Who is Responsible for the Enterprise Architecture?

by Roger Evernden

I was put on the spot recently. I was working with a client; they've had an enterprise architecture team for nearly five years. We were going from one meeting room to another, and we were taking the lift to the 10th floor. A very senior exec joined us in the lift – I was introduced – and he asked: *"who owns the enterprise architecture?"*. This was the classic 'elevator pitch' situation, and I probably had ten or fifteen seconds at most to answer!

day, with an invitation to explain how EA could be more effective with a better awareness of all responsibilities.

When we think about responsibilities we get a richer response than merely considering ownership. TOGAF has some useful suggestions. Chapter 47, which describes the Architecture Board, has a whole section (47.2) about Responsibilities. It's useful to take each of these responsibilities and think about who has each

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