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## Preface

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Enterprise Interoperability (EI) is the ability of an enterprise or more generally an organisation to work with other enterprises or organisations without special effort. The capability to interact and exchange information both internally and with external organisations (partners, suppliers, customers, citizens...) is a key issue in the economic and public sector. It is fundamental in order to produce goods and/or services quickly and at lower cost, while ensuring higher levels of quality, customisation, services and security.

Today, Enterprises maximise flexibility and speed of response to changing external conditions. They develop knowledge of, and links with, other Enterprises or Organisations with which they can collaborate to provide the products and services that customers demand. The issue of interoperability within the Enterprise is therefore no longer limited to the interoperability between silos of systems within single companies, but has become one of interoperability throughout a Network of Enterprises.

I-ESA'10 (Interoperability for Enterprise Software and Applications) is the sixth of a series of conferences, this time under the motto "Making the internet of the future for the future of enterprise". As Europe and the world focus research on a Future Internet of Things, Services, Knowledge and People, the opportunities for enterprise collaboration are expanding. The focus of interoperability research and

application is therefore on these opportunities and the new technologies and methodologies needed to exploit the Future Internet to the full. I-ESA'10 reports on current research in this field, as well as the underlying developments in enterprise interoperability which have been the foundation for this domain.

The I-ESA'10 Conference was organized by Coventry University and the Virtual Laboratory for Enterprise Interoperability (INTEROP-VLab) and sponsored by the International Federation for Information Processing (IFIP).

The world's leading researchers and practitioners in the area of Enterprise Integration from government, industry and academia have contributed to this book. As a result, Enterprise Interoperability IV is a unique anthology presenting visions, ideas, research results, industrial experiences and problems on business interoperability.

This book is organized in seven parts addressing the major research in the scope of Interoperability for Enterprise Software and Applications:

- I Business Interoperability
- II Enterprise Modeling for Enterprise Interoperability
- III Semantics for Enterprise Interoperability
- IV Architectures and Frameworks for interoperability
- V Platforms for Enterprise Interoperability
- VI Interoperability Scenarios and Case Studies
- VII Standards for Interoperability

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April 2010

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<http://www.springer.com/978-1-84996-256-8>

Enterprise Interoperability IV

Making the Internet of the Future for the Future of  
Enterprise

Popplewell, K.; Harding, J.; Ricardo, C.; Poler Escoto, R.  
(Eds.)

2010, XII, 462 p., Hardcover

ISBN: 978-1-84996-256-8