Architect (SA) native database file (BAK file type) of the OneVA EA September 2013 release is provided for archive and reuse purposes. *Please note that you must have IBM Rational System Architect to access/use this file.*

4.4 Supplemental Artifacts

4.4.1 *Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) Artifacts*

The following artifacts are submitted by VBA for the September 2013 Release:

- **VBA Frankie Systems Interface Model (SIM):** This diagram is the evolution of the Frankie model which VBA used to convey their Systems and Services footprint within the VA. The OneVA EA development team normalized the data contained in the Frankie model by merging redundancies. We also cleaned up Interface names, Systems and Services captured. The Frankie model now conveys a truer depiction of the Systems, Services, Interface between VA and External agencies. Additionally, the Frankie Model's style is now aligned to other SIM models contained in the OneVA EA allowing easier apples to apples comparison.
- **VBA Frankie Systems Interface Model (SIM) Report:** This report contains the metadata behind the VBA Frankie model. This information includes system/service name and definitions, interface name, and data contained in the interface where applicable.
- **VBA Segment Architectures .BAK file:** This native System Architect file allows for archiving and reuse of information contained within the VBA Segment Architecture in System Architect. Note you must have System Architect to use this file.

4.4.2 *National Cemetery Administration (NCA) Artifacts*

NCA has submitted the NCA Segment Architecture .BAK file for the September 2013 Release, which is a native IBM Rational System Architect file that allows for archiving and reuse of information contained within the NCA Segment Architecture in System Architect. Currently the only available model in this encyclopedia is the NCA Business Function Model. *Note you must have System Architect to access/use this file.*

4.4.3 *Veteran Lifetime Electronic Record Artifacts*

VLER is a multi-faceted business and technology initiative that includes a portfolio of health, benefits, personnel, and administrative information sharing capabilities. It provides Veterans, Service members, their families, care-givers, and service providers with a single source of information for health and benefits needs in a way that is secure and authorized by the Veteran or Service member.

Administration Staff supporting the VLER Initiative have developed an updated Information Exchange Matrix that catalogs how VA shares specific health and benefits information to support the delivery of services and benefits to Veterans. One of the goals with this effort is to promote the sharing of information through a service-oriented exchange of information both among VA systems and among VA and its external partners. This matrix describes the type of information exchanged, how the exchanges occur, and the people and systems involved in the exchanges. The most recent version of this matrix was published in April 2013. Since then, VLER has made updates to various areas in the matrix, such as expanding exchanges regarding interment in a VA National Cemetery, Post-9/11 GI Bill, and Disability Compensation.

5 OneVA EA Website Access

5.1 Changes

5.1.1 *OneVA EA Website*

The OneVA EA Website provides internal and external stakeholders with the latest news and information pertaining to Enterprise Strategy and Architecture, and access to OneVA EA content.

5.1.2 *Technical Requirements*

The OneVA EA was constructed using the IBM Rational System Architect Version 10.7. The OneVA EA continues to be offered to the general public in two versions: SA and HTML. The following are the technical specifications that were tested and are necessary for viewing the OneVA EA HTML Website. These specifications are also listed in the Technical Help link accessible through the home page of the OneVA EA HTML Website.

6 Summary

Enterprise Architecture is continuously faced with the challenge of providing value to its many stakeholders. The OneVA EA must support the requirements of its business users while also addressing legislative requirements. The OneVA EA team, not unlike other organizations that have successfully undertaken enterprise architecture initiatives, understands that both the business processes of the VA must be transformed as well as the tools used to support and visualize that transformation. The OneVA EA, as one of those tools, will continue to evolve to provide ever-improving support to the transformation efforts of VA. This evolution will not only include the content used to support the various VA decision processes and stakeholders but will also include the methodology and tools with which the architecture is developed.

6.1 Future Release Planning

OneVA EA planning continues to emphasize interoperability, transparency, and federation and also takes into account additional key drivers such as standardization, data-centric architecture, and collaboration. These key drivers are critical for the OneVA EA to adapt and support the various needs and priorities of the VA.

VA is looking to transform the way requirements are identified, defined, and prioritized to drive OneVA EA development. OneVA EA will continue to publish informational releases through the use of an enhanced tool suite intended to enable a streamlined OneVA EA development methodology while also meeting the user's needs for architecture information. The VA is planning to adopt and implement a methodology to capture and publish OneVA EA content that enables solution developers to "build federation into their solutions" through use of open source technologies.

Continuously improving the OneVA EA and the key drivers and methodology used to guide its development is just another example of the VA maintaining its vision to be the champion for driving and accelerating improvements to business operations across VA.

DRAFT

Appendix A

Acronym	Definition
ADM	Architecture Development Methodology
ASG	Architecture Style Guide
AV	All Viewpoint (DoDAF)
AV-1	Overview and Summary
DD	Data Dictionary
CMD	Configuration Management Document
BPM	Business Process Model
BPMN	Business Process Modeling Notation
BRM	Business Reference Model
DIV	Data & Information Viewpoint
DoDAF	DoD Architecture Framework
ETP	Enterprise Transition Plan
FEA	Federal Enterprise Architecture
HTML	Hypertext Markup Language
IT	Information Technology
IV&V	Independent Validation and Verification
LRP	Laws, Regulations, and Policies
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
OV	Operational Viewpoint
SP	Strategic Plan
SOA	Service-Oriented Architecture
StdV	Standards Viewpoint
SV	Systems Viewpoint
SvcV	Services Viewpoint
TA	Tiered Accountability
VA	Department of Veterans Affairs