Nova Southeastern University  
Graduate School of Computer and Information Sciences  

SYLLABUS FOR GSCIS COURSES DISS 792 and DISS 892  
Spring 2006 Doctoral Cluster, March 3 – August 2, 2006

CRN: 40348, Course Number: DISS 792, Section: FL1, Course Title: Enterprise Architecture Infrastructures Planning and Management, Credit Hours: 3

CRN: 40349, Course Number: DISS 892, Section: FL1, Course Title: Project: Enterprise Architecture Infrastructures Planning and Management, Credit Hours: 4

Instructor: Joseph Gulla, Ph.D., 201 Orchard Lane, Carrboro, NC 27510, gulla@nsu.nova.edu, home page is scis.nova.edu/~gulla, (919) 968-6101, fax number by request, office hours by email request. Preferred modes for student-faculty interaction are email and telephone (best if scheduled).

Class Location and Format: Carl DeSantis Building on the main campus of NSU.

Class Hours: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday for two cluster weekends throughout the semester. The first cluster is March 3, 4, & 5. The second is June 2, 3, & 4.

Class Web Site: WebCT will have all materials. Also, link provided in instructor’s web page scis.nova.edu/~gulla.

Course Description: DISS-792 COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides current techniques and research that apply to the creation, maintenance, and refinement of the strategic planning disciplines essential to enterprise infrastructures. Enterprise strategy, architecture, and management issues are explored with a pragmatic and research approach. Best practices are refined to present architectural models that are capable of managing dynamic business requirements and technology demands. Infrastructure issues are aligned with business strategy to deliver current and future solutions to the business management process.

DISS-892 COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students pursue a research study, project, or implementation in the enterprise systems. Projects may include a research paper on theoretical concepts, framework development, or actual projects dealing with definition, design, or implementation of an IS.

Required Textbook(s):

DISS 792 Enterprise Architecture Infrastructures Planning and Management (3 credits)
Enterprise Architecture Planning: Developing a Blueprint for Data, Applications, and Technology


**About this text:** This book has twelve chapters and many useful appendixes. Scope is--what is Enterprise Architecture (EA) planning? to setting up and implementing using a transition plan. Definitely strong in planning a transformation that creates and utilized an EA.

Guide to Enterprise IT Architecture

About this text: I was looking for a compliment to the Spewak book and I found this book after reviewing many alternatives. I picked this book because it has a good balance between business and technology and is a thread in the TOGAF fabric. In that way, it is linked to many other topics like certification, standards, conferences, and practice.

Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (APA)
(5th Edition)

see: http://www.apastyle.org/

About this text: If you want a laugh, look this book up on Amazon and read the reviews. Anyway, for writing at Nova, we use the Dissertation Guide (DG) in conjunction with APA. In some cases, the DG does not agree with APA. If, for example, you look at a Nova Dissertation, you will that the headings are not APA. This really shows up when you use a set of Word macros (like StyleEase) to generate your papers in APA style. You quickly see that Nova Dissertations don’t entirely look APA.

Suggested Textbook(s): Note—this means you don’t have to buy them but you might want to at least check them out of the library as they are classics.

DISS 892 Project in Enterprise Architecture Infrastructures Planning and Management (4 credits)

Qualitative Research Design: An Interactive Approach

About this text: Maxwell indicates that the design of the study is more important that the research proposal. I agree entirely. On page 1, he discusses the Vasa—a great story (every time I go to Stockholm, I visit the Vasa). By the way, qualitative research involves the use of qualitative data such as interviews, documents, and observational data to understand and explain social phenomena. Many students will use qualitative data in their dissertation projects.

Writing the Doctoral Dissertation


About this text: “Purpose of this book is to assist Doctoral candidates in completing a better quality dissertation in a shorter time.” This is a practical book that will help you get it done! It is a good idea to read a book or two like this to help you get a
mental picture of the steps, process, and challenges. Writing a dissertation is like any other topic. To understand it, you need to read about it and map its domain.

**Required Software:** None, however it might be useful to become familiar with an EA tool. Two examples are System Architect, from Telelogic (formerly Popkin Software) and Visible Advantage from Visible Systems. Student packages are available—


http://www.visible.bigstep.com/

I am doing tools research this semester with a colleague named Andrew Legum. We are discovering that the tools are interesting and fun to use. I will post our results on the course Web site. Many of the tools have student versions or 21-day free downloads. This is a great way to get some good documentation and use of a tool in a try-and-buy mode. Appendix B has an example of one of our research snapshots.

Here is a simple list for your consideration (taken from http://www.enterprise-architecture.info/EA_Tools.htm)—
Exit Competencies: The goal of this course is to explore techniques and research in the area of creation, maintenance, and refinement of an EA. The focus of the learning is to establish an understanding of the main ideas relating to enterprise strategy, architecture, and management issues, as well as important related topics.
like the strategic advantage of implementing an EA. Upon completion of the DISS 792 course the student will:

1. Understand how EA is a discipline that can be used to bridge business strategy with its timely implementation.
2. Grasp and work with conceptual tools like the Zachman framework to understand the EA domain—people and work products.
3. Be able to define EA planning.
4. Acquire useful guidelines including techniques, methods, and tools used to develop and maintain an EA.
5. Be aware of the quality factors that are used to measure and manage the creation and maintenance of an EA.
6. Understand the key role of people in the creation and management of an EA including the organizational and political aspects of EA planning.
7. Appreciate inevitable tradeoffs between resources and level of detail regarding the EA.
8. Be able to discuss important processes somewhat “outside” the EA discipline that are important to it like systems analysis and design, business systems planning, and the technology planning.
9. Develop a deep enough mental mapping of the EA domain to understand with clarity topics that are essential to EA as opposed to those that are tangential.
10. Think critically when reading the EA literature being able to separate articles and books that are useful and purposeful versus those that lack focus or significance.

Upon completion of the DISS 892 course the student will:

1. Delve deeply into a specific area of Enterprise Architecture Process research and develop a study, implementation, or project carried out using the NSU dissertation approach.
3. Gain experience with NSU research requirements by practicing the competencies documented in the Dissertation Guide.

**Course Outline:** Topics to be explored include—

From Spewak—

- Successful EA Planning
- Planning Initiation
- Preliminary Business Model
- The Enterprise Survey
- Current Systems and Technology Architecture
- Data Architecture
- Applications Architecture
- Technology Architecture
• Implementation Plan
• Planning Conclusion
• Transition to Implementation

From Perks/Beveridge—

• Rationale for an EA
• Technical architecture development process
• Project management and governance
• EA as a profession

From Gulla—

- Context building cluster activities:

Explorations involving topics like EA institutes, frameworks, certifications, and education. These are topics to understand the EA domain.

- Literature-based cluster activities:

Explorations involving papers on EA. As above, topics to better understand the EA domain.

- Student presentations:

Creation of a theme, main idea, or unifying notion to organize the papers and presentations for the second cluster in June 2006.

- Research and writing:

Supply students with materials and guidance to assist with the research and writing in the EA domain.

**Schedule:** Here is the schedule for the entire semester. Please note that all due dates are Saturday at midnight.

**Class**

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<th>Date</th>
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<th>Case</th>
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* G2E is Guide to Enterprise IT Architecture and EAP is Enterprise Architecture Planning
**Project**

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**Instruction Methods and Tools:** Methods will consist of lecture and discussion, analysis of articles, activities, and student presentations. Tools will include WebCT, the course Web page, and email. Students will utilize materials supplied by the instructor.

**Requirements:** For DISS 792, the scope of requirements includes three papers, two forum appends, and one case study. Students are also expected to participate in class (individual and group), contribute using WebCT, and make at least one presentation at the second cluster weekend. This presentation is worth 5 points towards your grade.

**Three papers and one presentation:** The student is to pick 3 from the list of topics (below) and submit their papers according to schedule. All papers must include
citations and must be directly related to the EA process or strongly related sub-processes and activities. Reports should not exceed nn double-spaced pages where nn varies as such—

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<th>Paper</th>
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<td>Paper 1 (15% of grade)</td>
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<td>Paper 2 (20% of grade)</td>
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<td>Presentation for Paper 2 (5% of grade)</td>
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<td>Paper 3 (30% of grade)</td>
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Paper 2, which will be presented at the 2nd cluster weekend in June, must “fit” into the framework or unifying idea that is developed during the first cluster weekend.

Paper Topics: These topics are guidelines--

1. Write a topic paper on an EA infrastructure or application detailed topic. Often infrastructure is discussed separate from applications or business processes. For a brief paper, pick just one area but for a lengthier paper perhaps it would be good to combine infrastructure, applications, and business process in the same paper.

2. Write a topic paper on EA planning or EA implementation detailed topic. It is possible to focus in a narrow sense on EA planning and discuss planning process and tools, team make up, critical success factors, etc. The same is true for implementation—once a target EA is identified, how is it achieved? This is a strange way (naïve) to express it but achieving goals through implementation has its challenges. These can be explored in an implementation-focused paper.

3. Read a collection of papers on a related EA topic and write a paper integrating, comparing, and contrasting the main topic ideas. Collection should be five to ten papers. This is a typical “survey of the literature” task that you carry out when writing a paper that explains research in an area where there is already a body of knowledge.

4. Create and update an EA process journal for six weeks. The journal should contain issues relating to you, your work, and the work of others. When discussing topics and issues, integrate outside sources and include citations.

5. Analyze and evaluate an EA related software product and document your results in a report. Find or create an evaluation method that has significance and use this in your paper.

Case study: A case study will be distributed on July 8. It will be due back on July 29. The case study will explain a problem situation and include questions. Each student will review the case study and answer the questions. The case study will focus on knowledge learned from the texts and our interactions throughout the semester.
Contribute to forums: The student is to pick 2 areas from the list of forums (below) and submit contribution according to schedule. Forum appends should average 5 pages and must not exceed 10 double-spaced printed pages including tables and figures (as appropriate). No cover page is necessary just start with an introduction and end with a conclusion. Use DG and APA formatting with citations. Although these are appends and not formal papers, you must nevertheless cite your sources.

1. EA frameworks
2. EA professional certifications
3. EA book reviews
4. Processes important to EA—critical details and discussion
5. New developments in EA
6. Business case for EA
7. EA data repository and knowledge management
8. Analysis of EA tools
9. Intersection and EA and Other Disciplines
11. EA Methods and Standards

I will use and discuss posted forums in my monthly newsletter to the class. Please post to one forum during each half of the semester but no later than the dates indicated in the schedule.

For DISS 892, the scope of assignments includes a study, implementation, or project carried out using the NSU dissertation approach. This approach requires three work products--an idea paper (1), proposal (2), (carry out, in sequence, the steps you documented to accomplish your goal (Methodology), and a report (3). The dissertation approach and work products have changed recently. See appendix A for more details.

Examinations and Quizzes: There will be no exams or quizzes.

Grading Criteria: The grade for the course will consist of:

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<th>Graded Item</th>
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The grade for the project will consist of:

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The final grade for this class and project is on the basis of 0 to 100:

A  93-100
A-  90-92
B+ 87-89
B   83-86
B-  80-82
C+ 77-79
C   73-86
C-  70-72
F   69 and below

SCIS does not have the letter grade of "D". Penalties for late submission apply. A student may not do additional work or repeat an examination to raise a grade.

Class/Course Rules:  You must attend class during the week of the cluster. It is expected that work will be submitted on time, however the instructor realizes that exceptional situations do occur. The late policy is as follows—

1. Late work will be accepted but only if arrangements are made with the instructor in advance.
2. Work that is one to two weeks late, there will be a 15% penalty.
3. Work that is three to four weeks late, there will be a 30% penalty.
4. Work that is more than four weeks late will not be accepted.

Original work is essential, please submit certificate of originality with each assignment. Written assignments must conform to the style designated by dissertation guide.

Bibliography:


Patterns have a relationship with enterprise architecture—you use them, you harvest their documentation, and you exploit their reuse capability.

Interesting treatment of models, methodology, and architecture. Good supporting ideas like enabling components—security, workflow, etc.


Contains solid ideas on strategic planning and links them to author’s original reference model.


Mostly about planning successful e-business implementations but has useful ideas for an enterprise architecture effort.


Closer to systems development than enterprise architecture yet useful for the density of ideas and the abundance of interesting figures. Think of enterprise modeling as a child of enterprise architecture or perhaps a brother.


This book is a follow on to Architecture of Integrated Information Systems. Foundations of Enterprise Modeling. Focus is comprehensive insight into modeling and information technology.


Interesting and detailed survey of Frameworks. Also, discusses standards and tools.


Detailed explanation of the economic benefits of EA. Unique in the literature.

**School and University Policies and Procedures:** Students must comply with the policies published in the school’s *Graduate Catalog* and the *NSU Student Handbook*, some of which are included or referenced below. The catalog is at
1. Standards of Academic Integrity

For the university-wide policy on academic standards, see the section Code of Student Conduct and Academic Responsibility in the NSU Student Handbook. Also see the section Student Misconduct in the GSCIS catalog.

Each student is responsible for maintaining academic integrity and intellectual honesty in his or her academic work. It is the policy of the school that each student must:

- Submit his or her own work, not that of another person
- Not falsify data or records (including admission materials)
- Not engage in cheating (e.g., giving or receiving help during examinations; acquiring and/or transmitting test questions prior to an examination; and using unauthorized materials, such as notes, during an examination)
- Not receive or give aid on assigned work that requires independent effort
- Properly credit the words or ideas of others according to accepted standards for professional publications (see Crediting the Words or Ideas of Others)
- Not use term paper writing services or consult such services for the purpose of obtaining assistance in the preparation of materials to be submitted in courses or for theses or dissertations
- Not commit plagiarism (Merriam-Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary (1996) defines plagiarism as “stealing or passing off ideas or words of another as one’s own” and “the use of a created production without crediting the source.”) (see Crediting the Words or Ideas of Others below)

Crediting the Words or Ideas of Others

When using the exact words of another, quotation marks must be used for short quotations (fewer than 40 words), and block quotation style must be used for longer quotations. In either case, a proper citation must also be provided. The Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, Fifth Edition, (2001, pp. 117 and 292) contains standards and examples on quotation methods.

When paraphrasing (summarizing, or rewriting) the words or ideas of another, a proper citation must be provided. (The Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (2001) contains standards and examples of citation methods (pp. 207–214) and reference lists (pp. 215–281)). The New Shorter Oxford English Dictionary (1993) defines paraphrase:

An expression in other words, usually fuller and clearer, of the sense of a written or spoken passage or text…Express the meaning (of a word, phrase, passage, or work) in other words, usually with the object of clarification…
Changing word order, deleting words, or substituting synonyms is not acceptable paraphrasing—it is plagiarism, even when properly cited. Rather than make changes of this nature, the source should be quoted as written.

Original Work

Assignments, exams, projects, papers, theses, dissertations, etc., must be the original work of the student. Original work may include the thoughts and words of another author but such thoughts or words must be identified utilizing quotation marks or indentation and must properly identify the source. At all times, students are expected to comply with the school’s accepted citation practice and policy.

Work is not original when it has been submitted previously by the author or by anyone else for academic credit. Work is not original when it has been copied or partially copied from any other source, including another student, unless such copying is acknowledged by the person submitting the work for the credit at the time the work is being submitted, or unless copying, sharing, or joint authorship is an express part of the assignment. Exams and tests are original work when no unauthorized aid is given, received, or used before or during the course of the examination, reexamination, and/or remediation.

2. Writing Skills

Each student must demonstrate proficiency in the use of the English language in all work submitted for this course. Grammatical errors, spelling errors, and writing that does not express ideas clearly will affect your grade. The professor will not provide remedial help concerning writing problems.

3. Disabilities and ADA

NSU complies with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA). The university’s detailed policy on disabilities is contained in the NSU Student Handbook. Student requests for accommodation based on ADA will be considered on an individual basis. Each student with a disability should discuss his or her needs with the GSCIS disability service representative, Candy Fish (call 954-262-2034, or email fishc@nova.edu) before the commencement of classes if possible.

4. Communication by Email

Students must use their NSU email accounts when sending email to faculty and staff and must clearly identify their names and other appropriate information, e.g., course or program. When communicating with students via email, faculty and staff members will send mail only to NSU email accounts using NSU-recognized usernames. Students who forward their NSU-generated email to other email accounts do so at their own risk. GSCIS uses various course management tools that use private internal email systems. Students enrolled in courses using these tools should check both the private internal email system and NSU’s regular email.
system. NSU offers students web-based email access. Students are encouraged to check their NSU email account daily.

5. The Temporary Grade of Incomplete (I)

The temporary grade of Incomplete (I) will be granted only in cases of extreme hardship. Students do not have a right to an incomplete, which may be granted only when there is evidence of just cause. A student desiring an incomplete must submit a written appeal to the course professor at least two weeks prior to the end of the term. In the appeal, the student must: (1) provide a rationale; (2) demonstrate that he/she has been making a sincere effort to complete the assignments during the term; and (3) explain how all the possibilities to complete the assignments on time have been exhausted. Should the course professor agree, an incomplete contract will be prepared by the student and signed by both student and professor. The incomplete contract must contain a description of the work to be completed and a timetable. The completion period should be the shortest possible. In no case may the completion date extend beyond 30 days from the last day of the term for master’s courses or beyond 60 days from the last day of the term for doctoral courses. The incomplete contract will accompany the submission of the professor’s final grade roster to the program office. The program office will monitor each incomplete contract. If a change-of-grade form is not submitted by the scheduled completion date, the grade will be changed automatically from I to F. No student may graduate with an I on his or her record.

6. Grade Policy Regarding Withdrawals

Course withdrawal requests must be submitted to the program office in writing by the student. Requests for withdrawal must be received by the program office by the calendar midpoint of the course (see dates in the academic calendar in the catalog and program brochures or at: http://www.scis.nova.edu/NSS/pdf_documents/AcadCal.pdf). Withdrawals sent by email must be sent from the student’s assigned NSU email account. Requests for withdrawal received after 11:59 p.m. EST on the withdrawal deadline date will not be accepted. Failure to attend class or participate in course activities will not automatically drop or withdraw a student from the class or the university. Students who have not withdrawn by the withdrawal deadline will receive letter grades that reflect their performance in the course. When a withdrawal request is approved, the transcript will show a grade of W (Withdrawn) for the course. Students with four withdrawals will be dismissed from the program. Depending on the date of withdrawal, the student may be eligible for a partial refund (see the appropriate catalog section Refund Policy Regarding Withdrawals).

7. Acceptable Use of Computing Resources

Students must comply with the university’s Policy on Acceptable Use of Computing Resources (see NSU Student Handbook).
8. Academic Progress, Grade Requirements, and Academic Standing

Students must be familiar with the school’s policy which is contained in its catalog.

9. Student Research Involving Human Subjects

Students must be familiar with the university’s policy (see paragraph in catalog).
Appendix A - Updated Dissertation Guide

The Dissertation Guide has been updated to reflect the important changes we made recently to the dissertation process. Major changes and additions:

1. Formation of the committee prior to approval of the idea paper
2. Elimination of the preliminary dissertation proposal; revised requirements for the expanded idea paper
3. The three documents are now called Idea Paper, Dissertation Proposal, and Dissertation Report (removed "Formal" from the second and "Final" from the third).
4. Mention of the new Dissertation Tracking System
5. Dissertations must be submitted to UMI/ProQuest in PDF form.
6. Guide was shortened from 62 to 37 pages by eliminating forms that are available on our website.
7. Many paragraphs were rewritten to make them clearer.

Dissertation Guide:

Updated paper submission documents:

Stage Approval Form PDF:

Approval Form for Dissertation Report PDF:

Appendix B – EA Tools Research

1. EA Tool Name
Visible Advantage

2. EA Tool Description
From the supplier's Web page--

"Visible Advantage™ is a software engineering and repository product for complex, cross-functional enterprise class development. Unlike other similar tools on the market, it supports multiple users simultaneously, so that analysts, designers, and software engineers (the entire project team) can work on various parts of an application or business model without having to reconcile the conflicting changes to the master model after the fact. Visible Advantage supports the development of new
information systems, the redevelopment of legacy systems, and the reengineering of business processes. Gartner Group stated "IE: Advantage (now called Visible Advantage) is a Workgroup CASE tool with an Enterprise CASE mentality" because it automates business planning, data modeling, data access and business process modeling, object-oriented design, data reverse engineering, document and report generation, and more!"

3. EA Tool Supplier

3.1 The Company

"Visible Systems is a boutique IT company, specializing in mainstreaming framework-based software engineering throughout the enterprise. It was the inspiration of two MIT graduates, one of whom had experience with start-up companies. An early client of the company, State Street Bank, thought these young graduates were “marketing visionaries” for seeing the advantages of documenting information systems in this new way."

3.2 Portfolio

"Visible products make the development of mission-critical applications more rigorous, maintainable, and reusable. They automate and accelerate many tasks associated with model-driven, object-oriented information systems development, including enterprise-level modeling, application and database analysis/design, code generation, and configuration management.

3.2.1 Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Razor (Software CM)</td>
<td>Software configuration management--related to EA but not core.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visible Developer (Migration/Code Generation)</td>
<td>Software development tool--related to EA but not core.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visible Advantage (Enterprise Architecture)</td>
<td>Positioned as an EA tool.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visible Analyst (Analysis and Design Modeling)</td>
<td>Positioned as an EA tool.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polaris (Issue Tracking &amp; Workflow Management)</td>
<td>Management tool--related to EA but not core.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCSIS (Product Data Management)</td>
<td>Management tool--related to EA but not core.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Browser (Cobol Code Reengineering)</td>
<td>Software development tool--related to EA but not core.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.2.2 More Details
3.2.2.1 Zachman Framework Edition

The Zachman Framework Edition is the most comprehensive design and deployment for rapid development and migration of information systems in the marketplace today. It incorporates strategic planning, data modeling, object modeling, process modeling, UML modeling, and includes the Visible Business Templates and ISO 9000 Templates. This product is extremely easy to set up and use, driven by an interface that allows straightforward navigation to all your model artifacts. The product currently supports the Zachman framework and tailored frameworks like C4ISR, FEAF, TEAF and others. This product also includes a powerful application migration facility that can generate and maintain enterprise applications, as well as reverse engineer applications.

3.2.2.2 Razor (Software CM)

Integrated, feature-rich configuration management system providing process management, issue/problem tracking, version control, and release management for software engineering, e-Business, and web development. Ensures compliance with ISO 9000 and SEI CMM. Razor workflow, templates, rules, and controls can be customized to match any process. It is available for UNIX, Linux, and Windows NT.

3.2.2.3 Visible Developer (Migration/Code Generation)

A software component design and code generator, Visible Developer generates 90+% of the business and database access logic for typical business applications. Import data models from existing databases or Visible Analyst into Visible Developer, then define your business objects using powerful and intuitive modeling features. Visible Developer's code patterns translate the model into robust, modular, well-documented code for VB6, ASP, C#, VB.NET and ASP.NET. You're not stuck with the "shell code" generated by UML-based tools.

3.2.2.4 Visible Advantage (Enterprise Architecture)

Enterprise architecture management tool for building sophisticated new information systems, redeveloping legacy systems, and reengineering business processes. Automates business planning, data modeling, data access and business activity modeling, object-oriented design, and data reverse engineering. Ideal tool for creating an Enterprise Portal or Data Warehouse. Open architecture tool using SQL and XML as model transfer media.

3.2.2.5 Visible Analyst (Analysis and Design Modeling)

Affordable graphical planning, analysis, and design tool that enables enterprises to build complex client/server applications and databases. Allows data, processes, and
objects to be modeled in multiple notations, including complete analysis and design UML, for effective software engineering. Most widely used modeling and design product in universities and colleges. Generates model information in multiple forms, including COBOL, C, Visual Basic, SQL, and XML.

3.2.2.6 Polaris (Issue Tracking & Workflow Management)

Windows-based issue tracking and workflow management helps you improve your software development process. It is completely customizable so you can tailor it to meet your organization's needs.

3.2.2.7 LCSIS (Product Data Management)

LCSIS is a dynamic, Enterprise Data Management System that is designed, from the ground up, to meet the specialized needs of product development. The LCSIS system enables the effective integration, structuring, and dissemination of the critical product and process data associated with Product Development, Engineering, Production, Customer Service and Support. LCSIS also promotes cross departmental synergism and optimal use of organizational resources by combining a robust data management environment with an easy to use interface to increase productivity, improve standards compliance, and build overall competitiveness.

3.2.2.8 Application Browser (Cobol Code Reengineering)

Application Browser is a unique COBOL reengineering product. Similar products produce reports and diagrams describing the legacy application. Application Browser also extracts critical information regarding the data and process flows of COBOL legacy systems and then stores this information as a model in the repository of the Visible Analyst. This gives you the power and flexibility of a robust, multi-user repository when reverse engineering your legacy system. Multiple developers can view the same model simultaneously."

Source--

http://www.visible.com/index.htm

4. EA User Group

This EA tool, has the support of a user's group. From the Web page--

"This is the home of Visible Systems' Visible Analyst, Visible Advantage, and Users Discussion Group, an e-mail, web board, and newsgroup based discussion group intended for those interested in discussing Visible Analyst tips, techniques, and issues. This group is not affiliated with Visible Systems. This discussion group is free of charge. "
You can find this user's group at--

http://www.infoadvisors.com/VisibleAnalystBoard.htm

5. EA Tool Discussion

Main points--

- VAD is full-life cycle
- SE modeling tool
- Scope is--
  > business management,
  > strategic business planning,
  > new systems development,
  > existing systems redevelopment, and
  > IS management

6. Supporting documentation

Documentation from the demo disk as well as a demo version of the product.