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PANEL 3 ARCHITECTURES FOR ENTERPRISE INTEGRATION: ARE THERE LESSONS TO BE LEARNED FROM EUROPE?

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PANEL 3

ARCHITECTURES FOR ENTERPRISE INTEGRATION: ARE THERE LESSONS TO BE LEARNED FROM EUROPE?

Panel Chair: A.-W. Scheer, University of Saarland

Panelists: T. Goranson, SAIC
K. Kosanke, ESPRIT
H. Krcmar, University of Stuttgart-Hohenheim

A major challenge for information management in this decade will be to control the growing complexity of heterogeneous systems. The need for open systems has been widely recognized, but the integration of different hardware and software, of different planning philosophies and types of human-computer interaction still presents a tremendous problem.

Several attempts have been made to develop architectures for information systems that provide a framework for integration. Early architectures, such as the Network Application Support (NAS) of Digital Equipment Corp. and Systems Application Architecture (SAA) of IBM, have been developed by vendors of hardware and software. Other architectures, such as CIM-OSA, the Computer Integrated Manufacturing—Open Systems Architecture, have been developed with support from national or international public institutions. CIM-OSA is a large European project which has involved more than twenty large international companies, both vendors and users and research institutions. Architecture development has also been driven by research.

Another example from Europe is the Architecture for Integrated Information Systems. Finally there have been several attempts from the user side to define application systems architectures. An American example is the Supplier Working Group which has developed a system to integrate SAA and NAS.

The panel brings together expertise from these different areas from Europe as well as the United States. It originated from an ongoing international effort for cooperation between Europe and the United States in the area of enterprise integration, which — beside other activities — brought together eighty experts in the field in an International Conference on Enterprise Integration Modeling Technology.

The goals of the panel are to clarify the concept of an architecture in the context of enterprise integration, to discuss the importance of architectures for information management and to discuss whether the existing architectures are well-suited to support enterprise integration.

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Scheer, A.-W. *Architecture of Integrated Information Systems — Foundations of Enterprise Modelling*. Berlin: Springer 1992.

PANEL 4

EVENT-DRIVEN BUSINESS SOLUTIONS: IMPLEMENTATION EXPERIENCES AND ISSUES

Panel Chair: J. Owen Cherrington, Brigham Young University

Panelists: William E. McCarthy, Michigan State University
David P. Andros, Consultant
Richard Roth, Price Waterhouse
Eric L. Denna, Brigham Young University

In 1982, McCarthy proposed changing the architecture of accounting systems around business events rather than a chart of accounts. Several papers have demonstrated the theoretical viability of McCarthy's ideas since (e.g., Armitage 1984; Denna and McCarthy 1987). Furthermore, McCarthy's proposal appeared to provide a foundation for establishing business information systems without organizational boundaries.

Recently, a variety of organizations have begun refining and implementing the event-driven concepts to guide the development of business solutions that help specify

- how business processes are defined and reengineered,
- how organizations are structured,
- how information technology is utilized, and
- how business organization and individual performance is measured.

Event-driven solution concepts provide a catalyst for addressing all four aspects of the solution domain to facilitate continual improvement in an organization's effort to achieve its mission and objectives.

The purpose of the panel is to discuss the experience of those actually implementing, teaching, and doing research on McCarthy's concepts in organizations and universities. The panel will include a discussion of the impact of the event-driven concepts on the roles of accounting and IT professionals in developing business solutions and in coordinating accounting and IT teaching and research. The panel will also discuss the hurdles in commercializing the event-driven concepts.

The panel participants include:

- William E. McCarthy, Arthur Andersen & Co. Alumni Professor of Information Systems at Michigan State University.
- David P. Andros, former IBM Director of Business Management Solutions. Before leaving IBM to form his own consulting company, Andros was the CIO for all Business Management Solutions worldwide. He is co-author of the new book *Event-Driven Business Solutions: Today's Revolution in Business and Information Technology*.
- Richard Roth, managing partner of the Geneva practice unit of Price Waterhouse. Roth has implemented several event-driven technical solutions in both the public and private sector.
- Eric L. Denna, Warnick/Deloitte & Touche Faculty Fellow at Brigham Young University's School of Accountancy and Information Systems. Denna is the lead author of the new book *Event-Driven Business Solutions: Today's Revolution in Business and Information Technology*.

The panel will be moderated by J. Owen Cherrington, Director of the Information Systems Group at Brigham Young University's School of Accountancy and Information Systems.