



Call for Papers: 1st Workshop on Web Applications and Middleware (Part of the Informatik2004 Conference in Ulm, Germany)

Goal of the Workshop

Over the past years, the Internet has undergone a change from a static medium for the display of information to an interactive lightweight application user interface. As a result, there is now a connection between web-pages and program logic, both of which have to be designed for a web application. The two fields are based on largely disjoint design principles, however. The goal of this workshop is to *bring together* the expertise from the web design and the middleware community and to look at future potential for seamless integration of both aspects. Researchers from both areas can profit from the profound knowledge found in the other community and those who specialise in the integration will be able to have their ideas measured from two different points of view.

Topics

Possible workshop topics include but are not limited to:

- **Web Applications - State of the Art:** We are looking for contributions on the state of the art of web application design problems in the light of recent developments and a discussion of the recent advances and open issues in their design.
- **Design Methodologies:** Problem analyses and solutions for the design of web applications with focus on the gap between the hypertext world and the application/middleware backend. This covers integrated use of two design methodologies (each for a specific part of the application), new and adapted design methodologies, domain specific design, as well as software developed to simplify web application design.
- **Server-Side Scripting vs. Middleware Approaches:** While powerful middleware frameworks exist, it seems that - especially in an SME context - fast and easy server-side scripting is preferred. The workshop could include a discussion as to why this solution seems to be preferred to the more sound (with regard to design) middleware technologies. Other aspects are the migration between the two, design methodologies for server-side scripting, and maintenance strategies.
- **Web Application Framework Design Philosophies:** Web Application Frameworks seem like a quick and sound way to create web applications. We are looking for papers discussing the pros and cons of different implementation strategies, especially the discussion of XML-XSLT based systems vs. JSP/ASP approaches, dynamic web page generation vs. batch jobs, and dynamic caching strategies for web applications.
- **Legacy Software:** A very important aspect in web application design is the integration of legacy systems as well as external systems. What solutions exist and what are the problems currently unsolved?

- **Model Driven Development for Web Applications:** With OMG's Model Driven Architecture gaining more and more impetus among software engineers, Model Driven Development (MDD) approaches enjoy a great degree of attention. Questions such as the applicability of MDD to web applications, domain-specific peculiarities and their impact on MDD processes are therefore of interest for this workshop.

Paper Submission

Participants are asked to submit a paper (3 to 5 pages short) which describes their intended input to the workshop. Both new ideas and case studies of the status quo are welcome. It is important, however, that the papers will present a position on one of the questions listed above or another important issue related to the workshop topic. One of the decision factors for acceptance is how much potential the paper offers for discussion. Additionally, the researchers should send in some information (not more than a single page) describing their background in the field. For inquiries and paper submission email wam@wifo3.uni-mannheim.de. For further details, please refer to the workshop home page (www.wifo.uni-mannheim.de/WAM2004) or to the main conference page (www.informatik2004.de).

Important Dates

Paper Submission: 30.04.2004

Acceptance Notification: 28.05.2004

Submission of Camera-Ready Papers: 30.06.2004

Workshop Date: 21.09.2004

Output and Publication

The primary form of publication will be as part of the proceedings of the INFORMATIK2004 conference which will appear as part of the *Lecture Notes in Informatics* published by the *Gesellschaft für Informatik* (GI), Germany's main association of computer scientists. Furthermore, the results of the workshop will be put on the workshop home page, together with PDF versions of the papers. Should the quality of the workshop be exceptionally high, we might consider submitting a workshop report to a journal.

Workshop Organizers

- Ralf Gitzel (University of Mannheim)
- Markus Aleksy (University of Mannheim)

Programme Committee

- Colin Atkinson (University of Mannheim)
- Markus Bauer (FZI, Karlsruhe)
- Axel Korthaus (University of Mannheim)
- Andrew Kun (University of New Hampshire, USA)
- James F. Power (University of Ireland, Maynooth)
- Martin Schader (University of Mannheim)
- Srivalli Vilapakkam Nagarajan (University of Wollongong, Australia)
- John Waldron (Trinity College, Ireland)