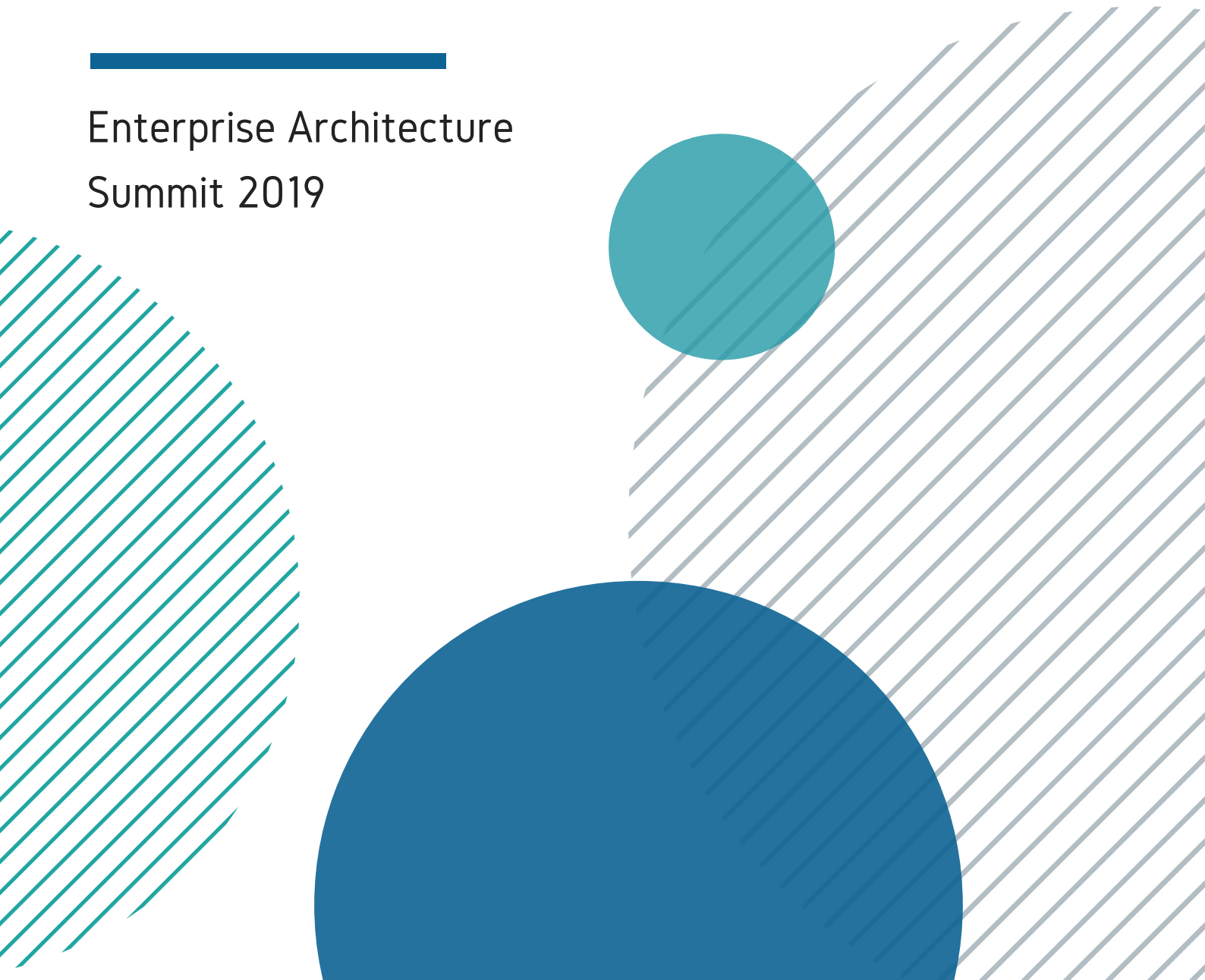


# THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT'S DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION JOURNEY

## DELIVERING THE VISION 2025

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Enterprise Architecture  
Summit 2019





# Enterprise Architecture Summit

Australia currently ranks highly in the world for e-government. The Australian Government recognises the importance of continually accelerating and transforming services to align with technological change and community expectations. It aims to provide high standards of service delivery, customer experience and ease of use.

To achieve this, the Digital Transformation Agency has developed the Digital Transformation Strategy, setting out the Government's direction with the vision of becoming one of the top three digital governments in the world by 2025. Comprising over 200 agencies with vastly differing needs and capabilities, a clear plan is required to effectively cater to the Australian Government's multi-speed environment and ensure optimal delivery of the Digital Transformation Strategy.

Ahead of the **Enterprise Architecture Summit 2019**, we caught up with **Dr Anthony Vlastic**, Chief Strategy Officer at the **Digital Transformation Agency**. Anthony takes us through the Australian Government's 2025 Digital Strategy and how enterprise architecture sits at the heart of their digital transformation.

# AUSTRALIA'S DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION STRATEGY: VISION 2025

*In November 2018, the Digital Transformation Agency (DTA) announced the release of its Digital Transformation Strategy which sets out 3 priorities that will ensure the Government is:*

- Easy to deal with
- Informed by you (the people and businesses of Australia)
- Fit for the digital age

The overall aim is to enable simple, clear and fast public services. The strategy is accompanied by a comprehensive roadmap that outlines the planned initiatives to help the Government achieve their goals.

Some of the initiatives currently underway from the roadmap include:

- **API Standard** - A standard for integrating platform services in support of the Platform Strategy.
- **Building Digital Capability** - Australian Government staff have access to a variety of training options and existing courses that help uplift their digital capability. Senior executives can also access programs that upskill them in the delivery of digital transformation in their agencies.
- **Hosting strategy** - A strategy to build confidence in the quality of infrastructure and cloud hosting service investment decisions. This will be achieved through increased transparency, designed to minimise risks and threats.
- **Digital sourcing reform** - The digital sourcing reform defines a new cross-government operating model, including how agencies will buy digital goods and services to make it easier for sellers to do business with the government.

# AUSTRALIA'S DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION STRATEGY: VISION 2025

"As the Chief Strategy Officer for the Australian Government, my responsibility is to deliver three major deliverables. Firstly, owning the digital strategy and road map for the Australian Government. After its release, this has involved an ongoing development cycle to understand what that means and explore it further.

Secondly, look after digital capability development across the Australian government, which involves growing skills across the workforce of 150,000 and particularly the 10,000-15,000 involved in IT/tech work. Finally, leading digital sourcing transformation and running the governments central digital sourcing panels.

As a central agency, our responsibility is to work out how to create a cohesive digital transformation plan for the Australian government, noting that there are over 200 agencies and they are all different in what they are trying to achieve.

The starting point for enterprise architecture here is that it often owns the technology strategy. We need to build our plan to accommodate the fact that agencies are on different stages of the journey, ensuring we build plans that cater for both leaders and laggards.

Ultimately, we are looking at how to create a multi-speed environment for different agencies that are at different stages," says Anthony.

# AUSTRALIA'S DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION STRATEGY: VISION 2025

*Implementing a long-term transformation programme across a multitude of agencies with differing needs and capabilities is a difficult task in itself, however getting employees on board with the change is the foundational step to ensuring a successful and seamless transition. Achieving buy-in and understanding across all agencies will pave the way for successful execution of the strategy.*

“When agencies are enacting the strategy, we need to ensure we are communicating the importance of the three priorities and get them to believe in the strategy itself. Gaining initial buy-in is crucial to getting agencies to genuinely understand which stage they are at in the journey.

It is important that enterprise architects understand culture and capability; it's essential that everybody understands what the problems are and that they are using the same language to communicate.

I believe 80% of the challenge for enterprise architecture is getting people to understand the challenge. That is, what their current state is, what their future state should be, and the road map to get there. A common issue across any given organisation is the varying degree of attitudes towards transforming.

Some people are more willing to get on board and simply need to be equipped with the relevant skills, whereas on the opposite end, some are simply not bought into the strategy.

Working out where agencies fit makes it easier to navigate a way for it to work for everyone. Once we achieve that initial recognition, we are able to quite smoothly create targets for the future.

# AUSTRALIA'S DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION STRATEGY: VISION 2025

With the strategy released, this is the first time the Australian Government has come to an agreement about what digital transformation for the whole of the government should look like, and having now agreed this, we are tasked with driving the road map forward. We are currently drafting plans to guide us on how best to do so.

Quite often enterprise architects define the architecture and then are not as heavily involved from there. We are taking the unique direction of having not only articulated what the strategy is, but also what it means to individuals inside the Government. We decided that we were better off agreeing what our target looks like and describing what it means, then asking how we can help agencies implement it," says Anthony.



# Enterprise Architecture Summit

## Interested in Learning More?

If you're interested in hearing more from Anthony about leveraging enterprise architecture to enact digital transformation in a multi-speed environment, then join us at the **Enterprise Architecture Summit 2019**, where Anthony explores the Australian Government's strategy in more detail.

You'll also hear from our expert panel of 15 speakers, including sessions from RACQ, AusPost, The Department of Human Services, Tabcorp, AirNZ, and more.

To secure your ticket to Enterprise Architecture 2019 held in Melbourne on 18th -20th March 2019, simply fill in the registration form and email to [registration@iqpc.com.au](mailto:registration@iqpc.com.au).