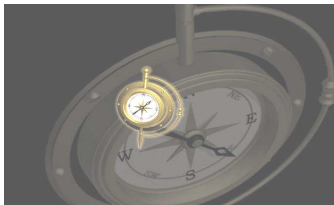


*As a technical leader in today's highly competitive marketplace, you can't afford to make the wrong decisions. Yet you face more choices than ever as you consider architecture, processes, technologies and suppliers. Because it takes more than an educated guess today, the **Technical Assessments Group** can help you make the right choices resulting in rapid development, reduced costs, and a high-quality product.*

Which architecture will lay the groundwork for current and future projects? How can you strengthen your software development processes? Which suppliers should join the team bringing your product to market? The Technical Assessments Group (TAG) applies experience and innovation to take the guesswork out of these challenges. TAG assesses your process and technologies and recommends strategies to help your project deliver maximum value.

We have a proven history of employing solutions that work within AT&T and throughout the industry.



Technical Assessments Group

<http://www.att.com/tag>

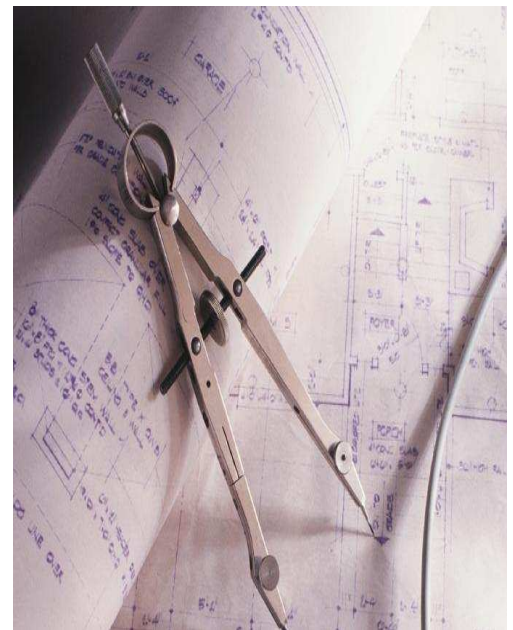
Our expert consultants facilitate improvements in the use of technology and process.

Architecture Assessments

Drawing on the more than 600 architecture discoveries and reviews we have conducted since 1988, TAG can quickly assess whether your project's architecture is the right solution to the current problem. In one week on-site, we can identify your project's strengths and prioritize areas of concern. Based on our findings, our clients report an average saving of 1.5 staff years per project. They also agree that these assessments offer insight about project strengths, while pinpointing areas needing improvement.

Architecture Validation

An assessment to examine whether a project's architecture is suitable to the problem identified to be solved. TAG reviews all aspects of the architecture – requirements, reliability, availability, performance, security, error recovery, operations, administration, maintenance, and provisioning. These assessments ensure completeness, understanding design choices, and prioritizing areas of concern.



Architecture Discovery

Up-front planning and evaluation can save your project time and money. Before a specific architecture is chosen, TAG and your project team explore alternative architectures. Together, we then examine your problem statement, project goals, key requirements, technical feasibility, and success criteria.

Architecture Platform

When performed early in the project life cycle, this assessment helps assure that the proposed architecture will satisfy the needs identified in support of applications you develop today and will also be reusable to meet future needs. These assessments, like Validation Assessments should be considered preventive with value increased through early application.



TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT
 services can evaluate your project against industry standards, provide gap analysis, and recommend proven processes and technologies to improve all facets of your business.

Architecture Course

Tap into our instructors' decades of architecture experience as they guide your staff through real-world case studies. Students return to your project with a strong understanding of the principles of architecture. They will have learned how to identify the scope of a business problem and how to evaluate approaches to its solution.

Supplier Assessments

Knowing up-front how well a supplier's skills and processes will mesh with your project goals can help you avoid expensive mistakes and delays later. By assessing a supplier before you reach the contract stage, you gain leverage during contract negotiations. TAG's supplier assessment examines processes between your team and the supplier's team. We rate the supplier's services, products, and platforms, evaluating them in the areas of stability, performance, and availability for outsourced solution development. Whether you work with the supplier on this project only, or are contemplating a long-term association, TAG can help you gauge whether the proposed supplier will likely fit into your solution.

Project Management Assessments

With little play in your delivery schedule, and no margin for costly errors, your project can ill afford any surprises. Two TAG assessment services can help you identify risk, the most important step in developing a plan to reduce its effects on your project.

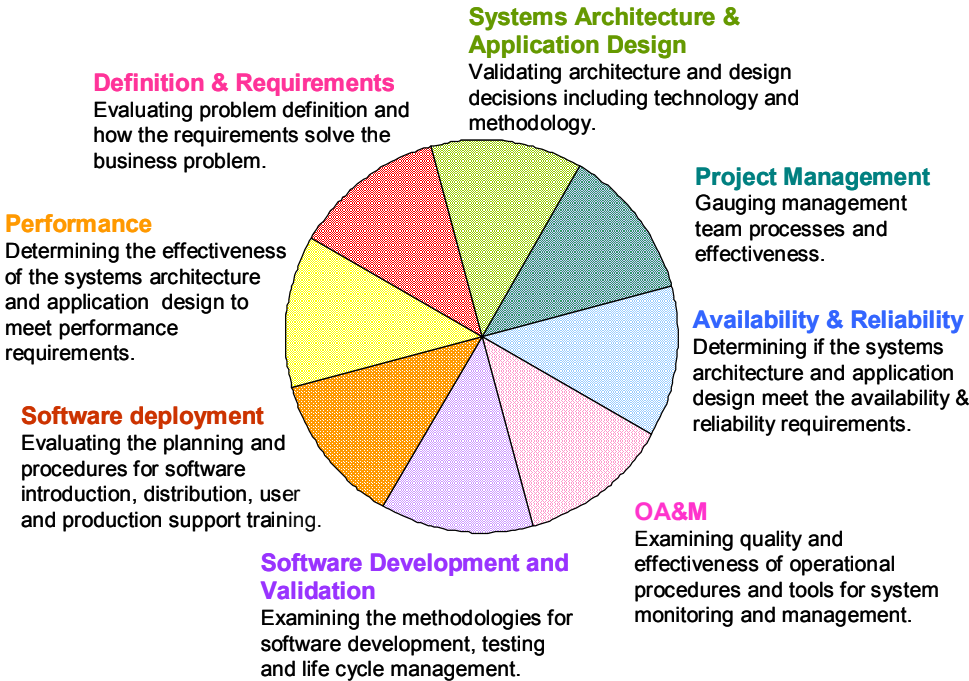
Operational

An end-to-end assessment that can include business alignment, project management, architecture, communications, development process and technology, and production/end-user support.

Root Cause

Determine when and why a given problem occurred and why it was not detected earlier, with a focus on improving your processes to prevent the problem from recurring

If you would like more information about our services, please visit our Web site and contact a member of our team.
<http://www.att.com/tag>



Technical assessments will address areas where experience has shown that project often have problems. TAG brings an objectivity and fresh perspective to evaluate a broad range of issues that impact the success of software development projects. The goals of each assessment are tailored to the needs of the project team.