Health check: Evaluating project readiness and improving infrastructure performance

Highlights

■ *Improve job design, performance, scheduling and change management*

■ *Understand project strengths and weaknesses, ranked against institutions with similar initiatives*

■ *Enhance project preparedness and execution through strategic planning and custom recommendations*

■ *Enable technical staff success and productivity through mentoring, guidance and information sharing*

■ *Leverage IBM standard practices and methodologies*

Health check

The Health Check workshop is targeted to clients engaged in development efforts that are not progressing according to plan, clients seeking validation of proposed plans prior to the commencement of new projects or clients interested in assessing and optimizing performance.

Led by experienced IBM technical architects, the health check engagement concentrates on analysis of data integration goals and challenges, assessment of existing data structure and performance and development of a strategic approach for addressing these goals and challenges. Focal points include reviewing development objectives, analyzing the development and production environments, assessing client project team skill sets and setting project scope and business expectations.

Discovering improvement opportunities

Concentrating on the core extract, transform and load (ETL) development and operational environments, the Health Check workshop provides onsite discussion and analysis of data warehouse or data integration projects with key members of client project teams. It includes analysis of IBM® WebSphere® DataStage® (formerly WebSphere DataStage Enterprise Edition) jobs for:

• *Design review*
• *Performance and tuning recommendations*
• *Recommendations on advanced techniques*
• *WebSphere DataStage project and version control review*
• *Change management in development, test and production environments*
• *Scheduling and managing WebSphere DataStage jobs in a production environment*

Laying the foundation for success

Intended to enable successful project execution, clients receive documentation and information sharing that together provide customized planning, execution and operation recommendations based on IBM standard practices and methodologies.

Readiness assessment profile. Outlines areas of project strengths and weaknesses. The results are presented with a benchmark for comparison against other institutions undertaking similar initiatives.

Project summary report. Captures client project goals, challenges and technical and business objectives. The summary report includes results of the analysis performed as well as corresponding IBM recommendations.

Information sharing. IBM technical architects work hand in hand with clients to:

* *Provide guidance and recommendations related to environmental and job-level architectures to support the overall solution*
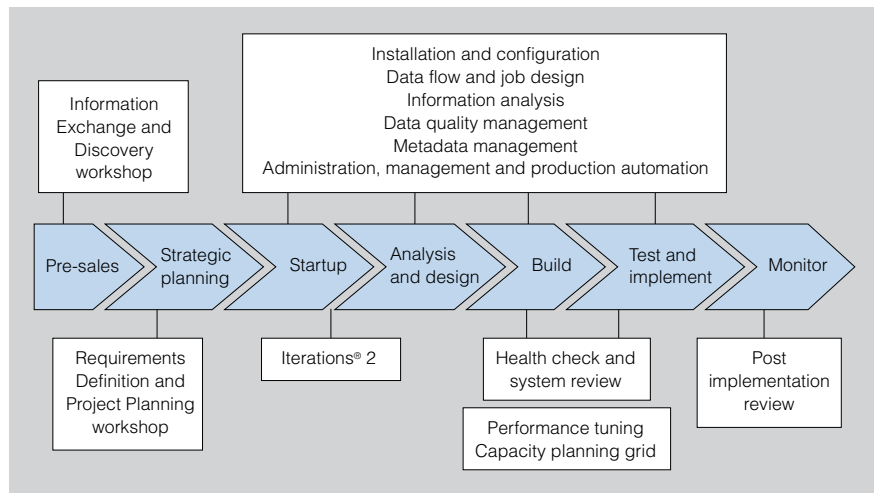

Figure 1. Services offerings within the software development life cycle

* *Aid the verification of installation and configuration of WebSphere DataStage software in the target development, test and production environments*
* *Assist clients with any outstanding architecture-related issues prior to beginning the effort, including:*
  – *Suggesting IBM standard practices, tips and techniques in the design, development, testing and deployment of WebSphere DataStage jobs in the target environments*
  – *Assisting with implementation planning and execution*

IBM Information Integration Solutions

IBM offers a broad set of service offerings designed to maximize success with IBM Information Integration Solutions through standard practices developed across numerous successful deployments. Intended to establish a foundation of product knowledge and guidelines, these strategic workshops are customized to the customer's existing environments, standards and methodologies.

Throughout the project life cycle, IBM offers a comprehensive set of service offerings using Information Integration Solutions, as seen in Figure 1.
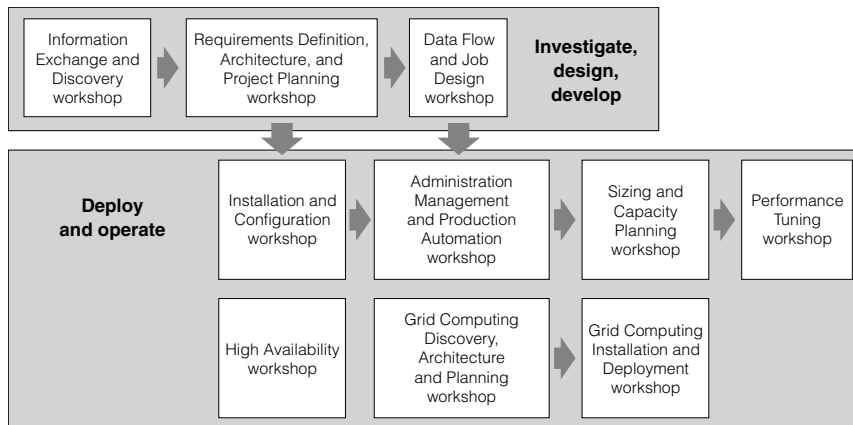
Figure 2. Services workshops for the WebSphere DataStage parallel framework

Figure 2 illustrates the various IBM Information Integration Solutions workshops around the parallel framework of WebSphere DataStage software.

The objective of IBM Information Integration Solutions is to provide the most cost-effective and expedient means of achieving project goals through using the IBM Information Server software platform, repeatable processes and consistent deliverables. To achieve these goals and help ensure continued success, IBM employs standard methodologies, proven consulting expertise and experience refined throughout hundreds of successful client data integration workshops.

For more information

For more information about Health Check or other IBM Information Integration Solutions offerings, please contact your IBM marketing representative or visit **ibm.com/** software/data/integration

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