

Preface

XML (Extensible Markup Language) is the *lingua franca* in contemporary networked environments. It is intended to support communication between software modules, particularly on the Web, as well as communication between people involved in developing new XML-based solutions. Developing the new solutions for a specific domain or for a particular organization requires understanding the capabilities and challenges of XML-based information management. This understanding should be shared by professionals with various backgrounds, including technological experts and experts in a particular domain or organizational environment.

The book aims to provide understanding of the possibilities and challenges of XML in building new information management solutions in networked organizations. It first describes the special features of Web communication and introduces XML fundamentals. Then it examines the benefits of adopting XML in an organization and introduces various types of XML use: XML in document management; XML as a format for metadata, including metadata for the Semantic Web; and XML in support of data interchange between software applications and organizations. The challenges of adopting XML in large-scale information migration are examined at the end of the book. The book provides several case studies of the adoption of XML.

This book is particularly suitable for a course offered by departments or schools of Information Studies, Information Systems, or Information Technology. It is also suitable for courses offered by departments or schools in related fields, including Computer Science, Library Studies, and Business. In addition, this book also serves as a guide to practice for professionals in information or communication technologies.

Airi Salminen and Frank Tompa

Communicating with XML

Salminen, A.; Tompa, F.

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