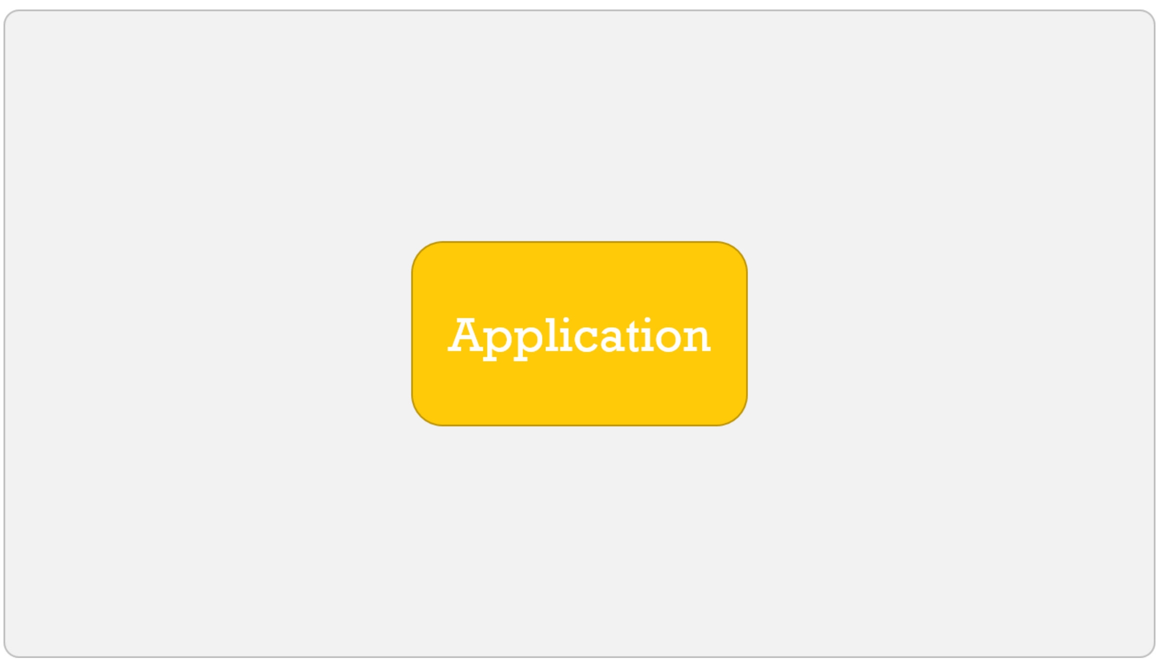
Case Studies
Simple yet Practical Application Framework

Framework Overview

The Application Catalog framework provides a structured way to maintain and evaluate the organization’s application portfolio. Each application is assessed based on key properties, including Criticality, Lifecycle Recommendation, Cost, End of Life, Business Fit, and Technical Fit. These properties guide decision-making, portfolio rationalization, and strategic alignment.



Scenario 1: Sarah – Banking Sector

Problem Faced

Sarah, an Enterprise Architect in a mid-sized bank, faces challenges in managing an increasing number of applications across different business units. Many applications have overlapping functionality, unknown lifecycle timelines, and high maintenance costs. Business leaders often struggle to decide which applications to invest in or retire.

How the Framework Helps

The Application Catalog framework provides Sarah with a clear way to classify and assess applications. By leveraging fields such as Criticality, Cost, and End of Life, Sarah can prioritize high-value systems and identify redundant or outdated ones. Business Fit and Technical Fit allow her to measure how well each application aligns with both business objectives and technology standards.

Deliverables Produced

- A complete Application Portfolio Catalog.
- Lifecycle recommendations for the next three years.
- Reports highlighting redundant, high-cost, or low-fit applications.
- Roadmap for rationalization and cost optimization.

Business Value Created

Through the structured catalog, Sarah enabled the bank to reduce operational costs by identifying redundant applications, improve decision-making with lifecycle clarity, and align technology investments with business strategy. This improved regulatory compliance and enhanced overall IT governance.

Scenario 2: Tomson – Retail Industry

Problem Faced

Tomson, an IT Portfolio Manager at a large retail chain, is facing difficulties with legacy systems that are not integrated well with modern e-commerce platforms. Some applications are nearing end of support, while others are costly but provide little strategic advantage. The business demands agility, but IT complexity slows down innovation.

How the Framework Helps

The Application Catalog framework allows Tomson to categorize applications based on Business Fit and Technical Fit. Applications with poor technical alignment but high business criticality can be flagged for modernization, while low-fit and high-cost systems can be scheduled for decommissioning. The End of Life field gives clear visibility on support risks, helping to avoid operational disruptions.

Deliverables Produced

- An updated Application Portfolio aligned with business priorities.
- Risk assessment based on End of Life timelines.
- Consolidation roadmap for overlapping retail management systems.
- Recommendations for modernizing or replacing legacy applications.

Business Value Created

With the framework, Tomson supported the retail chain in reducing technical debt, minimizing risks of outages from unsupported systems, and freeing up budget for digital initiatives such as omnichannel retailing and customer experience platforms. This increased both business agility and customer satisfaction.