

Preface

The book you have in your hands focuses on the applications and markets for Cooperating Objects. Although the Cooperating Objects domain is relatively new, and shares common ground with other domains such as Internet of Things, Sensor Networks, Ubiquitous Computing, Cyber-Physical Systems and Systems of Systems, we can already clearly distinguish the key aspects of “cooperation” as being the key driver behind several application developments.

The applications depicted in this book constitute some of the examples in this promising new domain, and most of which have also been demonstrated within the Cooperating Objects Network of Excellence (CONET). CONET (www.cooperating-objects.eu) is a European project co-funded by the European Commission with the aim to identify and produce work on the main research topics in Cooperating Objects, thus shaping the academic and industrial research in the short, medium and long-terms.

The hereby included applications depict not only futuristic scenarios, but also hands-on experiences and results. To what extent these applications will pave their way to commercial products in the future is too early to tell. We try to take an overview of the market as such, that could influence the Cooperating Objects domain, or vice versa, that could be impacted by Cooperating Objects.

We hope you enjoy a more practical view under the prism of application development in the domain of Cooperating Objects, and that these example applications may spark some new ideas for future innovative approaches.

Karlsruhe, Germany, January 2013
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<http://www.springer.com/978-3-642-45400-4>

Applications and Markets for Cooperating Objects

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2014, XIV, 120 p. 44 illus., 40 illus. in color., Softcover

ISBN: 978-3-642-45400-4