Service Oriented Architecture (SOA) continues to cause a sea change in the way enterprises plan, integrate and operate services that impact business processes and information technology for their customer organizations. Enterprises are facing uphill challenges as they struggle to make a difference in their complex operating environments. SOA is seen as a means for cutting through this complexity, better aligning organizational priorities and enhancing business value.

CSC’s SOA Center of Excellence advances CSC’s leadership in SOA and service orientation, as well as helps clients and internal business units rise to the challenge to capitalize on the opportunities created by SOA. The Center has a broader point of view of SOA than our competitors, seeing service orientation principles as not only applicable to software and IT architecture but also to many aspects of business strategy, portfolio planning and process management. Finally, SOA is viewed as a critical enabling technology for related initiatives, such as cloud computing, that require service capabilities in order to be viable.

The Center, comprised of a federated team of global branches, can tap into a large pool of consultants to address SOA — including 3,500 solution architects, of which 1,500 are currently active in CSC’s SOA community of practitioners. The Center is also closely affiliated with CSC’s global SOAsure practice and the Solution Architecture and Delivery Community, both of which facilitate collaboration among CSC’s SOA thought leaders worldwide and leverage perspectives across the diverse vertical industries CSC serves.

**BENEFITS**

CSC’s SOA Center of Excellence strengthens CSC’s key differentiators:

- CSC is a worldwide market leader and a “powerhouse” in SOA, according to leading industry analysts.

- As a provider of world-scale solutions, CSC leverages its SOAsure global delivery portfolio of technology and consulting services to enable client enterprises.

- As a SOA leader in public and private markets, CSC channels SOA innovations between both markets.

- Working with industry leading SOA partners, CSC is trusted by clients to deliver the best unbiased solutions.

- As a leader in ERP, CRM and SCM, CSC knows how to leverage SOA in complex enterprises.
The SOA Center participates in several important standards bodies:

- Object Management Group (OMG) -- Board of Director’s membership and leadership-level involvement in efforts supporting the development of SOA Modeling Language (soaML) and upgrades to Model- and Meta-Driven SOA.
- SOA Consortium -- Advisory Board membership and key involvement in normalizing the relationship of OASIS SOA Reference Architecture to the OMG soaML.
- Industry Advisory Council (IAC) -- Active involvement in multiple IAC special interest groups and chairman of the IAC data architecture group.

CASE EXAMPLES

U.S. Army Enterprise Solutions Competency Center (ESCC)
The ESCC was established to provide the Army with an in-house capability to assist senior leadership and acquisition decision-makers in the complex landscape of business transformation.

Via the ESCC, CSC provided SOA services including technology roadmap development, SOA innovation insertion, SOA communications and learning materials development, SOA Lifecycle Management Methodology development, and knowledge exchange support facilitated through http://SOA.army.mil. CSC developed SOA.army.mil using Microsoft Office SharePoint Services (MOSS) 2007, which went on to be named an Army standard.

The success of the ESCC has resulted in the Army’s acquisition leadership receiving SOA education and consulting services, along with the implementation of proven practices, marketplace strategies and technology evaluations. Ultimately, the Army has started making better informed decisions about using SOA in enterprise and portfolio planning, business process transformation, system modernization and custom application development throughout its $250 billion annual investment portfolio.

Zurich Financial Services (Zurich)
Zurich is a global insurance-based financial services provider with offices in 170 countries. Zurich faced a challenge shared by many established insurers: how to keep its core products competitive and in regulatory compliance while continuing to speed the product-to-market cycle. To address this challenge, Zurich has undertaken a multi-year program to transform its application portfolio through SOA.

As a long-time IT partner, CSC is assisting Zurich in the definition and execution of its global SOA program, ZSOA, in concert with Zurich’s corporate-wide shift to business process orientation known as The Zurich Way. Leveraging CSC’s SOAsure Consultative Services, Zurich adopted a comprehensive approach to SOA encompassing service portfolio planning, program governance, change management, business and technology architecture, delivery of shared services and a disciplined approach to service oriented development. CSC teamed with Zurich experts to create SOA governance policies and processes that fully complement existing IT governance models. CSC collaborated with the ZSOA program director to develop a pragmatic implementation plan and prepare the funding request to launch the ZSOA program.