
Preface

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Interoperability in the context of enterprise applications is the ability of a system or an organisation to work seamless with other systems or organisation without any special effort. The capability to interact and exchange information both internally and with external organisations (partners, suppliers, customers) is a key issue in the global economy. It is fundamental in order to speed up production of goods and services at lower cost, while ensuring higher levels of quality and customisation. Despite the fact of many efforts spend in the past decade to overcome interoperability barriers in the industry non interoperability cause an enormous cost for all business partners. Studies show: More than 40 % of IT-costs are devoted to solve interoperability problems. This book provides knowledge for cost savings and business improvement as well as new technical solutions.

I-ESA'08 (Interoperability for Enterprise Software and Applications) is the fourth of a series of conferences, this time under the motto "Science meets Industry". The I-ESA'08 Conference was organised by Fraunhofer IPK and DFI (Deutsches Forum für Interoperabilität e.V.) jointly promoted by the INTEROP-VLab (European Virtual Laboratory for Enterprise Interoperability - www.interop-vlab.eu) and the EIC (Enterprise Interoperability Centre - www.eic-community.org).

World's leading researchers and practitioners in the area of Enterprise Interoperability contributed to this book. You will find integrated approaches from different disciplines: Computer Science, Engineering and Business Administration.

The structure of this book *Enterprise Interoperability III: New Challenges and Industrial Approaches* was inspired by the ATHENA Interoperability Framework. The House of Enterprise Interoperability is designed top-down from Business to Process and Service Execution aligned with the important topics for Semantics and Ontology's. Common basis of the levels are the aspects of Systems Engineering, Modelling as well as Architectures and Frameworks.

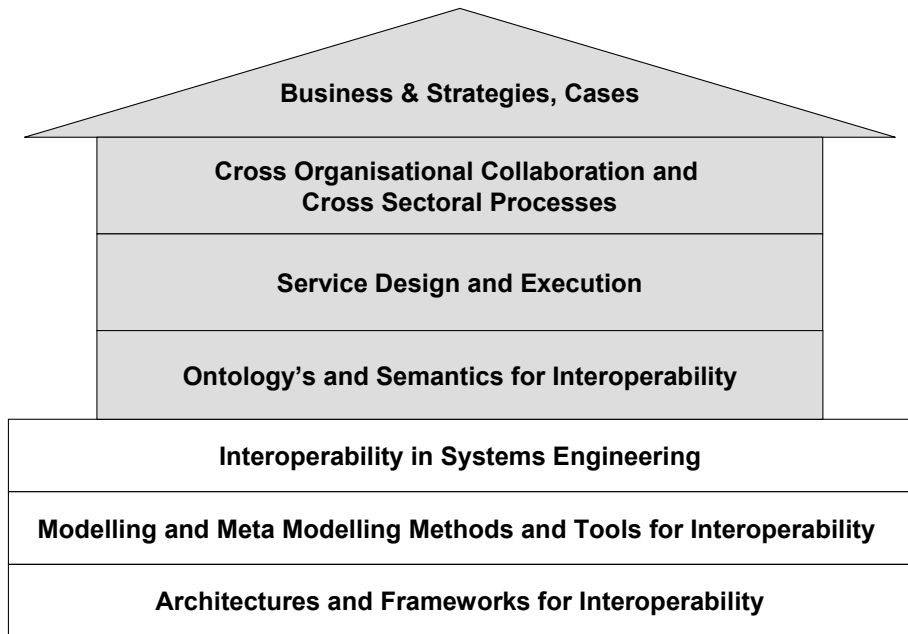


Fig.: Enterprise Interoperability House of I-ESA'08

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Enterprise Interoperability III

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