

MIT OpenCourseWare
<http://ocw.mit.edu>

15.571 Generating Business Value from Information Technology
Spring 2009

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: <http://ocw.mit.edu/terms>.

Class 4: UPS and the Unification Operating Model

15.571

Generating Business Value From Information Technology

Jeanne W. Ross

Director & Principal Research Scientist
Center for Information Systems Research (CISR)
MIT Sloan School of Management

Jason Chapman, TA



Center for Information Systems Research (CISR)

© 2009 MIT Sloan CISR. Ross



UPS – Company overview

Headquarters: Atlanta, GA

Chairman and CEO: Davis, Scott

Company: The company is the world's largest package delivery company and a leading global provider of specialized transportation and logistics services.

Financials (TTM)

Revenue: \$ 51.49 (Billion)
Gross Profit: \$ 39.66 (Billion)
Income after tax: \$ 3.00 (Billion)

Stock price: \$ 44.84
52Wk High: \$ 75.08
52Wk Low: \$ 41.40

Market Cap: \$ 44.62 (Billion)

Revenue vs. % Net income - Last 5 years

	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
Operating Revenue (\$M)	49,692	47,547	42,581	36,582	33,485
% Net Income	1%	9%	9%	9%	9%

- Named in the Top 10 “Customer Service Champs” (*Business Week*, 2007)
- UPS Delivery Intercept:** Recognized as one of the top 100 IT projects undertaken by tech leaders committed to pushing their companies forward
- Package Flow Technology:** Saved an estimated 30M miles through efficient package and vehicle routing
- Paperless Customs:** Ships 30k packages a month through 100 global customs offices without forms

There Are Four Operating Models

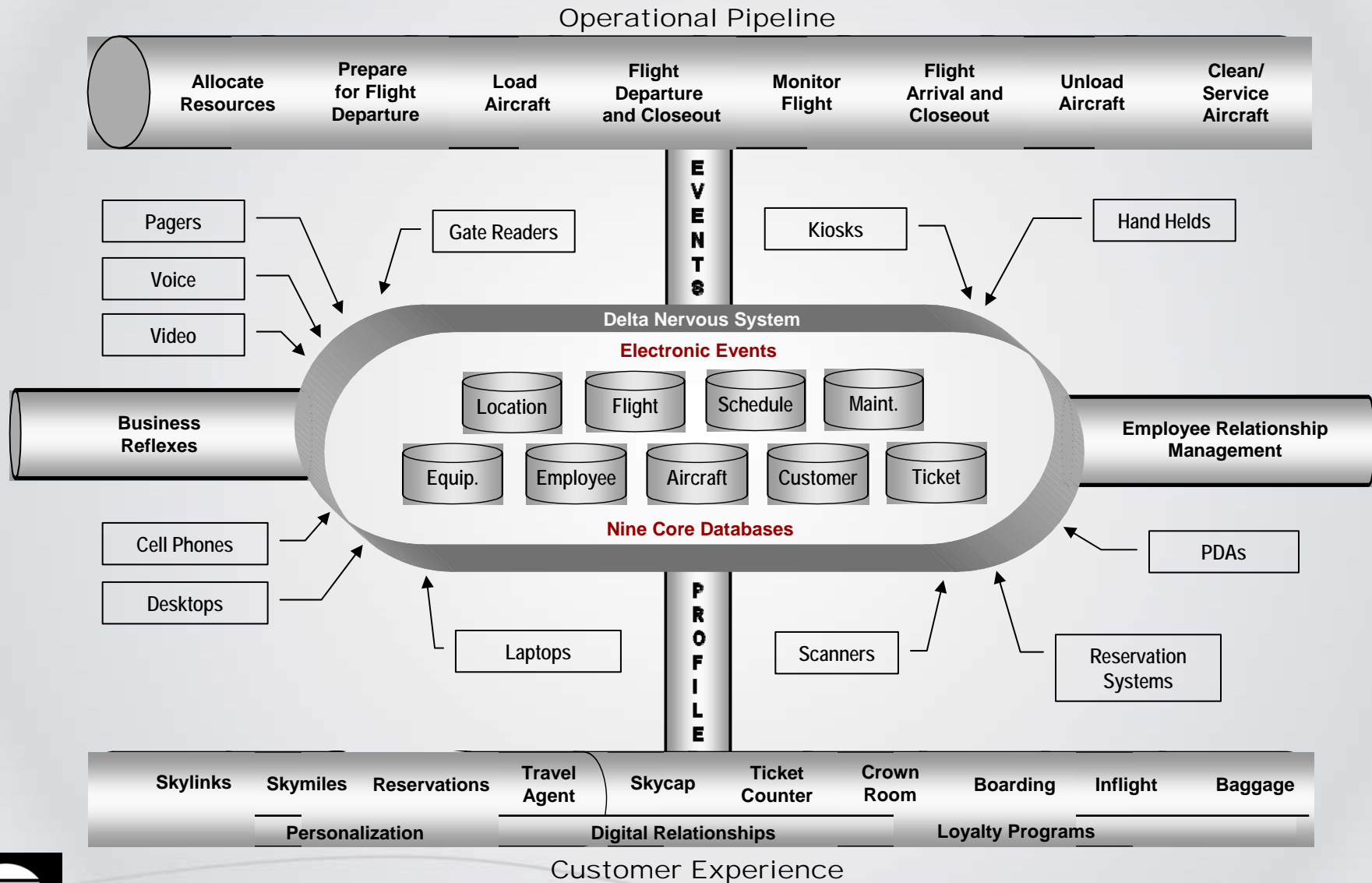
Business Process Integration	High	<p style="text-align: center;">Coordination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Unique business units with a need to know each other's transactions ■ Examples: Merrill Lynch GPC, PepsiAmericas, MetLife ■ Key IT capability: access to shared data, through standard technology interfaces 	<p style="text-align: center;">Unification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Single business with global process standards and global data access ■ Examples: Delta Air Lines, Dow Chemical, UPS Package Delivery ■ Key IT capability: enterprise systems reinforcing standard processes and providing global data access
	Low	<p style="text-align: center;">Diversification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Independent business units with different customers and expertise ■ Examples: Johnson & Johnson, GE, ING ■ Key IT capability: provide economies of scale without limiting independence 	<p style="text-align: center;">Replication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Independent but similar business units ■ Examples: Marriott, CEMEX, ING DIRECT ■ Key IT capability: provide standard infrastructure and application components for global efficiencies
		Low	High
		Business Process Standardization	



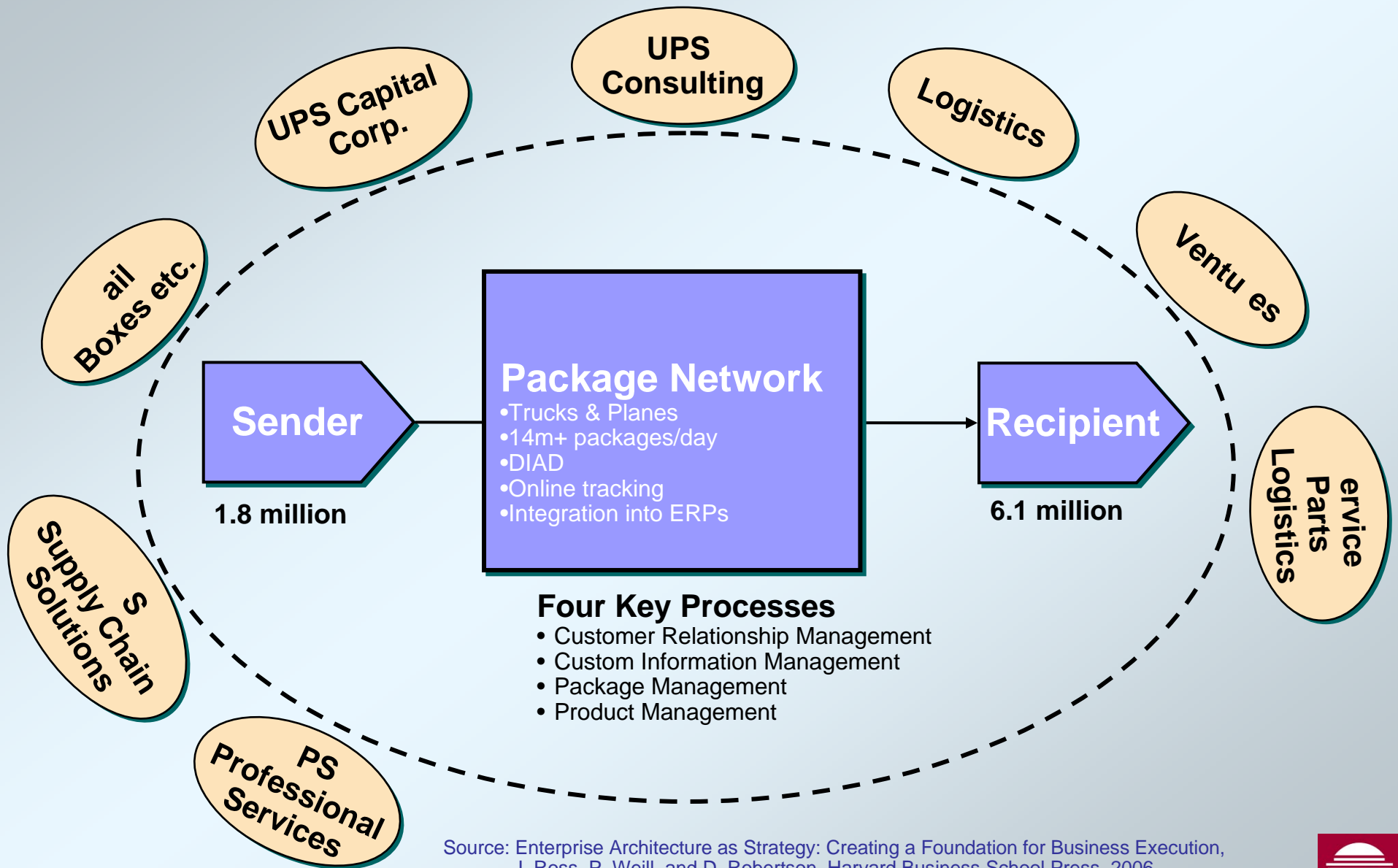
Different Standardization Requirements of the Four Operating Models

Business Process Integration	High	<p style="text-align: center;">Coordination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Customer and product data ■ Shared services ■ Infrastructure, portal, and middleware technology 	<p style="text-align: center;">Unification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Operational and decision making processes ■ Customer and product data ■ Shared services ■ Infrastructure technology and application systems
	Low	<p style="text-align: center;">Diversification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Shared services ■ Infrastructure technology 	<p style="text-align: center;">Replication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Operational processes ■ Shared services ■ Infrastructure technology and application systems
		Low	High
		Business Process Standardization	

Delta's Unification Operating Model



The UPS Business Model



Source: Enterprise Architecture as Strategy: Creating a Foundation for Business Execution, J. Ross, P. Weill, and D. Robertson, Harvard Business School Press, 2006.

An operating model provides long-term IT requirements

- A firm's operating model is: *the desired level of business process integration and business process standardization for delivering goods and services to customers.*
- The operating model describes how a firm will profit and grow.



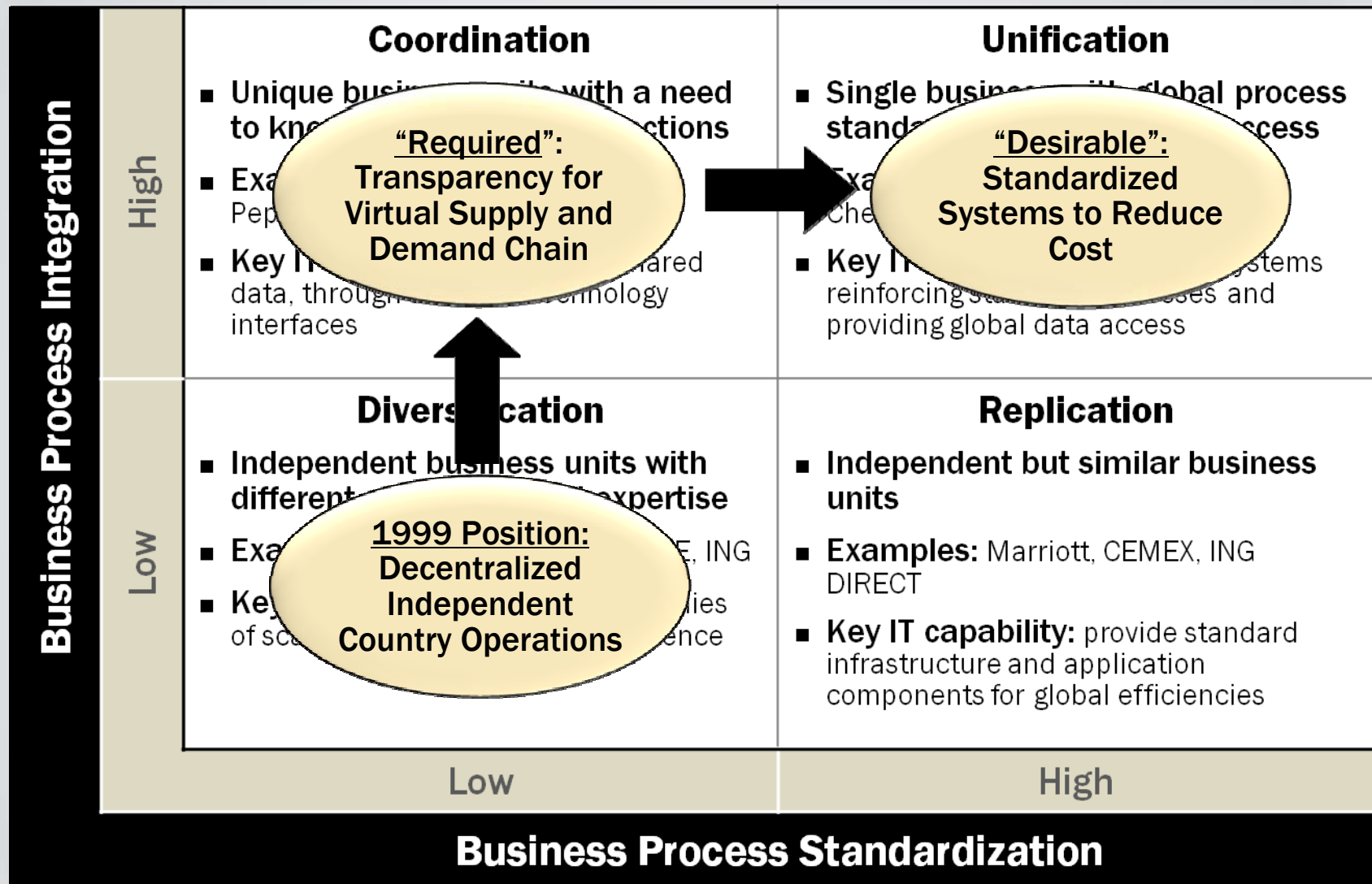
Business Transformation at Toyota Europe

Toyota Motor Marketing Europe 2002

- **Sales growing dramatically:**
 - 384,000 units in 1995
 - 727,000 units in 2002
- **Toyota Europe structured as 28 independently managed country operations:**
 - Cars and parts ordered from 9 European manufacturing plants
 - All product and spare parts inventories managed within countries
 - Little transparency of supply and demand
 - Different systems and processes in each country
- **Operating loss FY 2002 ¥9.9B**



Toyota's Operating Model Transitions



Toyota Europe's Transformation

		Performance		Business Changes	
		Units Sold	Revenue (¥)	Operating Income (¥)	
2002		727,000	1,266B	(9.9B)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 28 autonomous marketing companies 9 manufacturing facilities
		898,000	2,164B	72.5B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> European delivery lead time for vehicles reduced 35% Inventory of spare parts reduced by almost 50% Operating income: 3.5% of sales
2008		1,284,000	3,993B	141B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reorganized as Toyota Europe



Target Operating Models

Business Process Integration	High	<p style="text-align: center;">Coordination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 28% of business executives ■ 16% of IT executives 	<p style="text-align: center;">Unification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 39% of business executives ■ 57% of IT executives
	Low	<p style="text-align: center;">Diversification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 21% of business executives ■ 16% of IT executives 	<p style="text-align: center;">Replication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 12% of business executives ■ 11% of IT executives
		Low	High
Business Process Standardization			

Source, Business Executive Percentages: 107 Senior Executives—Attendees of MIT Sloan's "IT for the Non IT Executive Program" December 2007 and April 2008 - typical titles: CEO, CFO, BU Heads, EVP operations, President, CIOs, VP Business Services.

Source, IT Executive Percentages: Survey of 70 IT executives—mostly CIOs and CIO reports from Fortune 500 companies, Spring 2006.

Center for Information Systems Research (CISR)

© 2009 MIT Sloan CISR. Ross

Framework Source: *Enterprise Architecture as Strategy: Creating a Foundation for Business Execution*, J. Ross, P. Weill, D. Robertson, HBS Press, 2006.



Capabilities provided by Unification Model

- **Scale: supports efficient, reliable global operations**
- **End-to-end visibility of business processes**
- **Availability of data to provide customer service information and analyze pricing, scheduling, etc.**
- **Rapid expansion of existing processes to new markets or for related products and services**
- **Supports integration of acquisitions of competitors**



Risks and Limitations of Unification Model

- **Highly IT dependent, needs sophisticated back-up and recovery**
- **Locks in existing business processes and data definitions; not flexible for related products and services demanding different types of business processes**
- **IT can become monolithic and slow**
- **Demands enormous organizational discipline and thus is difficult to implement**

