Release Notes 11.10.1.B Solution Configuration Changes

The Alfabet solution configuration has been updated to enhance the functionalities and classes that Alfabet users are familiar with.

New

The following is introduced to the Alfabet solution configuration this release.

Advanced data management to capture business data

The new use case **Advanced Data Management** focuses on business data as the key asset to understand where data is stored, how it is transferred, and how it is used so that your company can ensure compliance with data protection regulations and enforce data governance policies.

As an alternative to the **Basic Data Management** use case, which describes the transfer of data via business objects, **Advanced Data Management** includes the class **Business Data** which is added at the leaf level of the hierarchy **Business Object Category > Business Object > Business Data**. The business data are concrete, logical instances of business objects, which represent an abstract entity such as a customer or employee. For example, the high-level business object **Employee** might have two different business data **Employee HR** and **Employee Reporting**, whereby **Employee HR** includes sensitive data like salary and gender whereas **Employee Reporting**includes global reporting dashboards have only access to aggregated data. Data usage and CRUD (Create, Read, Update, Delete) operations are maintained directly on the business data.

When the use case **Advanced Data Management** is activated, the new **Business Data** node is available in the navigation panel. Business data can be captured in the **Business Data** data workbench where it can be assigned to a parent business object and its data protection requirements specified. The business data content area provides views to capture evaluations such as the DPIA rating, the attributes of the business data, and CRUD usage.

Additionally, with the activation of **Advanced Data Management**, the business object content area will display a **Business Data** data workbench to specify the business data assigned to the business object and a **Business Data Governance** view that shows all business data associated with the business object, the compliance of the data, and analysis of its attributes. Additionally, the information flow content area will show a **Transferred Business Data** view where transferred

data can be captured from the perspective of the incoming or outgoing information flow.

You can use the **Advanced Data Management** use case with either the license **IT Transformation Server - FastLane** or **IT Transformation Server - Enterprise**. The use cases **Basic Data Management** and **Advanced Data Management** are mutually exclusive and only one may be enabled.

Learn more about activating the Advanced Data Management use case scope

More in-depth analysis of the information portfolio

The following has been added for more sophisticated reporting on the information portfolio. All business questions are available with the base package **IT Transformation Server - Enterprise**. The use case **Information Portfolio Governance** must be activated.

New business question What is our data landscape? The business question What is our data landscape? is available in the Transparency section of the navigation panel and supports you to understand your data landscape in the context of business needs. The report displays a nested matrix that shows the business capability model with information about the business objects that the business capabilities use. The top 2 levels of business capabilities in the business capability hierarchy are displayed, whereby each second-level business capability displays the business objects used by the second-level business capability and its subordinate business capabilities.

Analyze the business objects based on their assignment to business capabilities. Understand the exposure of personal data in the data landscape by focusing on the DPIA (data protection impact assessment) classification of the data. This business question supports the enterprise to understand and mitigate potential risk by knowing which business capabilities deal with personal data and their compliance with data regulations such as GDPR.

New business question Where is our data processed? The business question Where is our data processed? is available in the Risk section of the navigation panel. The data flow diagram that visualizes how selected data is generated, transformed, transmitted and used across applications over time. Upstream and downstream applications are mapped with directional arrows. By visualizing CRUD (Create, Read, Update, and Delete) operations alongside information flow details such as connection frequency, data format, and transferred business data, the data lineage report makes complex flows easy to understand.

Users can easily trace where business data is used, spot overlaps or inconsistencies, and uncover opportunities for optimization. Assess the business

data at any point in time to ensure transparency and control across the enterprise.

Understand the data flows across applications and the vital operations they perform to support the business.

Note that if the **Basic Data Management** use case is activated, the business question will showcase a selected business object that is transferred by information flows. If the **Advanced Data Management** use case is activated, the business question will focus on a selected business data transferred by information flows

New business question What are our middleware integrations? The business question What are our middleware integrations? is available in the Transparency section of the navigation panel. The flow diagram offers a comprehensive overview of middleware systems and the technical implementation of information flows across connected applications. It illustrates how applications and components function as middleware to enable the exchange of information between source and target systems.

This visualization clarifies the integration landscape and highlights opportunities to optimize data flows by leveraging middleware systems. Serving as a technical reference, it supports stakeholders in maintaining governance and oversight of middleware integrations. By focusing on end-to-end information flows, the diagram enables effective management and control of planned changes. It provides the necessary context to understand and anticipate the impacts of change initiatives at any point in time, ensuring informed decision-making and sustainable integration practices.

Extended middleware specification. A middleware system can now be specified so that applications as well as components can function as middleware to enable the exchange of information between the source and target applications. To this end, the selector to specify the **Middleware** attribute in the information flow content area has been extended to specify either one application or one component. As a result of the revised middleware concept, the class **Interface System** has become obsolete and is no longer implemented in the solution configuration.

New business question Where do we have functional redundancy?

The business question **Where do we have functional redundancies?** is available in the **Rationalization** section of the navigation panel. The dataset shows which business capabilities use the same applications. Ideally each application supports a business capability. The report highlights the total number of business capabilities that two applications support as well as the percentage of business capabilities that the two applications have in common. A deeper understanding about the redundant application support is available in an additional matrix report

that shows all business capabilities that both applications support as well as which business capabilities each application exclusively supports.

This visualization helps reduce functional redundancy and decreases risk due to too many applications supporting multiple organizational needs. The report also helps identify replacement candidates in case an application will be rationalized.

The business question Where do we have functional redundancies? is available with the base package IT Transformation Server - Enterprise. The use case Application Portfolio Governance must be activated.

Improvements

The following enhancements to the Alfabet solution configuration are available with this release.

Enhanced service portfolio management

Service Context page within the business service content area now provides new data workbenches, which replace the previous graphic view Service Items. The Consuming Organizations data workbench allows all organizations that used the business services to be captured and edited with inline editing features. The Providing Business Service Items data workbench allows the service items that describe the applications, peripherals, deployments, and support services that deliver the business services. The new data workbench Providing Support Service Items captures the service items that describe the components, standard platforms, physical servers, and virtual servers that deliver the support services.

Support service delivery via standard platforms. Standard platforms can be specified as a support service item to describe how a standard platform delivers a support service. Since standard platforms aggregate existing components, the standard platform can be used in place of multiple components. Standard platforms have been added as a possibility in the selector to specify the **Providing Asset** field in the **Support Service Item** editor. A **Standard Platform** column has been added to the business question **What are our service overlaps?** This feature addresses the customer idea captured in ticket PROD-1-225.

Consistent and intuitive maintenance of service lifecycles. The lifecycle edit functionality in the Business Service Items – Lifecycle and Support Service Items – Lifecycle views is aligned with other lifecycle views across the product, making the experience smoother and simpler for users.

Improved tooltips in content areas and runtime editors. Hints have been updated to provide better support in the content areas and runtime editors for business services, business service items, support services, support service items, and service groups

Better usability in What are or service overlaps? Tooltips have been added to the symbols indicating service overlap in the cells in the matrix. The names of the

relevant services are displayed for the Symbol and the number symbol (10),

②, etc.) that allow easy identification of the services providing an asset. Users can click the symbols to open an editable object inspection pane or double-click

them to open a data workbench where they can see all service items for the service including the assets that deliver the services. Additionally, the data quality rules for **What are or service overlaps?** have been enhanced to support data requirements for both business services and support services.

Comprehensive documentation for the Service Portfolio Management use case.

A new Service Portfolio Management link is available in the Enterprise Architecture Management tile of the help. The methodology-driven documentation explains how to catalog and maintain your services and leverage business questions to understand redundancy and opportunities for cost optimization, assess reliance on the IT infrastructure and potential risks to the business, and ensure alignment of the service portfolio with business requirements. Learn more about service portfolio management.

Service portfolio management is available with the base package **Enterprise Architecture Management**. The use case **Service Portfolio Management** must be activated.

Richer content in What is our strategic progress?

Sequence the data in the matrix report according to your needs. The local filter now offers a **Sort** filter, helping users order data the way they want. The default option **Name** orders goals alphabetically on the horizontal axis and the strategic themes listed alphabetically below the goals.

The new **Completeness Descending** option displays the most complete goals on the left, with their strategic themes arranged below from most to least complete. Conversely, the **Completeness Ascending** option orders goals and strategic themes from least complete to most complete.

A goal's overall completeness score is based on the weighted average of the strategic themes' Actual Performance indicators and the aggregated weightings of the strategic themes and objectives contributing to the goal. The percentage of completion is shown next to the name of each goal and strategic theme.

Visualize a heatmap for a quick analysis of goal completion. Activate the new Show Completeness Heatmap filter to transform the nested matrix view into a heatmap that highlights goals and strategic themes by their level of completeness. Dark blue represents those with a higher percentage of completed measures.

Simplified legend for better usability. The legend has been updated so that only relevant information is displayed based on the setting in the **Focus of Analysis** filter:

- If **Projects** is selected, evaluation is based on the average RAG status (Red, Amber, Green) which is derived from the project monitoring indicators for time, budget and resource.
- If **Programs** is selected, the number of projects assigned to the program are displayed. Evaluation is based on the average RAG status (Red, Amber, Green) which is derived from the program's project monitoring indicators for time, budget and resource.
- If **Performance Measures** is selected, the matrix cell will show indicators for **Rating Trend** and **Gap Trend**. The rating trend compares the measure's rating of the current time period with the previous period. The gap trend compares the delta between the measure's target and rating of the current period with the measure's delta of the previous period.

Tooltips on performance measures for incisive insight. Tooltips allow users to easily comprehend the improvement rates associated with a strategic theme when the **Focus of Analysis** is set to **Performance Measures**. Users can point to the indicators and immediately understand a strategic theme's performance rating, gap trend, and RAG status, eliminating the need to open the legend.

More context in Where are our project overlaps?

Tooltips have been added to the symbols in the matrix indicating project overlap. The names of the relevant projects are displayed for the P symbol and the number symbols (0, 2, etc.) that allow easy identification of the projects impacting an asset. Users can click the symbols to open an editable object inspection pane or double-click them to open the project's content area.

Broader scope for contract management

Business services and support services can be specified as contract deliverables to describe the obligated deliverable that must be provided to fulfill the terms of a contract or contract item. In addition to applications, components, physical servers, and virtual servers, the **Contract Deliverables** view in the content area of a contract or contract item now allows business services and support services to be specified as a deliverable. The **Business Context** page of the content areas of business services and support services are also extended and includes the **Contract Deliverables**, **Contract Deliverable Usage**, and **Contracts – Lifecycle** views, enabling contracts to be analyzed and understood from the perspective of the service portfolio.

All views require the base package **Contract Management**. The use case **Contract Library** must be activated.

Improved user interaction for Team Member user profile

A new information message is displayed in the **My Project Task Kanban** view if the report is empty when a user opens it. The message informs the user that the display is empty because no projects are planned for the current year and that another year should be selected in the **Year** filter to view results. Change the year in the filter.

The status filter has been renamed **Skill Request Status** so that users understand that setting it will show only projects with skill requests in the specified status.

Advanced filtering for data quality issues

New filtering is now available in the **Data Quality Issues** view, accessible from the left navigation panel.

- The **Authorization** filter lets you to specify whether assets are displayed in the dataset that you are an authorized user of or have authorization via authorized user groups.
- The Object Class filter allows you to show only assets based on selected classes.
- The **Role Type** filter enables you to show only assets where you are assigned the selected roles.

Easier maintenance of business capabilities

The content area for a business capability has new data workbenches to maintain a business capability's relationships. The new **Providing Applications** view is available in the **Application Context** page of the business capability content area, and the **Implementing Business Processes** is displayed in the **Business Context** page. The new **Assigned Business Objects** and **Associated Business Objects** views are available in the **Information Context** page. Users can use the features of the data workbench to slice-and-dice the data to focus and do the analyses they are most interested in. The obsolete **Providing Applications** attribute group has been removed from in the business capability's content area.

Better user experience for component selectors

The **Component** selector has been enhanced to include both **Component Groups** and **Component Categories** in the **Browse** tab, making it easier for users to quickly locate the components they need.

Access to the classes Component Group and Component Category require the base package IT Transformation Server - Enterprise. The use case Technology Portfolio Governance must be activated.

Optimized display of multiple lines in datasets

The visualization of multiple strings within a dataset cell has been refined so that each line is displayed individually in a matrix cell, rather than aggregated into one single string. This considerably improves the usability of business questions like **What do we have functional redundancies?** as well as such views as **Class Configuration** and **License Overview** available to administrative users.

Fixes

- Data quality rules have been updated to target the data workbenches that have replaced obsolete graphic views.
- The status filter in the My Project Tasks Lifecycle view available to the Team
 Member user profile was empty.
- Measure type categories are only editable to an administrative user via the
 Reference Data > Measure Types view. A new measure type category content
 area is also available. Measure type categories can be assigned to a measure
 type in the Objectives and Key Results view for a strategic them, but a
 measure type category cannot be created or edited there.
- The service item legend in the business question **What is our service**landscape? showed wrong colors and has been removed from the legend.
- ArchiMate Viewpoint diagrams did not update correctly for applications and organizations. This fix is a resolution for ticket ASD-8647.
- Data was note shown for the Using Organizations card in the Business
 Context page of an application's content area. This fix is a resolution for ticket ASD-8859.
- The scroll bar was not displayed to specify the **Middleware** field in the **Information Flow** editor. This fix is a resolution for ticket ASD-9111.
- The AI Use Case Has Highest Risk Level and Enabling AI Architecture
 Approved attributes for an AI use case were not automatically updated when
 the respective AI Risk Level attributes of its AI features and the Status
 attribute of its AI features, AI models, and AI technologies were changed.

Release Notes 11.10.0.A Solution Configuration Changes

The Alfabet solution configuration has been updated to enhance the functionalities and classes that Alfabet users are familiar with.

New

The following is introduced to the Alfabet solution configuration this release.

Editable object inspection preview

New object inspection views offer a streamlined, user-friendly preview that highlights key object details and enables instant, in-place editing. Users can single-click the button for a referenced object in a data workbench, content area, guided data view, Gantt chart, portfolio report, diagram, and diagram-style reports to open the preview panel to view and edit the object. While the implementation of previews is still in progress, they are already available for most classes.

Important: This feature introduces a new click interaction. The single-click interaction is explicitly implemented to open the preview. Consequently, navigation to an object now requires a double-click to open, replacing the previous single-click behavior.

New runtime editor concept

Runtime editors have been introduced this release as an alternative to traditional standard and custom editors. Runtime editors are dynamically generated at runtime when the user opens the editor. They provide more consistency in the look-and-feel of editors providing a uniform layout that places editor fields in a configured sequence. This approach also ensures that tooltips are standardized across the product for editors and content areas. While the implementation of runtime editors is still in progress, they are already available for most classes.

New business question Where are our application used?

The business question **Where are our applications used?** is available in the **Business Relationship** section of the navigation panel. A nested matrix shows the use of applications by organizations in the company. The number of applications used by organizations is aggregated to the top two levels in the organization hierarchy. The business question helps you find outliers in IT usage from an organizational perspective. Focus on organizations with high usage and identify potential opportunities for optimization. Review where technology is underutilized and promote suitable IT support to close gaps in efficiency and innovation.

The license package **IT Transformation Server - Enterprise** is required to work with this business question. The use case **Application Portfolio Governance** must be activated.

New business question What is our strategic progress?

Transformation section of the navigation panel. The nested matrix provides an overview of the company's strategic goals and the progress of their strategic themes. Review the performance measures of the strategic themes based on their rating and gap trends and understand the RAG status of the projects impacted by the strategic theme. This visualization provides a trend analysis of your strategic progress and helps you to focus on the relevant projects that will realize your company's objectives.

The license package **Strategic Portfolio Management** is required to work with this business question. The use case **Strategy Validation** must be activated.

New business question Where can we expect resource constraints?

The business question **Where can we expect resource constraints?** is available in the **Transformation** section of the navigation panel. It provides visibility about the projects requesting resources from organizations over time so that you can recognize when projects are at risk due to potential resource shortfalls. The business question showcases a pivot table with organizations and subordinate organizations requested to provide resources for projects on the Y-axis. The X-axis displays quarterly intervals, showing both resource requests and the number of projects requesting them. Resource requests are highlighted red if they exceed a threshold of resource requests per organization per quarter. This business question sheds highlights potential bottlenecks in resource distribution in projects and helps you to find ways to reallocate resource requests among organizations or over time to reduce risk to project delivery.

The license package **Strategic Portfolio Management** is required to work with this business question. The use case **Resource Management** must be activated.

User-centric portfolio calculations

The introduction of calculated properties in Alfabet 11.9.0 adds greater flexibility for evaluations and prioritization schemes. This feature also improves usability by automatically computing values for objects at runtime, eliminating the need for manual recalculation.

Calculated properties are now available in the Alfabet FastLane and Enterprise solution configurations, allowing for more dynamic data analysis and flexible

filtering. The indicators **Business Score**, **Technical Score**, **Cloud Readiness**, and **Cloud Relevance** have been redesigned to leverage this new feature, making it easier to interpret and sort data in **Application** data workbenches. Additionally, the ordering of value ranges in portfolio matrix reports has been improved for greater clarity and precision in the business questions **What are our investment/retirement candidates?**, **What are our cloud focus areas?**, and the **TIME Portfolio Analysis** view available in the business capability content area.

Dynamic deployment structure visualization

A new **Deployment Structure Network** view is a more robust and insightful alternative to the standard **Deployment Structure** view. The new report leverages a dynamic network diagram to visualize an application's deployment details, including the business capabilities it supports, as well as the servers and geographic locations where it is hosted. The diagram offers flexible layout options, enabling users to reposition elements and enrich the visualization with custom text, shapes, and coloring as needed. The new **Deployment Structure Network** view is displayed by default in the solution, but the **Deployment Structure** view remains in the content repository and can be returned to the application content area if needed.

The license package **IT Transformation Server - FastLane** or **IT Transformation Server - Enterprise** is required to work with this report. Either the use case **Device Management** or **Deployment Management** must be activated.

Simplify complex data with analytic dashboards

Alfabet provides analytics dashboards that are based on the embedded third-party tool DevExpress® Dashboard. Analytics dashboards empower end users with dynamic, data-rich visualizations.

A new **Analytics Dashboard** node is available in the **Configuration** section of the navigation panel. The **Configure Providers** view allows an administrative user to specify the data providers that determine which configured reports or database views shall be used to fetch the data that will be displayed in the analytics dashboard. They can then create a dashboard in the **Configure Dashboards** view, specifying which data provider to use as well as the users, user groups, and user profiles that shall have access to the dashboard. The administrative user can use the full range of visualization possibilities available in the DevExpress Dashboard Designer to design the analytics dashboards for the user community. The completed analytic dashboard should be shared by the administrative user with the relevant users, user groups, and user profiles.

Users can add the dashboard pages shared with them to class-independent content areas like **Home** via the new **Add New Dashboard Page** in the 3-dots menu. The page will show one analytic dashboard and users will have read-only access to the analytics dashboard. Note that analytic dashboards should not be added to class-dependent content areas (like the Application content area) since this may not be supported in the future.

ServiceNow interoperability

ServiceNow® interoperability provides additional value if your company uses ServiceNow® to manage IT Assets, Services and Operations and Alfabet to manage the enterprise architecture and plan IT transformation.

Strategic planning in Alfabet is enhanced when based on data available in ServiceNow, and the results of strategic planning provide input for the operational planning of the IT infrastructure in ServiceNow.

Alfabet FastLane and Enterprise solutions provide a preconfigured interface with ServiceNow. In Alfabet FastLane, the interface offers import capabilities for elements in ServiceNow CI tables and mapping to Alfabet Applications, Components, Locations, and Devices.

Alfabet enterprise customers can benefit from a roundtrip of data compatible with the CSDM 5 data model. Applications created and approved in Alfabet can be exported to Business Applications in ServiceNow for deployment. After deployment is done, the resulting Application Services can then be re-imported to Deployments in Alfabet as input to application versioning and roadmapping, which is then also the basis for IT asset management and incident management in ServiceNow. The mapping of the object data includes generation of links for easy navigation from Alfabet objects to the corresponding ServiceNow elements.

Import and export of data can be managed in the **Portfolio Admin** user profile. To activate ServiceNow integration, on-premise customers need to set the required server variables in the server alias configuration. Cloud customers should contact Alfabet Support to activate the integration.

Improvements

The following enhancements to the Alfabet solution configuration are available with this release.

Smart filter prompt for new users

New users opening a business question like **What are our architecture dependencies?** or **How will IT failure impact our business?** for the first time will see a message explaining that a mandatory filter must be set in order to see data in the view. It appears only the first time a view with a mandatory filter is opened, provided no filter has been previously set. The message provides immediate clarity so that users no longer have to second-guess why no data is shown.

Optimized asset relations reporting

A new **Relations** button in the toolbar of most content areas now provides direct access to the **Asset Relations** view, a comprehensive overview of an asset's key relationships within the IT architecture. Clicking the button triggers a targeted query for this specific report, resulting in significantly improved performance. Previously, **Asset Relations** reports were embedded and loaded implicitly within content areas, which had a noticeable impact on overall product performance.

Insight-rich data in resource management

The user profile **Resource Manager** now offers clearer, richer information about offered and requested resources, making collaboration across teams and organizations more transparent. The bar charts **Resource Planning by Skills** and **Resource Planning by Team** bar charts have been optimized so that users can navigate to data workbenches that clarify who is offering a skill and who has been requested to provide a skill to another organization. Also, the **Resource Analysis** page now provides more seamless and efficient filter usability.

Streamlined layout for What is the status of our rationalization plan?

The layout of the views **Applications Over Time - Chart** and **Applications Over Time - Table** has been changed to show the entire width of each view so that no data is truncated. The data is easier to read and understand at first-glance and requires no extra horizontal scrolling as you carry out trend analysis and assess the financial impact of your rationalization activities.

More visual analytics for contract management

Contract management capabilities are now more flexible with the addition of the data workbenches **Contract Item** and **Contract Deliverables** to the **Contract** and **Contract Items** content areas. The new data workbenches provide all features of

the data workbench to slice-and-dice your data to focus on your contracts and do the analyses you are interested in.

The business question **Which contracts should we review?** has been updated and the caption of the report has been changed to **Application and Component Contracts** to enhance user guidance and improve clarity around report interactions.

Better clarity for data-triggered action rules

The **Data-Triggered Action Rules** view available for administrative users has been updated to a hierarchical layout, making it easier to see which data-triggered actions are associated with each class. The dataset is structured based on the hierarchy that shows the levels 1) target class, 2) data-triggered action rule, and 3) data-triggered action.

New location for currency configuration

To streamline cost configuration, the **Currencies** view has been moved to the **Cost Management** section in the navigation panel of the **Portfolio Admin** user profile, consolidating all cost management configurations in one place.

Revised concept to clear database

The **Clear Database** function available to administrative users has been revised to ensure that audit tables are cleaned and the instance counter set to 1.

Improved mapping for Horizzon interoperability

The classes HorizzonClassMap, HorizzonClassRelationMap,
HorizzonClassAttributes, and HorizzonClassAttributeEnums have new Alfabet
REFSTR-based properties to link the Horizzon Integration classes. The REFSTR
properties are populated via the ADIF scheme Horizzon Integration
ConnectMappingDefinition at the time of schema import.

Fixes

- Obsolete options were removed from the New menu in the Work Breakdown
 Structure view available for projects and work packages available for the
 Portfolio Manager and Project Manager user profiles. Also, obsolete fields
 haven been removed from the Shift Start/End Dates editor available in the
 view.
- It was not possible to navigate from nodes in the **Data Roundtrip** view to data workbenches for the classes Master Plan, Master Plan Map, Master Plan Folder, and Risk Mitigation are now working.
- The Business Capability filter in the business question What is our OPEX distribution? was not correctly applied to the cards for Last Year Project Budget and Current Year Project Budget.
- Class stereotypes such as Application:Application, Application:Peripheral,
 Domain:Business Capability, Domain:IT Capability, Device:Physical Server, and
 Device:Virtual Server were missing in the Class Configuration selector in the
 Extended Attributes view available to the Portfolio Admin user profile.
- The color of states in the **Object State** column was not aligned in the Gantt charts for the business questions **What is our application roadmap?**, **What is our technology roadmap?**, and **What is our service roadmap?**
- Errors no longer occur to business questions focusing on financial data if the name of a cost type is changed.
- The query to import IT-Pedia® products imported to Alfabet did not update the start and end dates of the Alfabet component if those dates were not specified for the component in Alfabet. This issue has been addressed so that when IT-Pedia products are imported and the Alfabet component's start and end dates are empty, the start and end dates of the IT-Pedia product will be written to the Alfabet component. If the start and end dates of the Alfabet component are already defined, its dates will not be changed by the IT-Pedia update.