Confronting Possibilities and Needs in the Digital Economy

Breaking out of the box to envision the system

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Abstract

Systems have to be delivered faster than ever. With the speed at which e-Business is evolving we need to find ways of helping organizations make sense of needs and possibilities.

WEB technologies are evolving faster than ever and organizations need to innovate at the “speed of the WEB”. Technologies are no longer servants, they can provide enabling opportunities.

Within a wide choice of potential solutions and little time to make sense of them capabilities are often overlooked.

With the diversity of solution ideas on the WEB, how can organizations make sense of what to do? With these ideas, what is it possible for an organization to be? How does this change the way we should do requirements work?

Business modeling is not enough. Brainstorm sessions about the "system-to-be" lack methodological support. Pre-occupation with constraints of the "current business logic" denies ideas and opportunities. There is a need for creative thinking.

System envisioning occupies a space in the development lifecycle where we foster creativity and divergent thinking and techniques for conceptualizing innovative solutions and communicating them.

Theme

In the object community, Use cases are a popular way of specifying specific expected behaviour. But how do we agree on boundaries of the system and what is the nature of the system decided?

Business modeling is not enough. Brainstorm sessions about the "system-to-be" lack methodological support. Pre-occupation with constraints of the "current business logic" denies ideas and opportunities. There is a need for creative thinking.

System envisioning is a creative process for establishing the viability of innovative system concepts and technologies, by first reaching a shared understanding of a problem situation, business needs and desired future, and aligning them with opportunities through knowledge and communication of solution concepts and architectures.

System envisioning occupies a space in the development life-cycle where we foster creativity.
and divergent thinking in conceptualizing innovative solutions by allowing new ways of "speaking" about and seeing the world. Often creative systems are born out of metaphors and imagery.
We are keen to explore the idea of the “Voice of the Technologist” to stimulate communication of possibilities as enabler, focusing on what technology makes it possible to become. Solutions need to be shaped by the needs of the business but can be improved by first exploring capabilities that technologies can offer. Diverging, first looking at what technologies can do and ways that an organization can take advantage of capabilities.
Through metaphors and imagery, a common ground is established for business people and developers.

In this workshop we want to share experience in methods and techniques to conceptualize possibilities of a software system for an organization in the digital economy. We identify interventions and methods for imagining and sharing possibilities for a could-be system before we embark on the designing the should-be system.

**Goals**

In this workshop we want to share experiences on how we deal with the Requirements Process in the Digital economy.
We want to find and share techniques for overcoming the gap that often exists between what is asked for and what is expected, and between the expected and the possibilities of new technologies. Through techniques such as concept café, scenario writing and role play, we facilitate conversations about the capabilities of the system.

**Workshop outline**

Techniques and methods will be tried out on a case.
As techniques used for this case the organizer proposes a Concept Café (using metaphors and mind-mapping) and Deconstruction (detecting the basic concept and constraints in an approach and changing them)