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What is semantic interoperability?

- Semantic Interoperability in eGovernment
- Semantic Interoperability Assets
- Syntactic Interoperability
- Interoperability in European eGovernment
- Interoperability over standardisation

Interconnecting Europe Conference Book 2008

Eurostat Yearbook 2010

European Environment State and Outlook 2010 Synthesis
Semantic Days 2009

Programme

Monday 18 May
- Tutorials

Tuesday 19 May
- Session 1: Keynotes session: Semantic technologies – Needs and solutions
- Session 2: Applications of semantic technology
- Session 3: Ontology tools

Wednesday 20 May
- Session 4: Interoperability and information quality
- Session 5: IT architecture for networked organizations
- Session 6: Semantic technology for IO Generation 2

Other information

Attachments

Download in other formats:

ADMS Questionnaire No. 2

Preface

Questionnaire

Initial questions for repository owner

Please indicate the metadata used to describe the assets.

List your Asset formats

CKAN

Reminder: CKAN online meeting *today* Thursday 5th May, 5pm UTC

Upcoming CKAN online meetup, Thursday 5th May, 5pm UTC

CKAN.org Blog update, 4th May

IN PROCESS
Purpose

My purpose is to tell them what I have learned about semantic interoperability and to show them how I have applied that to SEMIC.EU to create an "interoperable interface" to their content. The term "interoperable interface" comes from the recent Report to the President and Congress "Designing a Digital Future: Federally Funded Research and Development in Networking and Information Technology", Executive Office of the President and the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology, December 2010 (see excerpts in the wiki). This report defines the term as follows: the means by which components of the smart grid can talk to each other, for example, or by which electronic health records can be shared and added to by many parties - are an important stimulus to technology innovation and adoption. Optimally these interfaces would be open: anyone may create products that use the interfaces without paying fees; and a public, transparent process is used to establish, revise the standards that define the interfaces.

I illustrated this in one of my Federal Computer Week Editorials and related slides (number 30-31). In essence this involves harvesting selected high-value reports (usually in PDF) and Web databases into this Wiki and spreadsheets so they can be organized and imported into Spotfire to be within three mouse clicks (see the data, search the data, and download the data) and published as data science products that can be understood by decision makers and the public and be reused by other researchers. In essence, all the content has an interoperable interface and is and can be further integrated and reused to produce even more semantic interoperability. This supports data integration (statistical correlation versus just mashup overlay) and the four levels of an information/data architecture (topic, subtopic, data table and data elements). Also see Vision and Implementation.

One of the goals is to collaborate with the CKAN Open Knowledge Foundation and its Data Hub to "harvest from the harvestors" in building a Global Data Catalog that standardizes the format and contains samples of the actual data to promote semantic interoperability and data integration like the author has tried to do with U.S. data sources. See Build CKAN in the Cloud and Research Notes.

I am creating a Best Practice Example using the Sustainable Society Foundation Index 2010 (based on earlier work with the SSI 2008)

I prepared slides to Report on the ODISSEE Workshop for the 2011 Ontology Summit next week that use the two slides below.

Talking Points

May 19 2011

1. Thank you for the kind invitation and hospitality.

2. I spent the past two months reviewing the work of SEMIC.EU in preparation for my keynote.

3. The EC is well-served by SEMIC.EU and its excellent work on Semantic Interoperability!

4. I prepared slides, wiki pages, and pilot projects to use in my keynote and discussions with the SEMIC.EU community.

5. I especially tried to provide lessons learned from nearly 10 years of experience in leading the US Federal
Semantic Interoperability Community of Practice (SICoP) and now the Semantic Community with my esteemed colleague Mills Davis.

6. My slides were entitled The Semantic Community: Building Knowledge-Centric Systems in the Cloud.

KCS are fundamentally different than IT-centric systems in that they know, learn, and reason. Cloud refers to cloud computing like Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS) and is becoming very important in both the US and Europe (see below).

7. My wiki pages are titled Build the SEMIC.EU in the Cloud to demonstrate how your web site could become a Knowledge-centric System with Linked Open Data in the Cloud.

8. My purpose was to show how to deliver your SEMIC.EU knowledge and data in an interoperable interface in preparation for making it semantically interoperable with tools like SIRA and Be Informed. I have a video demo of a Be Informed Police Application in my wiki pages. A SIRA demo was provided earlier this month at a Knowledge management Conference and is also available in the Wiki. (see URL below).

9. My plan is to complete these demos in the next three months and report back to you on the results.

10. My principal recommendations during the conference panel sessions were:

A, Take on a grand challenge like federated ID management by:

(1) receiving it as a mandate from the EC CIO Council
(2) employing a community leader (e.g. Lucy Chambers just recently employed by CKAN)
(3) producing an enterprise model (I consider David Hay to be the world's expert at this - see his new book in which he has done this for the US government) (see recent Open Group UDEF Conference URL below)
(4) implementing an enterprise rules-based knowledge-centric system (Be Informed)

B. Use all three approaches to achieving semantic interoperability:

(1) Center of Excellence that can and will scale-up with shared services
(2) Communities of Practice, both external across the EC and internal within counties and agencies
(3) Cloud Computing Apps Store (Ask me about our CLEXO Team for the US Federal Cloud Computing Initiative) (see URL below)

C. Semantic Interoperability can be achieved with both ontology/rules driven SOA (Vivomind) and principal-based leadership-high-priority mission driven SOA (US Coast Guard)

D. Current world-wide activities with metadata, data catalogs, linked open data employ weak semantics while mission critical business systems need stronger semantics

E. Current high-profile projects like the US and UK Data.govs lack real "show me the data and its value to the public" and have suffered severe cuts in funding - I am leading a new project for a global media company that wants to rectify that for the public.
F. A specific example of trying to bring semantic interoperability to a widely used XML markup language (XBRL) is instructive:

First tried XBRL and Ontology - didn't gain traction
Now trying XBRL and NIEM (US National Information Exchange Model) - struggling to find common ground
Real promise/hope now is XBRL and Rules with Benjamin Grosof (formerly MIT and now Vulcan) (see below)

Hi Mills and Brand, Below is an event that I recommend you might well be interested in. Sem tech has a big role to play in this area. A new Office of Financial Research is being set up in the Treasury Dept. to help improve financial systemic-risk management. The workshop was a great one, I was involved in it. Louïqa, here cc’d, was a prime organizer of it. Attached are slides of a DC Semantic Web Meetup workshop-outbrief talk I gave a few weeks ago, which was joint with (and hosted by) RuleML-2010. Charles, cc’d here, is a host of the event below, and was also a key participant at the workshop.

Louïqa:
- Mills is a leading sem tech market analyst, consultant, and overall instigator, based in DC.
- Brand has been a leading person on sem tech adoption in the US federal govt, including in an important cross-agency user group.

Best, Benjamin

November 17, 2010

Dear Benjamin Grosof:


The event marks the publication of “Knowledge Representation and Information Management for Financial Risk Management,” the proceedings from a July 2010 workshop funded by the National Science Foundation and The Pew Charitable Trusts and organized by the University of Maryland.

Senator Jack Reed (D-RI), who was involved in drafting language in the Dodd-Frank legislation to establish a Federal Financial Data Center (FFDC) under the Office of Financial Research (OFR), will give brief remarks.

We’d be delighted if you would join us.

With very best regards, Charles Taylor, Director, Financial Reform Project, The Pew Charitable Trusts

What: Reception marking the publication of "Knowledge Representation and Information Management for Financial Risk Management" with remarks by Senator Jack Reed

Date: Monday, November 29, 2010

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 PM
Location: The Pew Charitable Trusts, 901 E Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20004 (entrance on 9th Street, between E and F Streets).
For more information, visit http://www.rhsmith.umd.edu/digits/NSF-FIW-Reception/

The Pew Charitable Trusts makes every effort to comply with federal, state and local government ethics rules when hosting events. Please make sure that your participation is consistent with applicable ethics rules.

11. My answers to the Questions for the Panel Discussion are:

Question 1. What will the European Commission do itself to improve interoperability between its own systems? Will the core concepts be the basis of it? Will the Commission lead by example?

Answers: (a) Pilot Be Informed, (b) ontology and rules, and (c) it should/must.

Question 2. Should semantic interoperability be stimulated through policy, e.g., by strongly promoting specific datamodels or even making it mandatory (e.g. through public procurement rules?)

Answers: identify mission critical data elements in all systems for use in a knowledge-centric system.

Question 3. What is the role of private business in this? What is in it for SMEs?

Answers: (a) do pilots, and (b) improve data quality and semantics in the data and metadata.

Question 4. How can we find the right balance between national semantic initiatives, European semantic initiatives and standardization initiatives?

Answers: pilot with the best tools based on open standards and see if additional standards are necessary to solve the problem.

Question 5. Do you think that the establishment of an EU Semantic Interoperability Community of Interest under the SEMIC project makes sense, and if yes, what would you expect from this?

Answers: yes and it needs needs to have a community leader(s) that can work full-time on a grand challenge (see my 4 step suggestion above) with high-level support and accountability.

Thank you,

Brand Niemann
Director and Senior Data Scientist
Semantic Community
http://semanticommunity.info
http://semanticommunity.info/Build_SEMIC.EU_in_the_Cloud
http://semanticommunity.info/Build_SEMIC.EU_in_the_Cloud/Be_Informed_Video
http://semanticommunity.info/FOSE_Institute/Knowledge_Management
http://semanticommunity.info/Federal_Cloud_Computing/
March_29_2011_Briefing_at_the_National_Press_Club
http://semanticommunity.info/UDEF/Tools_Demo_for_London_Conference

Attachment
Digital Agenda: Commission seeks views on how best to exploit cloud computing in Europe

Talking Points
The European Commission is seeking views from citizens, businesses, public administrations and other interested parties on how to fully benefit from 'cloud computing'. Cloud computing enables companies, public administrations and individuals, using networks such as the internet, to access their data and software on computers located somewhere else. It can help businesses – especially SMEs – to drastically reduce information technology costs, help governments supply services at a lower cost and save energy by making more efficient use of hardware. Cloud computing is already used widely, for example for web-based e-mail services. This trend is growing and cloud services are expected to generate revenues of almost €35 billion in Europe by 2014. Promoting the right conditions for citizens and businesses to best benefit from this technical development is one of the actions foreseen by the Digital Agenda for Europe (see IP/10/581, MEMO/10/199 and MEMO/10/200). The online public consultation will run until the August 31st. Responses will feed into the preparation of a European cloud computing strategy that the Commission will present in 2012.

Neelie Kroes, European Commission Vice President for the Digital Agenda, said: "I am excited about the potential benefits of cloud computing to cut costs, improve services and open up new business opportunities. We need a well-defined cloud computing strategy to ensure that we make the best use of this potential. The input we are requesting from all interested parties is important to get it right."

Cloud computing has the potential to develop into a major new service industry, presenting great opportunities for European telecoms and technology companies. Client companies and public administrations can benefit from lower costs and state-of-the-art services by using cloud computing rather than installing and maintaining software and computing equipment of their own.

The Commission is inviting all interested parties, in particular cloud developers and cloud users, to explain their experience, needs, expectations and insights into the use and provision of cloud computing. Inter alia, the survey seeks feedback on the following issues:

- data protection and liability questions, in particular in cross-border situations;
- other legal and technical barriers that can slow down the development of cloud computing in Europe;
- standardisation and interoperability solutions;
- uptake of cloud services, in particular by SMEs;
- ways to promote research and innovation in cloud computing.

The results of the consultation will feed into a European cloud computing strategy that the Commission will present in 2012. This strategy will aim to clarify the legal conditions for the take-up of cloud computing in Europe, stimulate the development of a competitive European cloud industry and market, and facilitate the roll-out of innovative cloud computing services for citizens and businesses.

April 2011

Sound Byte: I did a mashup in this wiki to learn everything I could about your wonderful work, put it all into three interoperable interfaces (see below) with Spotfire, and started to collaborate with your community like I did with SICoP and discovered a best practice community coordinator in your midst (Lucy Chambers with CKAN). See My CKAN Notes below.

Address Four Levels in Francisco García Morán Slides 11 Notes (We did this with SICoP)

Also from the same conference: Lift-Off Towards Open Government

11:30 am Plenary Session 3: the future of public service: a search for a new balance
Feedback from a country that did it...
USA perspective for a future public service: Vivek Kundra U.S. CIO (I seem to be following in his footsteps :))
US Federal and European Cloud Computing – What we are doing ourselves and with Europe.

Getting Individuals to Become Information Architects and Preservationists – The Benefits of a Community Sandbox and Leaders.

My experience with ePractice.eu: Query for SEMIC.EU and Semantic Interoperability looking for collaborations.

Data Services – What I am doing to help Data.gov become and how it can help the SEMIC.EU as well.

Using Open Government Data to Foster Innovation and Competition – What we are learning and how to make it better.

See http://blogs.gartner.com/andrea_dimaio/2011/04/22/open-government-policies-keeping-faith-or-pulling-the-plug/comment-page-1/#comment-7412

The data collected, harmonised and reported upon by Eurostat have been agreed through a well-defined political process at European level, in which the Member States are deeply involved. Most surveys and data collection exercises are based on European regulations or directives that are legally binding. In order to do this, comparisons of data between countries require comparable statistics that, in turn, demand the use of a common ‘statistical language’. This language has to embrace concepts, methods and definitions, as well as technical standards and infrastructure, in order to achieve harmonisation. This is Eurostat’s raison d’être – and sums up what the ESS is all about.

See: http://semanticommunity.info/Build_SEMIC.EU_in_the_Cloud/
  Eurostat_yearbook_2010#Eurostat_e2.80.93_the_statistical_office_of_the_European_Union

Using the Multiple Levels of Collaboration Scale: Awareness, Shared information, Coordination, Joint work, Shared intent – What would you like to do with the Semantic Community going forward?
Dr. Brand Niemann  
Semantic Community, Director and Senior Data Scientist  
US Citizen  
4191 Lochleven Trail #304  
Fairfax, VA 22030

**Slides**

Slides and Be Informed Video (password protected)

**Best Practice Examples:**

- Build Sustainable Society Foundation Index 2010 in the Cloud: See [http://semanticommunity.info/Sustainable_Society_Foundation_Index_2010](http://semanticommunity.info/Sustainable_Society_Foundation_Index_2010)
- Build Interoperability Interfaces in the Cloud: See [Cross-Cutting Themes](http://semanticommunity.info/) in the Designing a Digital Future Report and Everything within Three Mouse Clicks: See the Data, Search the Data, and Download the Data. See [FCW Editorial](http://semanticommunity.info/FCW_Editorial). See [Build SEMIC.EU in the Cloud](http://semanticommunity.info/Build_SEMIC.EU_in_the_Cloud)
- Build a Commons in the Cloud: [http://www.si.edu/commons/prototype](http://www.si.edu/commons/prototype). See [Semantic Community Sandbox](http://semanticommunity.info/Semantic_Community_Sandbox).

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### Interoperability Interfaces

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General</th>
<th>Web Site</th>
<th>Best Content - Centralized</th>
<th>Best Content - Distributed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOGAF (6)</td>
<td>EA Principals, Inc. (7)</td>
<td>Training Materials (8)</td>
<td>Ecosystem of Frameworks (9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEMIC.EU (10)</td>
<td>Web Site (11)</td>
<td>EuroStats (12) and European Environment State and Outlook (13)</td>
<td>Global Data Catalog and Data Services (14)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Key: See next slide.
Key:
5. No longer operational – see http://www.sdi.gov
8. http://semanticommunity.info/Build_TOGAF_in_the_Cloud
   Build_TOGAF_in_the_Cloud#Alternative_enterprise_architecture_frameworks
10. Semantic Interoperability Centre Europe

Spotfire
For Internet Explorer Users and Those Wanting Full Screen Display Use: Web Player Get Spotfire for iPad App
Go To: http://spottrain.tibco.com/sln/login/index.php
Select: Guest Access
Gets To: http://spottrain.tibco.com/sln/
Select: TIBCO Spotfire Web Player Jumpstart
Gets To: http://spottrain.tibco.com/sln/course/view.php?id=68
Select: TIBCO Spotfire Web Player Jumpstart
Gets To: http://spottrain.tibco.com/sln/file....tartVideo.html
For Internet Explorer Users and Those Wanting Full Screen Display Use: Web Player Get Spotfire for iPad App
Error: Embedded data could not be displayed. Use Google Chrome

Dear Mr. Nieman,

We are delighted to have you as a keynote speaker and we are looking forward to welcoming you in Brussels on Wednesday, May 18th, 2011. We are very pleased to inform you that we have already reached 100 registrations to the SEMIC.EU Yearly Conference 2011.

As the Conference will take place in 9 days, we would like to draw your attention to the following points:

**o Your talk:**

You will be given 35 minutes to deliver your presentation. We suggest that you split it as 25 minutes for slides and 10 minutes for questions. Please respect this time limit to leave enough time for the other speakers to deliver their presentation.

**o About the participants:**

We expect a diverse audience coming from:

- Public Administrations 46 (44.2%)
- Private Companies 37 (35.6%)
- Non-Profit Organisations 9 (8.7%)
- Academia 8 (7.7%)
- Standardisation Bodies 4 (3.8%)

**o Sticking to the common theme:**

The central theme of the conference is "Rethinking Semantic Interoperability Through Collaboration". We would appreciate that your talk touches upon collaborative aspects related with your experience in semantic interoperability: lessons learnt, best practices, what worked, what failed, etc.

My Reply: Besides the US SICOPEXperience that I will talk about, I have endeavored to collaborate with this new community as follows: OASIS E-Gov, CKAN, SEMIC.EU Web Site and ADMS Community, ePractice, and The Open Group's UDEF, in preparation for this presentation.

**Please send us your Slides:**

As part of the Conference proceedings, please provide us with your slides by Friday 13th May at the latest.

We will send out detailed “joining instructions” to all participants in this Conference in a few days.

Thank you for your support.
Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

With best regards,

João Frade
PwC | Manager
Direct: +32 2 7109284 | Mobile: +32 477 842292 | Fax: +32 2 7107224
Email: joao.frade@pwc.be
Invitation

April 29, 2011
Invitation: SEMIC.EU Yearly Conference 2011 - 18 May Brussels

'Rethinking Semantic Interoperability through Collaboration'

Dear Brand Niemann,

On behalf of the Directorate-General for Informatics of the European Commission, we are pleased to invite you and your colleagues to the SEMIC.EU Yearly Conference 2011.

The lack of semantic interoperability remains, since many years, a key obstacle to the seamless flow and exchange of data, information and services amongst the European Member States and beyond. Collaboration seems to be the key element for moving forward in this area.

That is why the SEMIC.EU Conference will aim at 'Rethinking Semantic Interoperability through Collaboration'.

This one-day conference will provide a rare opportunity for experts from the public sector, academia, standardisation bodies, system integrators, software vendors and consultants to share their experience and knowledge through presentations, networking and debate.

Don't hesitate to forward this message to your community.

We look forward to welcoming you.

The European Commission, DIGIT B2 is pleased to invite you to the:

**Date:** 18 May 2011, 09:30 – 16:30

**Venue:** Brussels (exact location to be decided soon)

**Registration fee:** This event is free

The lack of Semantic interoperability remains, since many years, a key obstacle to the seamless flow and exchange of data, information and services amongst the European Member States and beyond. Progress is remarkable at the technical interoperability level, with already mature and turn-key solutions to overcoming existing inconsistencies. However, semantic interoperability is still lagging behind with issues
not only related to the development of appropriate tools and applications, but also to the natural difficulties in the social process required to reach agreements on common representations and definitions. For the European Public Administrations in 27 countries, in particular, collaboration seems to be the key element for moving forward in this area. That is why this year’s SEMIC.EU Conference will focus on the collaborative aspects of semantic interoperability.

The participants in this conference will gain a broader understanding on the current state-of-affairs of semantic interoperability in Europe, and understand the updated SEMIC.EU strategy; a strategy based on collaboration with the Member States and the broader community with a clear target to support Public Administrations in their interoperability efforts.

We are delighted to invite you to join us. Registration is mandatory, please click below:
http://ec.europa.eu/yourvoice/ipm/fo...Conference2011

Key Note Speakers
[Confirmed] Dr. Brand Niemann, Director and Senior Data Scientist, Semantic Community, will share his experience and lessons-learnt from leading the Semantic Interoperability Community of Practice in the USA for the last seven years.

[To be confirmed] Prof. Stefan Decker, National University of Ireland and the director of the Digital Enterprise Research Institute (DERI), will share his views on opportunities and challenges for using semantic technologies in the public sector.

The agenda of this event will soon be published on http://www.semic.eu
This event is also posted on ePractice:

Conference Agenda

Conference Agenda [Final Draft]
18 May 2011, 09:30 – 16:30
Albert Borschette Conference Centre - Room 0A
Rue Froissart 36, Brussels - 1040, Belgium

9:00

0:30  Registration & Coffee
9:30 Welcome to the SEMIC.EU Yearly Conference

0:10 Mr. Declan Deasy, European Commission DIGIT.B2, Information Systems and Interoperability Solutions, Director. Slides
09:40 The Semantic Interoperability Community of Practice experience in the USA

0:35 Keynote Speaker: Dr. Brand Niemann, Semantic Community, Director and Senior Data Scientist Slides

10:15

0:15 Coffee Break

10:30 Opportunities and challenges for using semantic technologies
0:20 Prof. Stefan Decker, National University of Ireland, the Digital Enterprise Research Institute (DERI), Director. Slides

10:50 Can the lack of Semantic Interoperability in Europe be seen as a collaborative challenge?
How SEMIC.EU aims to help Public Administrations overcoming it

0:20 João Rodrigues Frade, PwC Manager. Slides

11:10 Core Concepts and first steps towards a federation of asset repositories

0:20 Dr. Renke Fahl-Spiewack, Jinit[ Team Leader. Slides

11:30 Discussion and wrap-up of morning sessions

0:30 Interactive Q&A

12:00 Lunch break

1:15

13:15 How to harness collaboration, National Semantic Interoperability Projects in Europe

0:15 Digitaliser.dk - more than a repository
    Adam Arndt, National IT and Telecom Agency, Special Adviser. Slides

0:15 Yhteentoimivuus.fi is how you spell interoperability in Finnish
    Tommi Karttaavi, Association of Finnish Local and Regional Authorities, Senior Advisor, Information Society. Slides

0:15 The Estonian Semantic Interoperability Framework: Building a Better e-State through Collaboration
    Dr. Peep Küngas, University of Tartu, Institute of Computer Science, Senior researcher. Slides

0:15 The Essence project: collaborative and contextual semantic interoperability
    Paul Oude Luttighuis, Essence, Project Manager. Slides

14:15 Case Studies: Semantic Interoperability in Pan-European Projects
0:15 A Linked Data approach to sharing public sector service and project information
   Mike Thacker, Porism Limited, Technical Director - UK local government electronic service delivery (esd) toolkit, Technical Partner. Slides

0:15 Creating an Ecosystem of Linked Governmental Data
   Bastiaan Deblieck, Semantic Technology at TenForce, Business Unit Manager. Slides
   (Dr. Sören Auer, AKSW/Computer Science Dept., University of Leipzig – leader of several large-scale collaborative research projects such as German BmBF funded project LE4SW, EU-FP7-ICT funded integrated project LOD2 or Eureka funded SCMS.) Slides

0:15 EuroFiling project: Semantic interoperability in primary financial reporting
   Ignacio Boixo, European Banking Authority XBRL Operational Network, Coordinator. Slides

0:15 SPOCS (Simple Procedures Online for Cross- Border Services) project
   Ana Karla Alves de Medeiros, SPOCS Technical Coordinator. Slides

15:15

0:15 Coffee Break

15:30 Panel Discussion: Semantic Interoperability Community of Practice @EU

0:45 Dr. Vassilios Peristeras, EC/DG DIGIT/ISA Unit

   Dr. Brand Niemann, Director and Senior Data Scientist

   Prof. Stefan Decker, National University of Ireland and the director of the Digital Enterprise Research Institute (DERI)

   Representatives from Member States

   Dr. Renke Fahl-Spiewack, Jinit[ Team Leader

   Pieter Breyne, PwC Director

16:00 Conference wrap-up

0:30 Interactive Q&A

16:30 Networking
Welcome by Declan Deasy

DIGIT B, in partnership with Commission services, Member State administrations and stakeholders, provides high quality corporate information systems, common frameworks and interoperable, reusable components enabling the successful implementation of the eCommission and EU policies.

B2 is the unit responsible for the implementation of the ISA programme. Together with all relevant Commission services and in close cooperation with Member States and other stakeholders, B2 works on frameworks, common services and reusable components, facilitating the delivery of electronic public services supporting the implementation of EU policies and activities.
Declan Deasy
European Commission DIGIT.B, Information Systems and Interoperability Solutions, Director

Rethinking Semantic Interoperability

The lack of Semantic interoperability remains, since many years, a key obstacle to the seamless flow and exchange of data, information and services amongst the European Member States and beyond. Progress is remarkable at the technical interoperability level, with already mature and turn-key solutions to overcoming existing inconsistencies.

However, semantic interoperability is still lagging behind with issues not only related to the development of appropriate tools and applications, but also to the natural difficulties in the social process required to reach agreements on common representations and definitions. For the European Public Administrations in 27 countries, in particular, collaboration seems to be the key element for moving forward in this area. That is why this year’s SEMIC.EU Conference will focus on the collaborative aspects of semantic interoperability.

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Vassilios Peristeras
European Commission DIGIT.B2, Information Systems and Interoperability Solutions, Programme Manager

Agenda

9:00 Registration & Coffee
0:30

9:30 Welcome to the SEMIC.EU Yearly Conference
0:10 Mr. Declan Deasy, European Commission DIGIT.B2, Information Systems and Interoperability Solutions, Director

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João Rodrigues Frade, PwC, Manager

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13:00 How to harness collaboration, National Semantic Interoperability Projects in Europe
0:15 Digitaliser.dk - more than a repository
Adam Arndt, National IT and Telecom Agency, Special Adviser

0:15 Yhteentoimivuus.fi is how you spell interoperability in Finnish
Tommi Karttaavi, Association of Finnish Local and Regional Authorities, Senior Advisor

0:15 Estonian Semantic Interoperability Framework, Building a Better e-State through inclusion
Dr. Peep Küngas, University of Tartu, Senior researcher

0:15 The Essence project: collaborative and contextual semantic interoperability
Paul Oude Luttighuis, Essence, Project Manager

14:15 Case Studies: Semantic Interoperability in Pan-European Projects
0:25 A Linked Data approach to sharing public sector service and project information
Mike Thacker, Porism Limited, Technical Director - UK local government electronic service delivery (esd) toolkit, Technical Partner

0:25 Creating an Ecosystem of Linked Governmental Data
Dr. Sören Auer, AKSW/Computer Science Dept., University of Leipzig – leader of several large-scale collaborative research projects such as German BmBF funded project LE4SW, EU-FP7-ICT funded integrated project LOD2 or Eureka funded SCMS

0:25 EuroFiling project: Semantic interoperability in primary financial reporting
Ignacio Boixo, European Banking Authority XBRL Operational Network, Coordinator

0:25 SPOCS (Simple Procedures Online for Cross-Border Services) project
[To be Confirmed] Dinand Tinholt, SPOCS Programme, Director

15:15 Coffee Break
0:15
15:30 Panel Discussion: Semantic Interoperability Community of Practice @EU

0:45
Dr. Vassilios Peristeras, European Commission DIGIT.B2, Information Systems and Interoperability Solutions, Programme Manager
Dr. Brand Niemann, Semantic Community, Director and Senior Data Scientist
Prof. Stefan Decker, National University of Ireland, the Digital Enterprise Research Institute (DERI), Director
Representatives from Member States
Dr. Renke Fahl-Spiewack, jini[t], Team Leader
Pieter Breyne, PwC, Director

16:15 Conference wrap-up
0:15 Interactive Q&A

16:30 Networking
Facilitator
Dr. Vassilios Peristeras, European Commission DIGIT.B2, Information Systems and Interoperability Solutions, Programme Manager

Keynote speakers
Dr. Brand Niemann

Semantic Community, Director and Senior Data Scientist

Title of the presentation
The Semantic Community: Building Knowledge Centric Systems in the Cloud.

Abstract of the presentation (0:35)
The Federal Semantic Interoperability Community of Practice (SICoP) was established in 2003 by a group of individuals for the purpose of achieving "semantic interoperability" and "semantic data integration" focused on the U.S. government sector. The SICoP enabled Semantic Interoperability, specifically the "operationalizing" of these technologies and approaches, through online conversation, meetings, tutorials, conferences, pilot projects, and other activities aimed at developing and disseminating best practices. The SICoP was graduated to the Semantic Community in 2008 because the maturation of the Semantic Web and Semantic Technologies created the need to apply the work of SICoP to the real-world needs of both government and non-government organizations in a new way. Now the Semantic Community is building
knowledge-centric systems based on the earlier SICoP experience and maturation of the pilots and products fostered previously.

Bio
Dr. Brand Niemann is the Director and Senior Data Scientist of the Semantic Community. He was the former Senior Enterprise Architect and Data Scientist at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and co-led the Federal CIO Council’s Semantic Interoperability Community of Practice (SICOP) with Mills Davis from 2003-2008. He is currently authoring a series of Editorials for Federal Computer Week on his work and recently made Spotfire’s Twitter list for his cool visualizations on government data to produce more transparent, open and collaborative business analytics applications.

Prof. Stefan Decker

National University of Ireland
The Digital Enterprise Research Institute (DERI), Director

Title of the presentation

Abstract of the presentation (0:20)

Bio
Stefan Decker is a professor at the National University of Ireland, Galway, director of the Digital Enterprise Research Institute and Cluster Leader of the Semantic Web Cluster within the institute. Previously he worked at ISI, University of Southern California (2 years, Research Assistant Professor and Computer Scientist), Stanford University, Computer Science Department (Database Group) (3 Years, PostDoc and Research Associate), and Institute AIFB, University of Karlsruhe (4 years, PhD Student and Junior Researcher).

His main research field is the Semantic Web.

His past main accomplishments include: Creation of the first RDF Query and Inference system based on F-Logic (see the QL’98 paper); The Semantic Web information foodchain presented in an ECDL 2000 paper and depicted at SemanticWeb.org is widely used as an architectural model and motivation for Semantic Web technology; Foundation of Edutella project, the first metadata exchange infrastructure for RDF; Creation of the first Ontology-based routing algorithm and hypercube topology for P2P networks. HyperCuP has been used by a couple of projects as a P2P topology; Initiation and organization of the Semantic Web Working Symposium at Stanford University, the first large scale Semantic Web event (> 250 participants), which spawned the International Semantic Web Conference, which is now organized by the Semantic Web Science Association.
Speakers

National Semantic Interoperability Projects in Europe

Adam Arndt

National IT and Telecom Agency, Special Adviser

Title of the presentation

Digitaliser.dk - more than a repository.

Abstract of the presentation (0:15)

In late 2009, Denmark replaced its aging XML repository with an online collaboration forum for digitisation. This presentation will introduce the reasoning for this, the selected system architecture and some lessons learned over the first couple of years in operation.

Bio

Adam Arndt has an M.Sc. in Computer Science and Political Studies from The University of Copenhagen and has worked as a systems developer for a number of years before joining the National IT and Telecom Agency (NITA) in September 2005 to work on interoperability and standardisation. At NITA, Adam has been involved with many varied topics including: approval of XML based interoperability interfaces; revisions of rules and recommendations for XML based interoperability interfaces; evaluation and recommendations on open standards and specifications; international standardisation in UN/CEFACT (since 2007 as Head of Delegation for Denmark); international coordination of interoperability in IDABC, ISA and several informal fora; open government data.

Tommi Karttaavi

Information Society - Association of Finnish Local and Regional Authorities, Senior Advisor
Title of the presentation
Yhteentoimivuus.fi is how you spell interoperability in Finnish.

Abstract of the presentation (0:15)
Yhteentoimivuus.fi is the national interoperability portal for the public administration in Finland. The portal is based on the Semic.eu platform and will be launched in May 2011. The content of the portal will consist of things like XML Schemas, ontologies, code lists, vocabularies, reference models, standards and even software components.

Bio
Mr. Tommi Karttaavi is a Senior Advisor at the Association of Finnish Local and Regional Authorities. He has worked as a Project Manager at the Finnish Ministry of Finance from 2008-2009, and Finland’s Ministry of the Interior from 2004-2007. He has also worked as an ICT Expert in the private sector, where he has been the Director of Business Solutions at To the Point ltd, R&D Communications Manager at Elisa Communications, Account Executive at CW Works ltd, and Project Manager at Helsinki Telephone Corporation. He has also been a Communications Coordinator at the Lifelong Learning Institute Dipoli at the Helsinki University of Technology. He is the Chair of the Finnish Chapter of the Internet Society (ISOC Finland).

Dr. Peep Küngas

University of Tartu, Senior researcher

Title of the presentation

Abstract of the presentation (0:15)
Estonian semantic interoperability framework aims at providing a unified view to heterogeneous data structures and services in nation-wide and pan-European settings. In order to support this aim the framework outlines standards such as XSD, WSDL, OWL and SA-WSDL to be used correspondingly for describing data structures, services, metamodels and finally, providing semantic annotations, which will ultimately lead to more effective usage of information artifacts in loosely coupled systems with respect to semantic interoperability. An online tool for collaborative creation and management of particular metamodels and semantic annotations has been released for supporting creation of interlinked artifacts complying to this set of standards.

Bio
Dr. Peep Küngas is currently senior researcher at University of Tartu, Estonia where he carries out research on services ecosystems and modern Internet technologies including applications of formal semantics in the context of the Web. Besides his academic interests Peep has consulted major national governmental organizations, such as Estonian Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Estonian Informatics Centre and Estonian eHealth Foundation, and worked with international companies, including Ernst & Young, on the matters of e-services, semantic interoperability and classification systems. Peep is one of the architects of Estonian Semantic Interoperability Framework and a member of the national semantic interoperability workgroup.

Peep Küngas received PhD in Information and Intelligence Science from Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim, Norway in August 2006. MSc and BSc in Computer and Systems Engineering were acquired from Tallinn University of Technology, Tallinn, Estonia respectively in 2002 and 2000. Peep has expert knowledge and experience in the Semantic Web, semantic interoperability, formal methods, knowledge engineering, automated Web services annotation, intelligent distributed systems, analysis of e-services networks and large-scale federated information systems. Additionally Peep maintains a repository of public SOAP-based Web services at http://www.soatrader.com to accelerate empirical research in the field of Web services and semantic interoperability.

Paul Oude Luttighuis

Essence, Project Manager

Title of the presentation
The Essence project: collaborative and contextual semantic interoperability.

Abstract of the presentation (0:15)
This presentation will present an overview of the approach and findings of the first half-year phase of the Essence project, a (so far) seven-party public-private consortium project aimed at improving semantic interoperability across and beyond Dutch e-government. Both the semantic approach, model- and context-based, as well as the lay-out of the collaboration, based on shared investment and open results, will be addressed.

Bio
Paul Oude Luttighuis, at Novay since 2007, is principal researcher and consultant. He combines broad and in-depth expertise in the areas of chain, enterprise, and software architecture and interoperability. Within these areas, he applies expertise and experience on e.g. service-oriented architecture, model-based architecture, semantics and information modelling, rule and event modelling, process modelling, and service modelling. Paul has enterprise interoperability as a specific area of interest and operation,
including semantic and technical interoperability across enterprises, and the standardisation processes involved. In his work, he strives for combining information science and technological expertise with business, organizational, and economical insights and he likes to stay away from "school battles".

**Semantic Interoperability Pan-European Projects**

Mike Thacker

Porism Limited, Technical Director - UK local government electronic service delivery (esd) toolkit, Technical partner

**Title of the presentation**
A Linked Data approach to sharing public sector service and project information.

**Abstract of the presentation (0:25)**
Mike will introduce a Linked data ontology for sharing project details, show an application which is driven from a triple store of project information and show how projects are indexed against a set of public sector vocabularies, expressed according to the SKOS standard. Those vocabularies include the European local government service list developed by the North Sea Region Smart Cities project.

**Bio**
Mike Thacker is a technical director of Porism Limited and the technical partner in the UK local government electronic service delivery (esd) toolkit. He has worked for over a decade on web-based toolsets for local government. He runs the esd-toolkit Information Management work group, which defines semantic standards used in the UK public sector.

Dr. Sören Auer*
AKSW/Computer Science Dept., University of Leipzig

Title of the presentation
Creating an Ecosystem of Linked Governmental Data

Abstract of the presentation (0:25)
Over the past 4 years, the semantic web activity has gained momentum with the widespread publishing of structured data as RDF. The Linked Data paradigm has therefore evolved from a practical research idea into a very promising candidate for addressing one of the biggest challenges in the area of the Semantic Web vision: the exploitation of the Web as a platform for data and information integration. In particular for Open Governmental Data, the Linked Data paradigm represents a technique to facilitate the interoperation between different public datasets and services, it can help to foster citizen involvement and stimulate the creation of new value-added data services around governmental data. In this talk we present an overview of the Linked Data life-cycle. We will discuss how the Linked Data life-cycle can support the creation of an ecosystem of public knowledge and present some examples of existing Open Governmental Linked Data applications.

Bio
Dr. Sören Auer studied Mathematics and Computer Science in Dresden, Hagen and Ekaterinburg (Russia). Before pursuing a scientific career Sören was managing director of adVIS GmbH, a Dresden-based Internet and IT service provider until 2003. In 2006 he obtained his doctorate in Computer Science from Universität Leipzig. From 2006-2008 he was working with the database research group at the University of Pennsylvania, USA. Currently, he leads the research group Agile Knowledge Engineering and Semantic Web (AKSW) at the department Business Information Systems (University of Leipzig). Sören is also leading several large-scale collaborative research projects such as German BmBF funded project LE4SW, EU-FP7-ICT funded integrated project LOD2 or Eureka funded SCMS. Sören is founder (respectively co-founder) of several high-impact research and community projects such as the Wikipedia semantification project DBpedia, the open-source innovation platform Cofundos.org or the social Semantic Web toolkit OntoWiki. He is co-organiser of several workshops, programme chair of I-Semantics 2008, OKCON 2010, ESWC 2010 and ICWE 2011, area editor of the Semantic Web Journal, serves as an expert for industry, the European Commission, the W3C and is member of the advisory board of the Open Knowledge Foundation.

*Dr. Sören Auer will be replaced by Bastiaan Deblieck, Semantic Technology at TenForce, Business Unit Manager

Dinand Tinholt*

SPOCS Programme, Director - Capgemini, Vice President Global EU Lead
Title of the presentation
SPOCS project: Doing business in other EU countries is getting simpler.

Abstract of the presentation (0:25)
Businesses seeking to expand into other countries often struggle to comply with all the regulations they need to follow. Applying for licenses, permits and completing other administrative procedures in another country can be very complicated. SPOCS is a large-scale pilot project launched by the European Commission in May 2009 that aims to overcome these obstacles. The EU Services Directive already requires all procedures involved in establishing a business and providing services in another EU country to be fully online. The SPOCS project is now taking things a step further by streamlining those procedures and bringing them together in one place. For example: An Italian real estate agent wants to expand his business to Bremen, Germany. The information provided by the Bremen PSC does not currently specify the Italian documents required. SPOCS will allow him to do all the administrative procedures online through the Point of Single Contact.

May 2011 will see the launch of the first services using SPOCS that will support travel agents, real estate agents and master builders in establishing a presence and doing business in other EU countries.

Bio
Dinand is Vice President within Capgemini and its global leader for the European Union. He is actively involved in numerous pan-European eGovernment activities. He is the programme director of the pan-European large scale pilot of the European Commission about enabling cross-border business startup (SPOCS) and involved in numerous other areas of international interoperability. In addition to this he is responsible for the European Commission’s annual eGovernment benchmark. This internationally recognized benchmark that has been conducted since 2001 measures the overall progress of EU (and various non-EU) Member States with regard to eGovernment services and developments in their countries. Dinand has a strong international background in consulting and public administration with a focus on the field of eGovernment. He holds a Masters degree in European Public Administration and an Executive MBA and is a regular speaker at international conferences on topics such as eGovernment, European interoperability, public service improvement, electronic identity management, etc.

*Dinand Tinholt will be replaced by Ana Karla Alves de Medeiros, SPOCS Technical Coordinator

Ignacio Boixo

European Banking Authority XBRL Operational Network, Coordinator

Title of the presentation
EuroFiling project: Semantic interoperability in primary financial reporting.

Abstract of the presentation (0:25)
EuroFiling project is an open joint initiative of the XBRL Operational Network of the European Banking Authority in collaboration with XBRL Europe, as well as stakeholders as banks, solution providers, academy and individuals. XBRL is the XML-based eXtended Business Reporting Language.

The deliverables are Data Models, XBRL taxonomies, know-how and materials for Supervisory Frameworks: COREP (Basel II solvency ratio) and FINREP (Financial Reporting), assessed as “mature” by SEMIC. EuroFiling also holds contributions, as an XBRL taxonomy for BSI-MIR data collection for the European Central Bank. The project started in 2005, being operational since 2007 in a number of National Supervisory Authorities and its jurisdictionary Financial and Monetary Institutions. A closer harmonization is scheduled by 2013, based in Binding Technical Standards.

Methodology, team, budget, lessons learned and way forward will be points to review.

Bio
Ignacio Boixo is the coordinator the EuroFiling project. After the completion of a MSc. in Computing Engineering at the Polytechnic University of Madrid, he worked in a Consultancy firm from where he joined the Bank of Spain almost 30 years ago. He also holds a Diploma in Financial Economy from the Autonomous University of Madrid. He also serves as XBRL Spain International Relation and OpenFiling Association acting President.

Can the lack of Semantic Interoperability in Europe be seen as a collaborative challenge?
João Rodrigues Frade

PwC, Manager

Title of the presentation
Can the lack of Semantic Interoperability in Europe be seen as a collaborative challenge?

Abstract of the presentation (0:20)
PwC is currently assessing the SEMIC.EU business model. This involves the revision of the SEMIC.EU roadmap and a detailed analysis of the SEMIC.EU experience to date. In this context, João will present the results of PwC’s assessment and discuss future directions for SEMIC.EU. In all future scenarios, collaboration, at all levels, will continue to be key to the success of SEMIC.EU.

Bio
João is a Portuguese national working and living in Belgium as a Business and IT Architect specialising in the deployment of consultancy services in large European projects. João has assisted numerous organisations, throughout Europe, in several sectors.

Currently João is a Manager at PwC Belgium Consulting practice, specialising in Information Systems Interoperability, Service Oriented Architecture (SOA) and Enterprise Architecture (EA).

He holds a Master in Information Systems and Technology Management from the Instituto de Empresa Business School (Madrid, Spain) and several Certifications such as: Product Platform and Design from MIT (Boston Massachusetts, USA) and TOGAF Enterprise Architect from The Open Group.

Dr. Renke Fahl-Spiewack

[jinit[, Team Leader

Title of the presentation
Core Concepts and first steps towards a federation of asset repositories.

Abstract of the presentation (0:20)
Dr. Renke Fahl-Spiewack, Team Leader of jinit[ will present his views on the SEMIC.EU Core Concepts initiative and the first steps towards a federation of asset repositories.

Bio

Contacts

Vassilios Peristeras
European Commission DIGIT.B2, Information Systems and Interoperability Solutions, Programme Manager
Office: Montoyer (MO) 34, Floor:3/Office:128; B-1049 Brussels, Belgium
Tel: +32 (0) 2 29 81014
vassilios.peristeras@ec.europa.eu

João Rodrigues Frade
PwC, Manager
Tel:+32 (0)2 710 9284
joao.frade@pwc.be

SEMICEU
http://www.semic.eu/semic/
ePractice.eu
http://www.epractice.eu/en/events/20...onference-2011
See Rules of Conduct

Joined ePractice and was asked which are my favorite Cases which I could not answer at the time. So I searched for SEMIC.EU and semantic interoperability: Found none for SEMIC.EU and 59 for semantic interoperability, including one specifically for SEMIC.EU (see below). See results of query in table below. Saw one project that had been renewed: eDialogos that looked promising for collaboration!

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The Semantic Interoperability Centre Europe

Introduction
Acronym of the case:

SEMIC.EU
Web address of the case:

http://www.semic.eu
Country of the case:

Pan european

Interoperability | semantic | eGovernment

Posting Date: 3 November 2008
Last Edited Date: 01 December 2008
Aldo Laudi (EU Commission) Belgium

Case Abstract
The project “Semantic Interoperability Centre Europe (SEMIC.EU)” is designed to build a European platform for interoperability assets and services available to the public sector and its stakeholders in Europe. Beside organisational and technical interoperability, semantic interoperability is one of the pre-conditions for a seamless data exchange and user-centred delivery of pan-European eGovernment services.

Based upon best practices and a framework of rules and guidelines SEMIC.EU establishes a repository of interoperability assets. Provided assets, such as XML schemas, ontologies and taxonomies, are open for reuse by any European eGovernment project. Furthermore, SEMIC.EU intends to create an active competence network of projects dealing with semantic interoperability issues.

The Semantic Interoperability Centre Europe (SEMIC.EU) is an infrastructure horizontal measure of the IDABC programme. Its objective is to promote the reuse and harmonisation of interoperability assets that are the basis of cross-border eGovernment services. More precisely, SEMIC.EU intends to promote the reuse of syntactic (e.g. XML schemas) and semantic assets (e.g. taxonomies) needed for semantic interoperability. Semantic or content interoperability is about ensuring that the meaning of the information exchanged is not lost in the process, that it is readable and understood by the people, applications, and institutions involved. Once operational, SEMIC.EU will provide such interoperability assets via a public web repository to interested stakeholders in European public administrations. SEMIC.EU will also provide a communication platform for interested parties facilitating the creation of expert communities on semantic interoperability issues. Sharing experiences and solutions in such an expert community will create synergies and will be one way to the harmonisation of data exchange models.
**Description of the case**

Domain  
**eGovernment**

Topic  
**Efficiency & Effectiveness, Benchmarking**

Sector  
**Tax | Social Security | Crime, Justice and Law | Education, Science and Research | Customs | Culture and Media | Travel, Transports and Motoring | Communication (infrastructure) | Electricity/Gas | Water | Environment | Employment | Fire Services | Healthcare | Procurement | Local/Regional Community Development | Social Services | Other Social Services**

Start date - End date  
December 2005 (Ongoing)

Date operational  
June 2008

Target Users  
Administrative | Civil society

Target Users Description  
The target audience of the project is public administration officials.

Scope  
International

Status  
Operation

Language(s)  
English

**Policy Context and Legal Framework**

**Project Size and Implementation**

Type of initiative  
IT infrastructures and products

Overall Implementation approach  
Public administration

Technology choice  
Accessibility-compliant (minimum WAI AA) | Open source software

Funding source  
Public funding EU

Project size  
Implementation: €1,000,000-5,000,000

Yearly cost:  
€500-999,000

**Implementation and Management Approach**

SEMIC.EU is funded by the European Commission, and therefore, ultimately by the tax payer. So the project tries to give the best value in terms of service to the citizen. Implementation, operation of the system and communication tasks are carried out by a team between the contractor and commission staff, however at the heart of the team there is the member States national experts which act as the advisory group to the project.

SEMIC.EU tries to create collaboration effort both from the virtual point of view, through the platform,
but also from a physical aspect. The SEMIC.EU team believes that the people aspect is much more important than the technology used. In this spirit, the service acts as a coordinator and facilitator. While SEMIC.EU offers the infrastructure, advice and know-how, the actual collaboration depends on the participation of stakeholders, i.e. national and regional projects which contribute and exchange their ideas, problems and solutions. SEMIC.EU is part of the community and acts as a broker and independent point of contact for each community member. The idea for SEMIC.EU is to create experts in the field which can provide cross border support.

**Technology solution**

SEMIC.EU and its repository are based on open standards and Open Source technology (OMAR). SEMIC.EU is committed to help the Open Source community by improving on already developed technologies.

Another similar project is OSOR.EU, which shares open source software between public administrations. It is also funded by the European Commission. The components of SEMIC.EU’s technology will be available via the OSOR.eu portal for reuse. In providing its own solutions for reuse SEMIC.EU sets a good example of its principle of sharing and collaboration.

Open source solutions are chosen since pan-European eGovernment is dependent on applications that understand each other semantically. Any eGovernment stakeholder can gain access to the repository for search enquiries or to enrich the repository with a new or updated asset. As a service, SEMIC.EU assists developing standards for data exchange and coordinates the clearing process of such patterns to assure accessibility of wide scope.

**Impact, innovation and results**

**Economic effects**
€1,000,000-5,000,000

**Impact**

SEMIC.EU is an open and transparent service platform for interoperability. Pan-European eGovernment projects will benefit from SEMIC.EU by an increased visibility. SEMIC.EU opens up a wider range of collaboration and additional partners across Europe with benefit for public administrations, citizens and enterprises.

? Public Administrations across Europe will benefit from a coherent strategy to achieve semantic interoperability. SEMIC.EU as a competence network of pan-European eGovernment projects will facilitate open and transparent ways in European data interchange.

? Citizens and enterprises also stand to gain from this strategy, as the benefits reaped by their administrations will result in seamless, integrated service provision.

The SEMIC.EU repository saves money and time for governmental institutions every time it offers an asset that otherwise would cause development costs. A detailed ROI study has calculated the expected total net gain at over € 300.000 for a period of five years from a realistic scenario. This study took only the re-use of assets into consideration. The communities are a marketplace for all stakeholders relevant in one policy field. Assets that were helpful in a project directed by France and Belgium, for instance, can be expanded to Portugal or other member states. This allows a fast harmonisation of different eGovernment systems.

**Track record of sharing**

The Semantic Interoperability Centre Europe (SEMIC.EU) is the winner of the iG 2.0 specific Transferability Prize. The competition has been organised within the framework of the 2nd European Summit on
Interoperability in the iGovernment (ESIIG 2).

Besides, the technology for the platform is currently being replicated at the Finnish National Administration as the National Semantic Interoperability repository.

**Lessons learnt**

1) It is clear that technology today is very advanced and therefore, for cross border collaboration and re-use of assets and applications from public administration does not depend on technology any more. It depends more on the commitment of public officials to work closely together on a pan European front to address challenges of interoperability.

2) Semantic Interoperability is by far the most part of interoperability that is complex and difficult to explain and achieve.

3) Public Administrations should start to speak of e-Government at pan European scale as more European citizens become more mobile across Member States. It has become evident that experts find it very productive to collaborate across national borders. The active participation of stakeholders illustrates the urgent need of this kind of service as a collaboration tool.

**Registration Metadata**

**PDF**

Personal information

Title
-open reply- (optional)

First Name -open reply- (compulsory)

Last Name -open reply- (compulsory)

Organisation / Company

Organisation Name -open reply- (compulsory)

Organisation Type
-multiple choices reply- (compulsory)
Public Administration
Non-Profit Organization
Academia
Private Company
Standardization Body

Location
-multiple choices reply- (compulsory)
43

Address -open reply- (optional)
Contact information

Email -open reply- (compulsory)

Phone -open reply- (optional)

Your expectations

Your expectations -open reply- (optional)

Meta Informations

Creation date - (optional)

Last update date - (optional)

User name - (optional)

Case Number - (optional)

Invitation Ref. - (optional)

Status - (optional)

Language - (optional)

Research Notes

Google Search for SEMIC.EU Conference: http://www.google.com/search?q=EU+Conference
Results: About 24,200,000 results (0.30 seconds)

[PDF] Conference Book for the Semantic Interoperability Centre Europe
File Format: PDF/Adobe Acrobat - Quick View
Keynote Speakers at the SEMIC.EU Launch Conference ... SEMIC.EU is a ...

SEMIC.EU Roadmap 2010 (PDF)

Presentation to the Ontolog Forum, March 17, 2011, by Márta.Nagy-Rothengass@ec.europa.eu and Stefano.Bertolo@ec.europa.eu, European Commission, DG Information Society and Media, Unit E2 – Technologies for Information Management. PDF
Mentioned: Neelie Kroes, Vice-President of the European Commission responsible for Digital Agenda


Europe in figures – Eurostat yearbook 2010 – presents a comprehensive selection of statistical data on Europe. With just over 450 statistical tables, graphs and maps, the yearbook is a definitive collection of statistical information on the European Union. Most data cover the period 1998-2008 for the European Union and its Member States, while some indicators are provided for other countries, such as candidate countries to the European Union, members of EFTA, Japan or the United States. The yearbook treats the
following areas: the economy; population; health; education; the labour market; living conditions and welfare; industry and services; agriculture, forestry and fisheries; trade; transport; environment and energy; science and technology; and Europe’s regions. This edition’s spotlight chapter covers national accounts statistics – with a particular focus on the economic downturn observed during 2008/2009. The yearbook may be viewed as a key reference for those wishing to know more about European statistics, providing guidance to the vast range of data freely available from the Eurostat website at: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat

ADD MORE State of the Environment Report (PDF)

ADD MORE PlanetData will build a catalogue of Europe-wide, multi-hosted, empirically grounded, reference data sets in different modalities and from various vertical sectors complemented by provisioning tools which can help data owners publish their data sets online.

Delivered as Software as a Service (SaaS), the Platform dramatically reduces the complexity and cost of storing, indexing, searching and augmenting large quantities of data. It provides a reliable and safe environment to support a vast range of information rich applications.

Pilot

This year’s SEMIC.EU Conference will focus on the collaborative aspects of semantic interoperability.

SEMIC.EU is a repository and a coaching service, an information hub and a community building initiative.

Looking at the map of the Initiatives for Open Data worldwide, almost all of these initiatives focus on Western Europe and North America -http://datos.fundacionctic.org/sandbox/catalog/faceted/

I have re-created this at http://semanticommunity.info/Data.gov/An_Open_Data_Public_Dataset_Catalogs_Faceted_Browser

Europe has about 27 catalogs including the SEMIC.EU. See CKAN.

I am thinking this needs a Commons?: An organized workshop where raw materials can be found and assembled into new things. An efficient and scalable knowledge creation platform (slide 37). 12 characteristics of a commons (slide 39). See attached slides and http://www.si.edu/commons/prototype

The Common’s problem is: Through the use of Linked Data technologies, to combine statistical data stored in dozens of Excel spreadsheets with different structures and nomenclature in each catalog’s links to actual data, a task that previously was tedious and complicated and currently still is.

So Using the Open Data Public Datasets Catalog Faceted Browser as an Example, Provide a Pilot Commons to work on this problem at three levels:

• Community of Practice: We now generally agree on the need for data catalogs (88 by recent count).
• Mediation – Ontological Engineering: There is a growing feeling that some harmonization is needed for data integration.
• Standardization: Harmonization would require solving the “semantic interoperability” problem at the catalog data element level.

Schedule

Fly from Washington Dulles to Brussels on 16th May.
Conference on 18th May.
Meet on 19th May, 11:00-12:00, with General Director of DG Informatics in the Commission, GARCIA MORAN Francisco. After that, we could go for a lunch and then you could visit my unit and have discussions with people here. Large event on the 19th May that my unit organizes. Return home on May 19th.

**Linkedin**

Source: [Linkedin](https://www.linkedin.com)

Starts: Wednesday May 18, 2011, 09:30AM CEST
Ends: Wednesday May 18, 2011, 04:30PM CEST
Event Type:Conference
Location: European Commission (location to be confirmed)
Brussels, BRUSSEL BE
Price: 
Industry:
Keywords: semantic interoperability • eGovernment • co-creation, collaboration and Web 2.0 • open and linked data
Intended For: Public Servants and professionals involved in national interoperability efforts • representatives pan-European projects • representatives standardisation bodies • researchers • system integrators, software vendors and consultants
Organization: European Commission - DIGIT

Semantic interoperability remains, since many years, a key obstacle to the seamless flow and exchange of data, information and services amongst the European Member States and beyond. Progress is remarkable at the technical interoperability level, with already mature and turn-key solutions to overcoming existing inconsistencies. However, semantic interoperability is still lagging behind with issues not only related to the development of appropriate tools and applications, but also to the natural difficulties in the social process required to reach agreements on common representations and definitions.

For the European Public Administrations in 27 countries, in particular, collaboration seems to be the key element for moving forward in this area. That is why this year’s SEMIC.EU Conference will focus on the collaborative aspects of semantic interoperability.

The participants in this conference will gain a broader understanding on the current state-of-affairs of semantic interoperability in Europe, and understand the updated SEMIC.EU strategy; a strategy based on collaboration with the Member States and the broader community with a clear target to support Public Administrations in their interoperability efforts.

**Garcia Moran**


**Bio**

Francisco García Morán holds a degree in Mathematics from the University of Seville and a degree in Computer Science from the Polytechnic University of Madrid.

He started his carrier as a teacher and IT engineer at the University of Seville and worked for several years at the IT Departments of the Ministry of Education and Science at national level and of the Regional Government of Andalusia where he worked as a head of several IT services.
Since he joined the European Commission in November 1986, he has continued working in the IT area, first at the Informatics Directorate and then at the Directorate-General for Translation.

In 2001 he was appointed Director of Informatics at the Directorate-General for Personnel and Administration. He was responsible for establishment of the Directorate-General for Informatics (DIGIT) in May 2004 of which he was appointed Director General in November 2005.

The Directorate-General for Informatics defines the IT strategy of the European Commission, provides ICT corporate services and is also responsible for the European programme ISA (Interoperable Solutions for Public Administrations).

He is member of the Management Board of ENISA (European Network and Information Security Agency) and member of World Bank's HLEG (High Level E Transformation Group).

**Slide Notes**

**Slide 1**

Interoperability challenges

**Slides 2**

There is an old saying, adapted from Alice's discussion with the Cheshire cat in Alice in Wonderland: “If you don't know where you are going, any road will get you there.”

Challenges ahead of us:
- Financial crisis
- Disruptive or transformational technologies (Internet, ...)

Where to?
- 3 priorities around growth which should allow Europe to exit the crisis and set the basis for smart and sustainable growth for the future

I will talk about one of the obstacles to achieve those goals and:
- What we are doing together with you, the Member States
- What we are doing internally in the European Commission

**Slide 3**

Mr Madelin has spoken about e-Government. And how ICT combined with organisational change and new skills can improve public services and democratic processes and strengthen support to public policies.

Interoperability is essential for e-Government and more particularly for cross border eGovernment. But Why?

First of all, no ICT system “lives” in isolation.

There are is the need to communicate with the “external world” within a permanent evolving environment. Communication is only possible if there is a “common language”:
- Based on agreements (technical specifications, standards, common interfaces...)
- Neither ad-hoc, nor unilateral, nor even bilateral in nature, but rather keeping in mind that there is “a shared value of a community”
Slide 4
We at DIGIT have given ourselves the mission “to enable the Commission to make effective and efficient use of Information and Communication Technologies in order to achieve its organisational and political objectives”.

With this goal in mind, and in partnership with all relevant stakeholders, we are responsible for:

- The definition of the IT Strategy of the European Commission together with the business
- The provision to the European Commission, and whenever appropriate other European Institutions and bodies, of high quality and advanced ITC services.
- The delivery of information systems required to support EC corporate business processes within the framework of the e-Commission strategy,
- The promotion and enablement, in full collaboration with European public administrations, of the deployment of pan-European e-Government services for citizens and enterprises based on the interoperability of cross-border ITC infrastructures and services.

Slide 5
When we speak about Interoperability, we have to approach the subject from different perspectives from Governance to Operations through to Conception and Implementation. In order to do so we have at our disposal a number of artifacts, some of which I will describe now.

Slide 6
At Governance level, we have the EIS, whose vision is that, in 2015, interoperability has significantly fostered European Public Services delivery through:

- Appropriate governance organisation and processes in line with European Union policies and objectives;
- Trusted information exchange enabled by commonly agreed, cohesive and coordinated interoperability initiatives, including
  - completion of the legal environment,
  - elaboration of interoperability frameworks and
  - agreements on interoperability standards and rules

The EC and Member States together have, in the framework of the European Interoperability Strategy, defined the priority clusters for work

1. Trusted information exchange
   - Semantic interoperability
   - Information availability and usage
   - Trust and privacy
   - Catalogue of services

2. Interoperability architecture
   - Architectural Guidelines
   - Methodologies and support actions

3. ICT implications of new legislation
   - National and cross-border sector-specific legislation sustainability

4. Accompanying measures
   - Interoperability Awareness
• Sharing best practices using collaboration platforms using, as much as possible Open Source Technologies

**Slide 7**
At conceptual level, the purpose of the EIF (European Interoperability Framework) is
• To **promote and support** the delivery of European Public Services by fostering cross-border and cross-sectoral interoperability
• To **guide** public administrations' efforts in providing European Public Services to businesses and citizens
• To **complement and tie together** the various National Interoperability Frameworks (NIF's) in a European dimension

What are the principles applicable to those European Public Services?: They are grouped in three categories
In the first category, they set the frame for community action in the area of European Public Services:
Subsidiarity and Proportionality
In the second category we find what we call the principles related to “generic user needs and expectations”: User Centricity, Inclusion and Accessibility, Security and Privacy, Multilingualism, Administrative Simplification, Transparency, Preservation of Information”
The last category groups together the principles shaping “collaboration between public administrations: Openness, Reusability, Technological Neutrality and Adaptability, Effectiveness and Efficiency”

**Slide 8**
Interoperability has different levels:

**Legal**, resulting from the coherent implementation of the legal basis
**Organisational** or **Operational**, the will of organisations to work together and align their business processes so that they look seamless to the user
**Semantic** because the EU is, by its own nature, multilingual
**Technical**, by far the easiest to implement, thanks, in an important part to the Internet and related technologies

**Slide 9**
The Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) market value in Europe is over €660 bn. More importantly, the ICT sector contributes 20% and ICT investment drives 30% of EU productivity growth. More growth in the ICT industry and wider ICT take-up would boost economic recovery and long-term competitiveness.

**Slide 10**
E-Commission

**Slide 11**
We at the Commission, eat our dog food, and that is why since 2001 we are working on the eCommission initiative, our own internal eGovernment framework whose aim is:
To deliver better quality and more transparent services for staff and external stakeholders, guaranteeing security of information and data protection,
based on streamlined processes and interoperable information systems supported by a cost-effective, resilient and high-performance ICT infrastructure.
We are finishing the eCommission 2005-2010 what we call the Integrated Commission where
• Important parts of the administrative activity are automated.
• The services offered are not based on existing procedures that are simply revamped to use ICT but are the product of a genuine integration between interaction channels, back office information systems and administrative processes.
• However, still some steps in administrative workflows could be paper-based.

We are now preparing the eCommission 2011-2015, what we call the Transformed Commission where
• No paper forms need be filled in.
• Administrative activity is completely automated end-to-end, crossing organisational boundaries.
• Services are built up from the viewpoint of internal and external users, rather than based on the organisation’s set-up, so as to maximise user satisfaction through better quality and more transparency and increased efficiency.

• **Level 1 – Simple website:** Information is provided online about public policies and administrative procedures, but there is little or no change in the nature of the interaction of external stakeholders with the institution.
• **Level 2 – On-line government:** Simple electronic interaction mechanisms are implemented (like e-mail or web-based forms) in an effort to provide better services to customers.
• **Level 3 – Integrated government:** No paper forms need be filled in. Administrative activity is completely automated end-to-end, crossing organisational boundaries.
• **Level 4 – Transformed government:** Services are built up from the viewpoint of internal and external users, rather than based on the organisation’s set-up, so as to maximise user satisfaction through better quality and more transparency while also increasing efficiency.

**Slide 12**
Summing up, the **transformed Commission** should be able to
• Deliver **smart e-government services** for internal and external users and stakeholders, they will have to put them at the center and empower them. Particular attention will have to be paid to what we call high impact services, such us e-procurement and eID due to the impact they may have on compliance and efficiency
• Smart e-goverment services will not be possible without **drastic streamlining and simplification** of our business processes. In an ageing organization where 30% of the managers will retire in the next 7 years capturing, organizing and disseminating their knowledge is essential.
• Finally, with the importance of IT for the daily work of the institution, high **availability, resilience** and business continuity while increasingly providing **Green IT is essential**

**Slide 13**
Ladies and gentelment: Yes it is about change..... And somebody said it more than fifty six years ago... he deserves all the credit

**Slide 14**
Thank you

**Slide 15**
None

**Dr. Vassilios Peristeras in European Commission**

Source: [http://www.deri.ie/about/blog/?tx_we...5Bsingle%5D=26](http://www.deri.ie/about/blog/?tx_we...5Bsingle%5D=26)

Dr. Vassilios Peristeras, [DERI’s eGovernment Unit Leader](http://www.deri.ie/about/blog/?tx_we...5Bsingle%5D=26), left DERI this month for a temporarily career break to help the European Commission to formulate and execute an interoperability strategy for pan-European governmental data and service exchange.
To achieve these goals, tools will be devised to acquire, share, reuse and process vast amounts of relevant data from multiple and divergent information sources.

This is another indication of semantic technologies take up, as Vassilios was hired as a semantic web expert in a unit that focuses on the implementation of Interoperability Solutions for European Public Administrations (ISA). ISA is a new programme that takes a very practical approach in supporting administrations across Europe to communicate more easily. ISA runs from 2010 to 2015 with a financial envelope of 164 million euros, and is the sucessor of the IDA and IDABC programmes.

To achieve these goals, tools will be devised to acquire, share, reuse and process vast amounts of relevant data from multiple and divergent information sources. Speaking the same language!

Dr. Vassilios Peristeras was the eGovernment Unit Leader at DERI, NUI Galway. He was also teaching as Adjunct Lecturer at the University of Macedonia, Greece. He has studied Political Science, has postgraduate studies in public administration, masters in Information Systems, and holds a PhD in eGovernment. Vassilios has worked as scientific coordinator with various organizations including the Greek National Centre for Public Administration, CERTH/ITI, and the United Nations. Since 1998 he has initiated, participated and coordinated several R&D and implementation projects at the national/international level (e.g. EU-Publi.com, SemanticGov, Infocitizen, Modinis, ECOSPACE, WAVE, Rural Inclusion, Puzzled by Policy). His research interests include interoperability, semantic and social software technologies, collaborative work environments, eGovernment and eParticipation. He has published over 90 papers in scientific journals/conferences and has served as guest editor, program committee member and reviewer in more than 50 journals, books, conferences and workshops. He can be reached at vassilios.peristerasec.europa.eu.

We are sure Vassilios DERI experience will help him to fulfill this task, and are looking forward to have him back in Galway.

Posted By: Julie Letierce on Oct 04, 2010 06:04PM Add Comment

eGovernment Linked Metadata Cloud

Source

18/01/2011, An interview on structured metadata with Vassilios Peristeras, SEMIC.EU's Project Officer

Vassilios Peristeras has recently taken over the responsibility for the semantic methodologies and Linked Open Data actions in the ISA Unit. A seasoned expert in these fields, he has joined as a seconded national expert from Greece the Commission after several years of research and practical experience in organizations like the United Nations, CERTH/ITI, the Greek National Centre for Public Administration and Local Government, and Digital Enterprise Research Institute in Galway, Ireland (DERI). In this interview, Vassilios describes the usefulness of SEMIC.EU’s Core Person, comments on the more general Core Concept idea in the greater context of eGovernment interoperability - and makes the case for expanding SEMIC.EU in two directions: a) creating, hosting, and maintaining a selective library of harmonized, generic metadata schemas and b) creating the infrastructure for a federated portal for eGovernment metadata schemas.

SEMIC.EU’s Core Person was developed in a "shared development process" by some 100 experts. It is now a mature interoperability asset. Where do you see its greatest potential as a concept to enable seamless data exchange?
It is really hard to foresee and define the scope and applicability of this concept. The Core Person specification is designed to fit into any usage scenario where information about persons is documented in information systems (ISs). You can easily see that this covers a huge number of existing ISs. Core Person is for us a first nice example of a Core Concept. It is interesting to see that there are already mappings of 14 different national "person" concepts to our Core Person specification. There are two main ideas behind the core notion here: a) the core is highly reusable: the specification is simple and captures basic and generic characteristics of a person, regardless of the context this entity is used, b) the core is extensible: domain specific specializations can be drafted on top of the core representation (e.g. voter, passenger, employee). This approach guarantees a minimum of cross-domain interoperability while it provides domain-specific communities with a common starting point for drafting their own specializations by adding metadata to the core.

This is a simple solution which could lead us forward in promoting eGovernment interoperability. My first and foremost concern is that interoperability assets remain simple, in order to become practice-ready, i.e. (re-)usable, and at the same time powerful in making data and information exchange possible in different contexts. Further to that, I think that this approach increases the possibility for adoption, as complexity and overspecification usually result in diverged views and Babel towers where consensus is hard to reach, especially amongst 27 countries with different languages, cultures, etc.

For those specifications that make it to the "conformant" state like foreseen for the Core Person: What should be the next step to make it mandatory?

Conformance means that we are convinced that an asset is not only ready for use or reuse but that it is the single most recommendable piece of interoperability enhancement for a given purpose or context. In order to claim this, we should involve important stakeholders in the process or at least keep them and their communities in the loop during the design exercise. This includes not only the 27 EU Member States as our direct audience, but also experts from the academia as well as standardization communities and bodies. The idea is to reuse whatever is available (and there is a lot) and define new things only when this is absolutely necessary. Now for the adoption – The ISA programme cannot make anything mandatory. This contradicts to fundamental EU principles. But also taking into account the experiences from national initiatives, I personally think that this wouldn't even be effective. At the ISA programme we have a clear target: we want to recommend the usage of common data models and if possible to promote these specifications in the national interoperability strategies and/or metadata framework and repositories. We try to increase our possibilities for success by a) involving our audience in the design process and b) keeping the specification simple and thus relevant and applicable in all different countries. We intend to seek for broad consensus on the Core Person and on other Core Concepts. We will utilize for this purpose amongst others our ISA Working Groups and Committee where we have representatives of all MSs. The goal is to populate a small library of simple Core Concepts for basic entities (e.g. Person, Vehicle, Company, Building, Project, Software etc) and promote their reuse to our MSs. There, our business ends. It is up to
the standardization bodies, if they find some of the work we are doing relevant to their domain and interest, to further promote some of these specs for endorsement in their communities.

You are also an expert in the field of Linked Open Data (LOD). How do you think the concept is applicable in the case of the Core Person?

Core Concepts could become available as Linked Open Metadata. Our intention is to make available our Core Concept library as an eGovernment Linked Metadata Cloud. You can find more details on this here.

Data on persons is surely not the only field that has such an impact across all domains, countries and levels of government? Are there other assets you think should soon undergo a shared development process? Suggestions have already been submitted by the community.

SEMIC.EU currently stores over 500 semantic assets. Is it the only repository to be consulted when someone wants to find reusable assets? The answer is no. SEMIC.EU is not one-of-a-kind and this is rather good news. There are other international and national initiatives that index and make available semantic assets. It is also common for national administrations to document their own eGovernment metadata schemas. Currently, it is not possible for someone to have an overview on all possible assets that s/he might have an interest. SEMIC.EU has a clear goal on its roadmap - to provide an infrastructure to allow this kind of repositories federation. One way to do this, while preserving the autonomy of each repository, is to draft and agree on a metadata schema that generically describes a "semantic asset". This is what we call ADMS, the Asset Description Metadata Schema. The work has already started. We try to bring together representatives from our MSs, semantic assets repository owners, metadata and vocabulary experts and standardization bodies to draft a simple but highly reusable schema, by building on top and reusing existing work in the area (e.g. DCAT, DCMI). Once it becomes available, ADMS could play the role of a common language for metadata repositories, enabling federation, cross-querying and improving the discoverability of the assets regardless of where and how they are stored. By providing this advanced querying mechanisms, SEMIC.EU will extend its scope to become not only an asset repository and clearinghouse but also a semantic asset portal and registry. This is an ambitious however feasible and of great value target to be achieved.

Related information: eGovernment Linked Metadata Cloud

Lessons Learned from SICoP and Semantic Community

I started as an Atmospheric Scientist (Ph.D. in Meteorology with a Minor in Air Pollution Science), evolved to be a Computer Scientist and Statistician, and then an Enterprise Architect and Data Scientist. I am now an Information Architect doing Information Management for Information Preservation and writing articles about my Data Science Products for Federal Computer Week.

I love working with people in Communities of Practice because I find joy in the discovery of new ideas and results from the most unexpected people and places because we are such a diverse society that gets the Medici Effect! See Social networking and the Medici Effect: The SICoP Experience.

I was asked to design Data.gov and did a pilot using the U.S. Census Bureau's Annual Statistical Abstract, which I had used for years, as a best practice example. They used only the Statistical Abstract Taxonomy to organize the data set catalog for Data.gov and the rest is history - Data.gov has been criticized for the flaws of not having the things (actual high-quality data and a team of experts behind it to explain its pedigree and usage, etc.) that I recommended and demonstrated!
There has been a lot of emphasis on **ontology-building and engineering** over the years, but I felt it was too general and needed to be applied to the best content from an organization to be practically useful and understandable. So I did an **Ontology of EPA’s Report on the Environment** based on a Information Architecture (topic and subtopic) - Data Architecture (data table and data element) implemented in this Wiki. Interestingly, the leader of the upcoming **Ontology Summit 2011 Symposium**, Steve Ray, recently **said**: Ah - good quote: "The need comes first, ontologies come later“ upon hearing the **comment** of Nicola Guarino: Despite EU efforts on promoting strong interdisciplinary communities, still the ontology community in EU is a bit scattered, and many researches working on EU-funded projects involving ontologies are suspicious towards an open interdisciplinary approach (especially if this philosophy-oriented research on formal ontology).

Community Coordinators are essential: April 7th Email: Just a reminder that the bi-weekly CKAN online community meetup is happening this evening, Thursday 7th April 6pm UK (5pm GMT) / 1pm EST / 7pm CET. If you would like to participate, please sign up on the etherpad below with your name and Skype ID so that we can pull you into the call. [http://ckan.okfnpad.org/meetup-2011-04-07](http://ckan.okfnpad.org/meetup-2011-04-07). Current topics on the agenda include how to coordinate the CKAN community and "How do we explain CKAN to others?", please feel free to suggest more! Best wishes, Lucy, Lucy Chambers, Community Coordinator, Open Knowledge Foundation, [http://okfn.org/](http://okfn.org/).

**Question:** In addition - are there any particular questions that you would like me to add to the agenda for this evening? **Answer:** What can I say in my keynote at the SEMIC.EU Conference on May 18th that would be helpful to CKAN? **Reply:** A very interesting point - ripe for discussion) It is on the agenda and we look forward to discussing it with you shortly! **Reply:** Richard Cyganiak: I can't make it this time unfortunately. **Reply:** Richard, I hope you can join next time, because I mentioned our interaction about SPARQL queries to get CSV out of the LOD and would like to mention that in my upcoming SEMIC.EU keynote as well. **Reply:** Lucy, Thank you for the essential role that you played in today's collaboration. I love Community Coordinators and the role they play in collaboration. Please see my next email from one of your counterparts for a US -based organization.

It worked! I am now collaborating with **CKAN.** See Typepad 1 and 2.


**MORE TO ADD**

**SEMIC.EU Web Site**

Inventory and Build Databases for Spotfire. See [Spotfire](http://www.semic.eu/spotfire) above.

**What is semantic interoperability?**


In its reference document, the 'European Interoperability Framework', the European Commission defines interoperability as the ability of information and communication technology (ICT) systems and the business processes they support to exchange data and to enable the sharing of information and knowledge:
Semantic Interoperability enables systems to combine received information with other information resources and to process it in a meaningful manner' (EIF 1.0). It aims at the mental representations that human beings have of the meaning of any given data.

**Semantic Interoperability in eGovernment**

In European eGovernment, for instance, this would mean that an application in one Member State can access an information source of another Member State to validate the taxation status of an enterprise or to check the eligibility of social welfare of a citizen. For full Semantic Interoperability it is crucial that no previous knowledge of the way the information is created is needed. Interoperability can be achieved in different ways: a certain degree can be established by bilateral and multilateral solutions and suitable mappings without the need for standardisation.

**Semantic Interoperability Assets**

To achieve Semantic Interoperability, the systems involved must refer to an agreed authority, typically a terminology that clearly defines the meanings of the items carrying the information. The use of controlled terminologies, and controlled mapping tables and mapping rules for any transformation promises sufficient reliability. These controlled terminologies and mapping tables, also in their representations as taxonomies, ontologies, thesauri are called Semantic Interoperability Assets.

**Syntactic Interoperability**

Syntactic Interoperability is a pre-requisite to Semantic Interoperability. Examples are the use of XML or SQL standards to make different operating systems and programmes capable of exchanging data. No semantic communication is possible without an appropriate syntax and data representation. In a nutshell, one could define the matter of syntactic interoperability as data, that of Semantic Interoperability as information or meaning.

**Interoperability in European eGovernment**

There are plenty of cross-border projects at the European level already relying on interoperability assets. Others would potentially benefit from using such assets. Although there are several European standardisation initiatives and national XML-collaboration platforms have emerged, there is not yet an initiative to install a platform and broker for pan-European assets. SEMIC.EU addresses this shortcoming. It gathers information and supplements national and sectoral asset repositories and initiatives.

**Interoperability over standardisation**

Creating a standard requires unanimous agreement of all partners involved. In order to receive the necessary acceptance, standards have to be created and enforced by an institution with adequate authority. Given the numerous different economic, legal, and cultural backgrounds of the Member States, achieving interoperability without standards is the most efficient solution. SEMIC.EU promotes and encourages standardisation and harmonisation efforts but its main focus will be ensuring interoperability in the best way possible.

**Interconnecting Europe Conference Book 2008**
Source

17/06/2008: New eGovernment service started at expert conference in Brussels

At the conference "Interconnecting Europe" in Brussels on 17th June 2008, the European Commission, Directorate General for Informatics, opened the virtual doors of the Semantic Interoperability Centre Europe at www.semic.eu. The event was attended by representatives of leading European eGovernment projects and national administrations.

As a horizontal measure of the IDABC programme ("Interoperable Delivery of European Services to public Administrations, Businesses and Citizens"), SEMIC.EU tackles the major challenge of semantic interoperability, the ability to exchange data and communicate across national, sectoral and lingual boundaries while preserving the meaning of the exchanged data. It was implemented by the German eGovernment specialist linit[ AG.

The Commission initiated SEMIC.EU to create a single point of reference for semantic interoperability in Europe. It provides a valuable range of services, collaboration and a platform for pan-European eGovernment projects. Here users can manage and share interoperability assets, such as data models and taxonomies. They are encouraged to participate in communities to develop interoperability solutions or request help, coaching services and information. IDABC and the SEMIC.EU staff give users a hand in developing and enhancing their solutions.

"SEMIC.EU is key in achieving the first steps towards Semantic Interoperability, as it facilitates the process by which the actual meaning of content can be exchanged, understood and finally be re-used. I think this is a major challenge in Semantic Interoperability and it is what the Semantic Interoperability Centre Europe will address", said Aldo Laudi, SEMIC.EU Project Officer with the IDABC programme.

At the heart of the new portal is an open repository for the up- and download as well as the enhancement of "interoperability assets". The term describes data models, taxonomies, mapping tables, documentations and other items which enable meaningful data exchange between independent systems. As instruments for useful professional communication, many of them have already been developed within their respective domains. SEMIC.EU will now make them available to an open public, thereby complementing national efforts and reducing costs in national, European and international eGovernment projects. It follows the principle of using existing resources where these would otherwise have remained unnoticed. With the SEMIC.EU launch conference, the European Commission has given new impetus to
better citizen services and eGovernment in Europe by providing an initial technical solution to the major challenge of semantic interoperability.

**Semantic Days 2009**


**Time:** 18 - 20 May 2009  
**Venue:** Clarion Hotel Stavanger

**Programme**  
**Monday 18 May**  
**Tutorials**  
**Ontology-based data integration**  
Ontology based data integration  
Diego Calvanese, Professor, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, and Guiseppe de Giacomo, Professor, University of Rome, Italy

**Enterprise architecture frameworks with semantic models as a foundation for complex networked operations**  
Enterprise architecture, TOGAF, UPDM  
Information and ontology modelling  
Process modelling  
Service modelling and interoperability  
Arne Jørgen Berre, Chief Scientist, SINTEF, Dima Panfilenko, Scientific Assistant, DFKI, Germany and Ulf Larsson, Enterprise Architect, National air traffic center (Luftfartsverket), Sweden

**Tuesday 19 May**  
**Session 1 Keynotes session: Semantic technologies – Needs and solutions**  
Chair: Nils Sandsmark, General Manager, PCA

Integrated Operations Generation 2 - Potential and opportunities for the oil and gas industry  
Richard Sagli, Project Manager, StatoilHydro

Simple Knowledge Organization System (SKOS) and linked data  
Thomas Baker, Kompetenzzentrum Interoperable Metadaten (KIM), Germany / Co-chair, W3C Semantic Web Deployment Working Group

The experience of Web 2.0 Communications and collaboration tools in a global enterprise - The road to 3.0  
Rich Gore, Senior IT Manager, Cisco IT, USA

Semantic interoperability for public administrations in Europe – Challenges and solutions  
Klaus Reichling, Advisor, IDABC, EU Commission, Belgium

Norwegian experience with meeting public sector interoperability requirements  
Kristian Bergem, Senior Adviser, Agency for Public Management and eGovernment
Session 2: Applications of semantic technology
Chair: Terje Aaberge, Researcher, Western Norway Research Institute

Towards an ontology-driven enhanced oil recovery decision support system
Emilio Núñez, Assistant Director for Research Relations, University of Texas at Austin, USA
Ontologies for geological CO₂ storage studies
Jean-François Rainaud, Dr., Institut Français du Pétrole, France
The semantic web promises a smarter electricity grid
Dominique Gabioud, Professor, University of Applied Sciences, Western Switzerland
Unleashing the power of ontologies in information integration
Diego Calvanese, Associate Professor, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy

Session 3: Ontology tools
Chair: Jon Atle Gulla, Professor, NTNU

Methods and tools for semi-automatic ontology engineering
Johanna Völker, Research Associate, University of Karlsruhe, Germany
QuOnto: Ontology-based data access and integration using relational technology
Guiseppe de Giacomo, Professor, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy
Advanced geotemporal reasoning in RDF
Michael Wessel, Dr., Racer Systems, Germany
Semantic annotation for web services and their relevance to environmental models
Dumitru Roman, Senior Researcher, Semantic Technologies Institute (STI)/University of Innsbruck, Austria
Systems interoperability through use of semantic technologies
Arne Jørgen Berre, Chief Scientist, SINTEF

Wednesday 20 May

Session 4: Interoperability and information quality
Chair: Tor Arne Irgens, Commander Senior Grade, Norwegian Defence

Will ISO 9000 be enough to ensure semantic quality?
Knut Anderssen, Dr. Ing., DNV
Information management for interoperability in European air traffic control
Ulf Larsson, Enterprise Architect, National air traffic center (Luftfartsverket), Sweden
Semantic IMyPage
Best practices for archive interoperability using semantic standards
Robert H. P. Engels, Dr., ESIS Norge and Western Norway Research Institute

Session 5: IT architecture for networked organizations
Chair: Arne Jørgen Berre, Chief Scientist, SINTEF

Supporting intelligent and automated integrated operations with agent technologies in a services architecture
Einar Landre, Specialist, StatoilHydro
SERES metadata repository - Now! - and long term goals
David Norheim, Principal Engineer, Computas, and Geir Jevne, Group Leader, DNV/SERES

IT architecture for supporting semantic interoperability through use of semantic annotations
Stelios Pantelopoulos, Head of European Projects Department, Singular Logic, Greece

Semantic methods for the preservation and interpretation of information over time
Per Myrseth, Principal Researcher, DNV Research & innovation

Session 6: Semantic technology for IO Generation 2
Chair: Arild Waaler, Professor, University of Oslo

Best practices in collaborative ontology engineering
Daniel Oberle, Senior Researcher, SAP Research, CEC Karlsruhe, Germany

Applying ISO 15926 to drilling control systems
Kari Anne Haaland Thorsen, Post Doctor, University of Stavanger

Model-driven integration architecture for IO G2 information - Reference semantic model alignment to ISO 15926
Frode Myren, Executive IT Architect, IBM, Udo Pletat, Dr., Senior Certified IT Specialist, IBM, and Johan Wilhelm Klüwer, Principal Specialist, DNV Energy

Download programme in pdf format

Other information
About Semantic Days
Hotel information
Programme Committee

Attachments
- Semantic_Days_20009_liten.jpg (13.5 kB) - added by lineeltervaag 2 years ago.
- Programme_folder.pdf (2.0 MB) - added by lineeltervaag 2 years ago. “Programme folder”

Download in other formats:
- Plain Text

ADMS Questionnaire No. 2
Word MY COMMENT: A good wiki provides most if not all of these!

Preface
List your Metadata of asset description – Federation of Repositories

The ADMS Community tackles the issue of a federation of repositories for semantic assets to make decentralised resources available through a single point of access. The primary goal to achieve the level of interoperability required for such a federation is to make artefacts available by means of a harmonised Asset Description Metadata Schema (ADMS). ADMS can be used as a common language to
describe semantic artefacts stored in separate systems. It can also provide some directions for new initiatives to create similar repositories. In this way, ADMS will facilitate the federated use of semantic resources, especially of those used for and by public administrations.

Our **second step** of the ADMS development is to identify metadata fields describing assets in existing repositories and metadata that is necessary to enable a federated search across a federation of repositories on semantic assets.

**What do we mean by “List your Metadata requirements”?**

The following questionnaire is based an initial evaluation of repositories that can be found as “related repositories” at [http://www.semic.eu](http://www.semic.eu).

**As a repository owner:** We would like you to evaluate the list of metadata and semantic statements. Do they match with metadata of your repository? Please give us a short yes/no-statement and a short comment about those metadata that are defined differently in your repository. Add any metadata which is missing in the list and of course metadata that might be helpful to have in future.

**As an academic ADMS-Member:** We would like you to evaluate the list of metadata and semantic statements. Please provide a short statement and/or comment on relevance of this metadata. Add any metadata which is missing and of course metadata that might be helpful to have in future.

---

**Your next step**

Please send the filled questionnaire back to Renke. The SEMIC.EU team will set up a synopsis and publish it within the ADMS Community. Please consider that you don’t have to complete the questionnaire. Just send it, if you finalize your work.

---

**Contact**

**Coordinator**
Dr. Renke Fahl-Spiwack  
SEMIC.EU

Phone: +49 (0) 30 97006-702  
Mail: renke.fahl-spiwack@init.de

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**Community chair**

Vassilios Peristeras, PhD  
Programme Manager  
European Commission, DG Informatics, Interoperability solutions for European public administrations (ISA)  
Phone: +32 (0) 2 29 81014  
Mail: vassilios.peristeras@ec.europa.eu
Questionnaire
Metadata Evaluation (ADMS Community)

(filled by: . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .)

Initial questions for repository owner

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Semantic Statement</th>
<th>Your Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name of Repository</td>
<td>Please note the name of the repository/registry you are reporting from.</td>
<td>Semantic Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repository Owner</td>
<td>The repository/registry belongs to which organisation?</td>
<td>Semantic Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responsible person</td>
<td>Who is the person responsible for service and maintenance of the repository/registry?</td>
<td>Brand Niemann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URL</td>
<td>Please note the URL of the repository/registry.</td>
<td><a href="http://semanticommunity.info/">http://semanticommunity.info/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domain</td>
<td>Please put explanation of the domain of the repository/registry. Is it focused on eGovernment?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of assets</td>
<td>Estimated number of assets in your repository</td>
<td>2420 pages</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please indicate the metadata used to describe the assets.
If you are using any additional metadata fields please add them to this list.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Semantic Statement</th>
<th>Yes / No</th>
<th>Your Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>The name of the use case is a short way to identify and to refer to the use case in discussions.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>A headline for the asset</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Type</td>
<td>Semantic Statement</td>
<td>Yes / No</td>
<td>Your Comments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Abstract</td>
<td>A short overview of case(s) in which this asset is used</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>A description of the asset for example comprising it’s content, use cases, structure, etc.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Represented Countries</td>
<td>Countries involved in the development and/or countries in the scope of the asset</td>
<td>MostlyUSbutSomeOtherCountries</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Tags</td>
<td>Keywords to make the asset traceable</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Owner</td>
<td>The owner of the copyright for this asset</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Image</td>
<td>An image to represent the asset (something like an icon)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Domains / Scope</td>
<td>Domains which are covered by the asset (e.g. health, justice, economy, etc.)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Links to related Assets</td>
<td>Any connection to related assets</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Status</td>
<td>Any information about the asset’s state (e.g. published, under construction, final, etc.)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Publisher</td>
<td>The (official) publisher of the asset</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Type</td>
<td>Semantic Statement</td>
<td>Yes / No</td>
<td>Your Comments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>Frequency</td>
<td><em>To measure how often the asset has been updated in any way over a certain time period</em></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>Release Data</td>
<td><em>The date an asset / a version of an asset has been released</em></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>Update Data</td>
<td><em>E.g. date, person, reason for an update of the asset</em></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td>Temporal Coverage</td>
<td><em>A time span in which the asset is valid or available</em></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td>License</td>
<td><em>A license specifying the terms of use for an asset</em></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.</td>
<td>Granularity</td>
<td><em>A field to specify the level of detail of an asset</em></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.</td>
<td>Asset format</td>
<td><em>E.g. XML, PDF, OWL, etc.</em></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.</td>
<td>Documentation Language</td>
<td><em>The language(s) in which the asset is written</em></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21.</td>
<td>Type</td>
<td><em>E.g. code list, ontology, taxonomy, etc.</em></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22.</td>
<td>History</td>
<td><em>A change history of the asset</em></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23.</td>
<td>Last changed by</td>
<td><em>Last person / body to change the asset</em></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Type</td>
<td>Semantic Statement</td>
<td>Yes / No</td>
<td>Your Comments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Link to website</td>
<td>A link to another (maybe original) web resource of the asset</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>User Groups</td>
<td>To allow access to an asset for certain groups of repository users</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Quality level</td>
<td>Any indicator for the quality for an asset (e.g. current level in a clearing process)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### List your Asset formats

1. Please indicate the format(s) in which assets are stored in your repository. If you are using any additional formats please add them to this list.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asset Format</th>
<th>Your Comments</th>
<th>Interfaces</th>
<th>Your Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Archives (ZIP, etc.)</td>
<td>Not ZIP for security reasons</td>
<td>SPARQL</td>
<td>Not yet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HTML</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>SOAP</td>
<td>Yes (WOA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PDF</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>REST</td>
<td>Yes (WOA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOC</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>ODBC</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XLS</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSV</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RDF</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Please indicate the interfaces of your repository. If you are providing any additional interfaces please add them to this list.
Please indicate the format(s) in which assets are stored in your repository. If you are using any additional formats please add them to this list.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asset Format</th>
<th>Your Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>XSD</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XML</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UML</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OWL</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SKOS</td>
<td>Not yet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please indicate the interfaces of your repository. If you are providing any additional interfaces please add them to this list.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interfaces</th>
<th>Your Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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**CKAN**

**Reminder: CKAN online meeting *today* Thursdays 5th May, 5pm UTC**

Dear All, Just a reminder that the next CKAN online community meetup will take place today via Skype. If you have any questions or queries regarding CKAN or are interested in getting involved, please drop in! We will also be discussing the CKAN FAQ [1], so if you have any thoughts or opinions on what should be included -- please drop in and voice them!

-- The meeting will start at 5pm UTC or, in more familiar formats, 6pm BST / 7pm CEST / 1pm EST (for other timezones, please see the appendix [2])

It's not too late to sign up, so if you would like to join the call, please simply add your name and Skype ID to the etherpad below:

Upcoming CKAN online meetup, Thursday 5th May, 5pm UTC

Dear All,

The next CKAN online community meetup will take place via Skype this Thursday, 5th May at 5pm UTC. To check this date in your time zone, please use the guide at the bottom of the page. [1]

If you would like to join the call, please simply add your name and Skype ID to the etherpad below:

http://ckan.okfnpad.org/meetup-2011-05-05

Please feel free to drop in with any questions or suggestions you would like to put to the people behind the projects and add your items to the agenda. [2]

In addition, we will be discussing the CKAN FAQ - how to best answer the burning questions of all possible users of CKAN! I will be sending around the brainstorm for the questions shortly - please feel free to add your contribution and to drop in to voice your opinion on it!

Best wishes, Lucy

[1] 5pm UTC corresponds to: 6pm BST / 7pm CEST / 1pm EST. For other timezones, please the following website as a guide:

www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/

[2] We’ve had some excellent discussions over the last few sessions about data storage, catalogue interoperability, using Google refine to clean up datasets and more. Notes from past meetings can be found at:

http://wiki.ckan.net/Meetups#Past_Meetings

Lucy Chambers, Community Coordinator, Open Knowledge Foundation, http://okfn.org/, Skype: lucyfediachambers

ckan-discuss mailing list:

ckan-discuss@lists.okfn.org and http://lists.okfn.org/mailman/listinfo/ckan-discuss

CKAN.org Blog update, 4th May

Under the hood of CKAN
The following is a guest post from Christophe Guéret, member of the working group on EU Open Data

CKAN.net is a community-based effort for creating an open catalog of public datasets. Using the web site, everyone is free to register datasets thereby stating their existence and the possible links between them along with extra meta-data (license, author, ...). One of the nice features of CKAN is that the data about the datasets is stored in a structured, and consistent way. This allows for a direct export of this information into RDF data. It also seduced Richard Cyganiak and Anja Jentzsch who, last year, decided to drop the wiki pages (1,2) they used to draw the LOD Cloud in favor of CKAN.

In addition to storing structured data, CKAN also offers a convenient API for accessing it. It’s a ReST API which also comes with several binding interface for Python, PHP, Perl, ... and make it easy to get a list of packages matching some criteria. This API can, for instance, be employed to get a list of packages tagged as ‘lod-cloud’ and render them using protovis as shown by Ed Summers and Richard Cyganiak on this site. An other interesting use is to get the same data and reformat it into some suitable for consumption by network analysis software (c.f. this blog post). In plus of offering a wide range of visualisations for the network, these software can also compute several metrics highlighting aspects of the graph that can not be observed by looking at some nodes individually.

The original blog post contains two examples of rendering, the first realised by Ed Summers and Richard Cyganiak (Animation of the LOD Cloud, rendering done by Protovis).

The second realised by Rinke Hoekstra (Visualisation of the clusters in the LOD Cloud, rendering done by Gephi).

To see the images, please check out the original post on the CKAN blog.

If you haven’t tried it yet, go check the API and its documentation and start re-formating the data from CKAN.net to make something new out of it 😊

Lucy Chambers, Community Coordinator, Open Knowledge Foundation, http://okfn.org/, Skype: lucyfediachambers

IN PROCESS