W10 – SWAE ‘07

1st International Workshop on Semantic Web Architectures for Enterprises
“The Semantic Web provides a common framework that allows data to be shared and reused across application, enterprise, and community boundaries. It is a collaborative effort led by W3C with participation from a large number of researchers and industrial partners.” [W3C - http://www.w3.org/2001/sw/]

The aim of the first edition of the workshop on Semantic Web Architectures for Enterprises is to evaluate how and how much the Semantic Web vision has met its promises with respect to business and market needs. On the basis of our research experience within the basic research Italian project NeP4b (http://www.dbgroup.unimo.it/nep4b/it/index.htm) and the European STREP project STASIS (http://www.dbgroup.unimo.it/stasis/), we focus on the permeation of the Semantic Web technologies in industrial and real applications.

The papers presented at the workshop demonstrate that, even if the Semantic Web is a relatively new branch of scientific and technological research, its relevance has already been envisaged for some crucial business processes:

1. **Semantic-based business data integration**: data integration satisfies both “structural” requirements of enterprises (e.g. the possibility of consulting its data in a unified manner), and “dynamic” requirement (e.g. business-to-business partnerships to execute an order). Information systems implementing semantic web architectures can strongly support this process, or simply enable it.

2. **Knowledge management**: ontologies and automated reasoning tools seem to provide an innovative support to the elicitation, representation and sharing of corporate knowledge in terms of common understanding of data, services and processes.

3. **Semantic interoperability**: metadata and ontologies support the dynamic and flexible exchange of data and services across information systems of different organizations. Thus, the development of applications for ontology mapping is definitely one of the most relevant challenges to be faced in this area.

We hope that the papers presented at the SWAE 2007 Workshop and published in the proceedings will provide interesting, and relevant contributions in the area of research concerning Semantic Web techniques applied to Enterprise issues.

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