Hello friends,

This is the first of hopefully many newsletters that you will receive from us to keep you in the loop what is happening over here at What's Your Baseline.
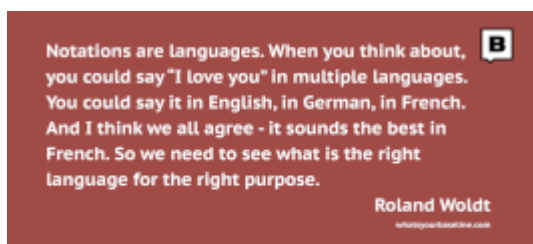
The first major change for the original subscribers is that we have migrated to a "professional" email system which allows to send more professional looking notes to you, and simplify our email management.

If you don't agree with this change, or for whatever reason lose interest in receiving these emails (which hopefully will not happen ;-) then you can simply unsubscribe by using the link in the lower corner of this email.

Our promise: we will never send you spam, or sell your email address. And you can unsubscribe at any point in time. We'd rather be your friends, read your comments, and have a good conversation with you :-)

What happened in the last few weeks?

Since we made the move to the new email system, we have launched the podcast and as of today there are 5 episodes available at whatsyourbaseline.com/podcast, Spotify, or your podcatcher of choice - except Apple Podcasts where we are currently working through the approval process, so that you can subscribe to the podcast on you iDevices as well.

Notations are languages. When you think about, you could say "I love you" in multiple languages. You could say it in English, in German, in French. And I think we all agree - it sounds the best in French. So we need to see what is the right language for the right purpose.

Roland Woldt

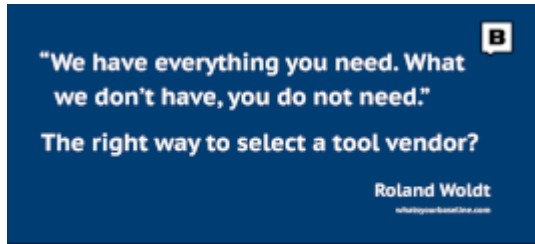whatsyourbaseline.com/episode5

September 9, 2021

Episode 5 - Notations, notations, notations

This episode covers Frameworks (structures), Methods (processes), Notations (languages), and Reference Models (content).

We are talking about how to implement these, standards for modeling in general,

and discuss some common examples and how they are used in real life.

Listen to Episode 5

Episode 4 - Selecting an architecture tool

In this episode J-M and I talk about what to look for when selecting an architecture tool. We talk about the different types of tool (drawing tools, implementation front ends, database-driven architecture tools) and which type might be the right one for your users.

Then we have a look at the topics of how to get started with architecture, the criteria to look for for when selecting the tool - functional, non-functional, deployment, cost, people.

Listen to Episode 4

Episode 3 - Implement your architecture tool

The topic of this episode is how to implement your architecture tool(s). We are talking about what are the motivations of getting an architecture tool implemented.

The importance of of getting the personas and the value proposition right (the outside-in perspective), and the four major activities when implementing the tool (inside-out perspective).

Listen to Episode 3

Episode 2 - Why EA and BPM?

In this episode we are talking why

whatsyourbaseline.com/episode2

architecture ("Why EA & BPM?") and why these two topics might not be even different, but rather be the two sides of the same coin.

We are talking about the following topics: terminology, the history of EA and BPM, how organizations practice these two topics and where the discipline moves towards to.

We then discuss the importance of capabilites as the connection between strategy and architecture (incl. client examples).

Listen to Episode 2

whatsyourbaseline.com/episode1

August 20, 2021

Episode 1 - Welcome to the podcast

Welcome to the inaugural episode of the What's Your Baseline podcast. We're glad that you join us!

In this episode we are talking about us - your hosts Roland Woldt and J-M Erlendson – and our journeys in enterprise architecture and business process management, so that you get familiar with our voices and background.
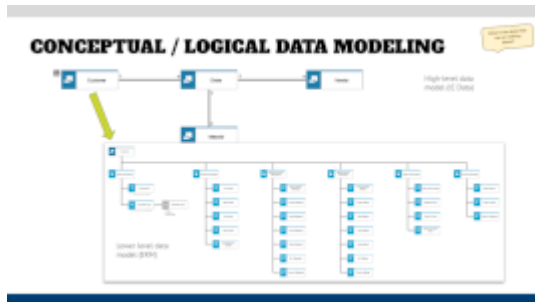
It also covers the challenges that we've seen when clients want to stand up these capabilities, as well as "being the newbie" on a program – be it as a new employee, a new consultant, or simply just being exposed to these topics for the first time.

Lastly, we also talk about this new podcast – why we started it, what you can expect, when new episodes will be published, and a general overview of season 1.

Listen to Episode 1

New articles on the website

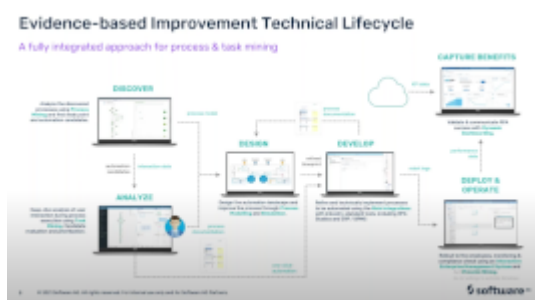In addition to the podcast episodes, we also published a few articles that might be of interest for you:

September 8, 2021

How to model data (part 1) - why should I care and what we are talking about

Data models are some of the things that I have seen the least often in projects over the last two decades. Why is that? Is it because it is too geeky, or not interesting enough compared to, say, a process model in BPMN?

This is the first article of a series that talks about data modeling: the why and conceptual/logical data modeling (this article), the distinction between canonical data model and information assets, the usage of logical data in application models and interfaces, the physical data modeling, and lastly the usage of data on screens and other models.

Go to article

September 1, 2021

Process and Task Mining – combine both in a hybridized solution (Video)

A few weeks ago, my co-host of the What's Your Baseline podcast, J-M Erlendson, held a presentation about Process and Task Mining and how they differ and work together.

Many organizations struggle to realize the benefits of Process Mining, despite having good transactional data and powerful toolsets. What if they're not seeing the whole picture? What if key improvement opportunities are buried somewhere between the system and the human?

Go to article

Outlook

For the next 2-3 weeks we will have a new another episode of the podcast, in which we change the format a bit - we will have our first interview guest, and will talk with Mike Idengren (from Lean Scaled Architects) about "Agile and Architecture".

We also will publish articles two and three of the "how to model data" series, having a look at the use of logical data in other models of your architecture (part 2), and then discuss physical data modeling and how both views relate to each other.

In October we will close out the series with the last article in which we will talk about data in screens ("where do I ask for data") and modeling screens in general ... a feature that I almost never see, even though it is crucial when thinking about the outside-in experience that customers have when using your application or website.

Best,

Roland