

# Bringing Business and IT Together: Practical Steps to Improved Working Relationships

## **Module One**

The Business/IT Divide

- Confusion and Conflict
  - o Problem or Symptoms
  - Two Different Languages
- Historical Perspective
  - o Some Old Humor
  - Humor Evolves with Technology
  - More Old Humor
  - And More Evolution
- The Current State
  - o Have We Made Any Progress?
  - The Urgency
- BI and the Business/IT Divide
  - The Complexity

#### **Module Two**

Practical Steps to Alignment

- BI as the Catalyst
  - Increasing Pressure
- Practical Steps for Individuals
  - Where to Start
  - o Where Are You Now?
  - o IT People Become Business Literate
  - Business People Become IT Savvy
- Practice Steps for Organizations
  - Attention to Value
  - Shared View of Value
  - o IT Imperatives
  - Business Imperatives
  - o Mutual Imperatives

#### **Module Three**

Continuous Organizational Alignment

- Organizational Alignment
  - Organizational Effectiveness
  - Working Relationships
  - Dimensions of Alignment
- Alignment Activities
  - Actions and Continuity
  - Identifying Misalignment
  - Aligning Organizations
  - Sustaining Alignment
- Continuous Alignment
  - o A Process Overview
  - Measurement
  - Using the Measures

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#### **Module Four**

Measuring the Gap

- What to Measure
  - o An Alignment Problem
  - The Human Dimension
  - Quantifying Subjective Things
  - The Details
  - o The Basis for a Survey
- · How to Measure
  - The Alignment Survey
  - Using the Survey
  - o The Survey Group
  - o Collecting the Data
  - o Preparing the Data

#### **Module Five**

Analysis and Action

- Analyzing the Data
  - o Strengths, Weaknesses, and Risks
  - Using Demographics
  - An Analysis Exercise
- Taking Action
  - o Goals and Tactics
  - Recognizing Barriers
  - o An Action Planning Exercise
  - o It Takes More than a Plan
  - o Continuous Improvement
  - o Take it Personally

## Appendix A

Additional Reading

- A Mandate For Change
- Practical Steps to Improved Working Relationships
- Measuring the Gap

### Appendix B

Organizational Alignment Survey

# Appendix C

Bibliography and References

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