

## Essential Approaches to Business Rules

### *A Primer on Business Rules Management and Implementation*

Gaining control of business rules is being touted as the best approach to achieving increased business agility. While many organizations are embracing this concept, delivering on this value proposition requires understanding several key concepts and approaches. This one-day course presents a high-level and comprehensive view of the various aspects necessary to optimize business rules related initiatives. The instructor introduces a holistic set of concepts that demystifies how business rules are managed, structured and related. Students will learn how business rules operate in concert with other aspects of business behavior, including business processes, events and entities. The course concludes with a discussion of how business rules fit within key technology enablers, such as Business Process Management Systems (BPMSs) and Business Rule Engines (BREs). Key concepts and approaches are driven home through participant discussion of examples that have relevance within today's organizations.

#### **Course Duration: 1 Day**

#### **Learning Objectives**

- How does a business rules approach impact the business/IT relationship
- What are the key aspects of ownership and governance required for a business rules approach
- How do business policies, knowledge, judgments and rules work together
- What are the different types of knowledge and rules and what capabilities do they provide
- What is required to write rules that are understandable by the Business
- What is the relationship between rules processes, events and entities
- How are rules, process, events and entities implemented in BPMSs and BREs
- What are the critical success factors required to succeed with a Business Rules Approach

#### **Syllabus**

##### **Module 1: The Move to Business Specifications**

###### **THE REQUIREMENTS PROBLEM**

- The costs to business and the road ahead

###### **ACHIEVING INCREASED BUSINESS AGILITY & REDUCED REWORK**

- The impact on the business analyst

###### **BUSINESS RULES MATURITY**

- Four aspects of maturity
- Industry analogies

##### **Module 2: Achieving Agility with Business Rules**

###### **BRIDGING THE BUSINESS/IT DIVIDE**

- Reclaiming business control
- Delivering value with business rules

###### **RULES AND PROCESSES**

- The realities of business change
- Designing for business agility

##### **Module 3: Aspects of Ownership and Governance**

###### **THE ROLE OF BUSINESS POLICIES**

- Intent and implications

###### **DISSECTING THE BUSINESS POLICY**

- Judgments, responses and ownership

##### **Module 4: Types of Business Rules**

###### **ROLES OF BUSINESS RULES**

- Distinguishing between the roles business rules play

###### **TYPES OF RULES DEFINED**

- Examples of four critical rule types

##### **Module 5: Fitting Rules and Processes Together**

###### **TYPES OF KNOWLEDGE DEFINED**

- Distinguishing types of knowledge by example

###### **WHERE RULES & PROCESS INTERACT**

- Examples of how events, rules and processes work together

##### **Module 6: Creating and Maintaining Rules**

###### **THE ABCS OF A RULES VOCABULARY**

- Defining terms and concepts for business rules

###### **THE REALITIES OF WRITING RULES**

- Examples of business rules that can be understood and maintained by business users

##### **Module 7: Enabling Technology**

###### **BPMS'S AND BRES**

- The role of each in delivering business agility
- How they work together with business rules

###### **IMPLEMENTING STATIC & EVENT KNOWLEDGE MODELS WITHIN TECHNOLOGY**

- Characteristics and examples

## **Conventional Wisdom Begets Conventional Results**

The conventional artifact-centric requirements training in the marketplace today doesn't sufficiently address the need for business analysts to retain ownership of the business concepts once they are implemented in an automation solution. Conventional thinking doesn't address the need for BAs to continue to be able to directly specify and maintain business processes, business rules and the underlying business terms that these depend upon. Conventional wisdom holds that, as business specifications move to the design function, IT processes transform the BA's work into a product that, if all goes well, delivers the outcome that the business desires. But this approach does nothing to preserve a company's ability to understand the business behavior internal to the delivered solution. This loss of fidelity to what the BA specified is the key barrier to the ability of organizations to innovate rapidly.

## **The Business Analysis Maturity Model**

As organizations turn their attention to maturing their business analysts' skills it is important to develop a longer-term vision that lays out a roadmap towards increased business analysis capabilities that directly impact the business's bottom-line.

The Business Analysis Maturity Model (BAMM) provides a roadmap as well as guideposts along the way for capabilities to target at each level. Upward progression through the levels of the maturity model correlate directly to an organization's business responsiveness/agility and reduced rework, which in turn, results in lower costs for business operations and managing business and software change.

## **Moving the Business Analyst Beyond Conventional Requirements Analysis**

Enterprise Agility's Business Analyst Training Courses and Certification are differentiated because they focus on the cross-disciplinary and interdependent skills necessary to create and maintain business specifications.

**For more information on the BAMM, the Business Analysis Framework and the Enterprise Agility Business Specification Training Program, visit:**  
[www.Enterprise-Agility.com](http://www.Enterprise-Agility.com).

## **The Enterprise Agility Advantage ►**

Enterprise Agility is a company of senior business engineers, analysts and architects that help organizations transform their business through the use of a technology-independent Business Analysis Framework that is both business process and rules centric.

As a recognized leader in the areas of business process analysis, business rules management, requirements analysis management and business engineering, Enterprise Agility delivers cross-disciplinary training and hands-on mentoring to organizations. By leveraging these interlocking disciplines within the Business/IT Lifecycle as a cohesive service offering, we are able to move our clients beyond industry best practices and conventional wisdom.

The result is increased business agility and dramatic reductions in information technology costs.

For more information about this and other proven approaches that Enterprise Agility employs to help your organization become more agile and create a competitive marketplace advantage please contact us at 1-773-227-7110 ext. 106



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