

# ROSS SAMPSON CONSULTING

## Additional Information on Architecture Services

Insert Tab A into Slot B... if only it were that easy to build a system. Unfortunately the skill set used for assembling most things doesn't apply to building an efficient computer system. It takes training in computer architecture, familiarity with components currently available as well as the current and projected usage of the system, and experience with putting it all together successfully. Ross Sampson Consulting has the skills and experience to help with your next system architecture endeavor. Think of us as the elusive reputable car mechanic - we can assist with a complete system overhaul, or tell you if all you really need is a new component, say a network.

Good system architecture isn't something we consider static. If your business plans to grow, your system needs to grow too. That's why it's important to know your current business, as well as where it plans to go, when system plans are designed. We stress analysis as a mandatory first step for all architecture services, to gather and understand your technical requirements. With this information in hand, Ross Sampson Consulting can supply an architecture solution that meets your current system needs, and provides design flexibility to accommodate future expansion. All without you having to hire a full-time system architect.

Our level of commitment:

- The initial step in all our Architecture Services is an analysis, which is done on a "consulting" (hourly) contract basis.
- Depending on the analysis results, further work can be done on either a "project" contract basis, with a negotiated payment schedule, or a "consulting" basis for isolated tasks. An example of an Architecture project would be a complete system re-design. A task might be an analysis of a previous system proposal or research on a new system component.

What to expect:

System Analysis - The first and most important step includes an analysis of the current system configuration, the components, and *how the system is used in your business*. This information is compiled into an Analysis Report with suggestions for improvements (speed, storage capacity, compatibility) or upgrades to hardware, software, networks, and configuration.

Proposal Analysis - If you have created a design for a new system architecture, or a significant change to an existing architecture, and would like an independent analysis of the design before you begin tearing apart your system ("sanity check"), Ross Sampson Consulting offers a System Proposal Analysis service. We can analyze your design, alert you to possible issues, suggest changes, and advise on component compatibility prior to your investment in expensive new hardware.

Complete System Design or Re-design - We can research and provide a plan for a new system (Architecture document), or a plan for existing system modifications (System Design document), based on where your business is headed. Recommendations for system types (completely or partially standalone, UNIX or PC, client-server), hardware needed, and networks (for distributed computing, internal net, Web).

Component Research - To assist with your capacity planning, we offer research and reporting on hardware, networks, and configurations that will enhance your current and future architecture.

Ross Sampson Consulting is ready to be your temporary System Architecture team, supplying experienced professionals to supplement your workforce. Please contact us for information specific to your next software project and our availability.

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