EPC in ARIS

General information

The **Event-driven Process Chain (EPC)** is a modeling notation to describe business processes. It integrates all relevant business perspectives and is embedded in the overall process landscape.

While **Value-added Chain Diagrams (VACD)** provide an overview of the functional areas of an organization, EPCs are used to detail them at a procedural level.

Core elements

The EPC core elements allow you to model the procedural sequence of functions within the scope of individual business processes.

Event & functions

An **event** describes a state that controls or influences the progression of the process. They trigger functions and are the results of functions.

A **function** is a task or activity performed to deliver process outputs and support business objectives.

Connectors

Connectors are used to **split** and **join** the control flow. Split connectors have one incoming and several outgoing connections. Vice versa for join connectors.

XOR (exclusive or) considers exactly one path.

AND considers all paths.

OR considers at least one path.
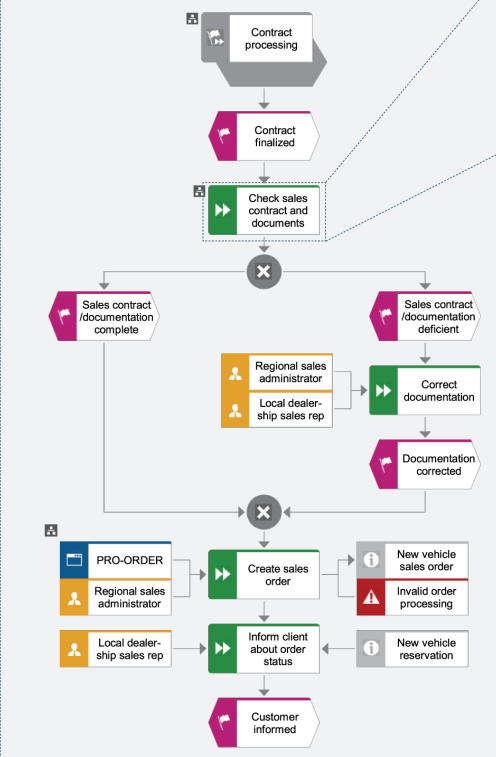
Linking & hierarchy

Process interfaces link EPCs on the same process hierarchy level and navigate in a **horizontal** fashion.

Lower-level EPCs can be **assigned to functions** to describe them on a more detailed level. This provides a deeper process hierarchy level (**vertical** link).

Value-Added Chain Diagram (VACD)

Marketing & sales: Sales planning → Pre-sales management → Sales order management → Billing

Sales order management: Customer qualification → Quotation processing → Contract processing → Sales order processing (as-is)

Event-Driven Process Cain (EPC)

Contract processing → Contract finalized → Check sales contract and documents → XOR → Sales contract /documentation complete / Sales contract /documentation deficient → Regional sales administrator / Local dealer-ship sales rep → Correct documentation → Documentation corrected → XOR → PRO-ORDER / Regional sales administrator → Create sales order → New vehicle sales order / Invalid order processing → Local dealer-ship sales rep → Inform client about order status → New vehicle reservation → Customer informed

Function Allocation Diagram (FAD)

Local dealer-ship sales rep → Check sales contract and documents ← New vehicle sales contract

Extended elements/satellites

The extended EPC elements allow you to detail the pure procedural description of your business process by integrating data, risks, resources, organizational elements, etc. The corresponding objects are called **satellites**. There are two modeling alternatives:

1. Model the satellites directly **in the EPC** and assign them to the function to get all information at a glance.

2. Move the satellites to a **Function allocation diagram (FAD)** to reduce the visual complexity of the EPC.

Organization

Organizational unit is a unit in an organizational hierarchy. It can be used to show which organizational units are superior to others.

Position is the smallest organizational unit in a company.

Persons can be assigned to an organizational unit.

Groups of persons can be combined in a **role**.

A **location** refers to a physical place and can be a factory, a building, or also an office.

RACI/RASCI connections

The **RA(S)CI method** enables you to simply describe how organizational elements participate in completing tasks in business processes. The EPC offers different connection types to connect organizational objects and functions:

carries out .... **R** ESPONSIBLE
decides on .... **A** CCOUNTABLE
contributes to .... **S** UPPORTIVE
has consulting role in .... **C** ONSLUTED
must be informed about ... **I** NFORMED

Data & risks

An **information carrier** stores knowledge/data.

A **cluster** is a collection of related entity types and can be used to represent business objects.

A **KPI** instance indicates the degree of goal accomplishment.

A **risk** represents the possible danger of a defined process objective not being achieved.

A **business** policy is a directive, whose purpose is to govern or guide the enterprise.

A **requirement** is a documentation of what a specification application system, product or service should be or do.

Enterprise architecture

The **application system** type is a software system that is used to support the execution of a function.
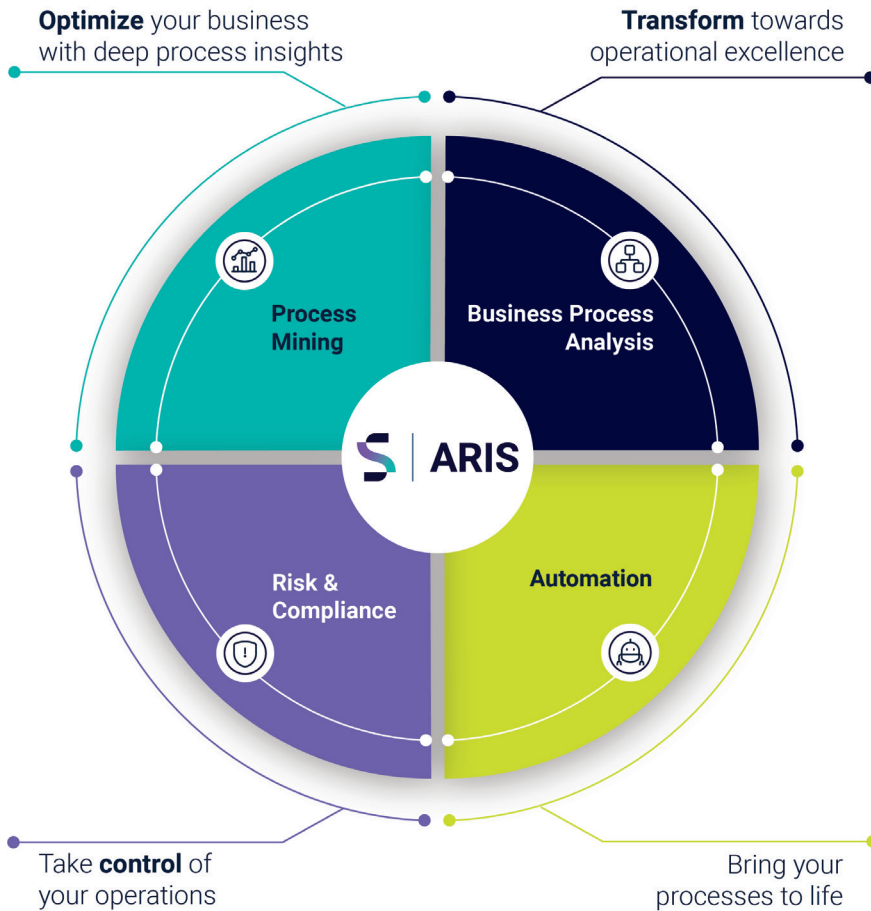
An **application system** represents a concrete, identifiable application system within a company.

A **software robot** is an application system type that carries out a function autonomously (RPA).

An **attended software robot** is a software robot (RPA) that requires human intervention.

An **IoT object** represents a type of things that are elements of IoT and have similar properties.

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