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(Editors)

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Preface

The usage of computer systems is widely characterized by decentralized design and autonomous evolution. If we look at system components from a global perspective, they are frequently developed and modified without alignment in the design stage. Also, components follow individual paths of evolution during their lifecycles. It can be observed that this is a major cause for interoperability problems, contributing to the brittleness of systems integration efforts. If we want to increase the degree of automation in general, it seems important to provide software components that can help overcome occurring interoperability conflicts and this in an automated fashion. This functionality is known as mediation and the respective components are called mediators.

Mediation can take place on various levels, e.g. on the level of data, ontologies, processes, protocols, or goals. To a great extent, it will depend on the availability of sophisticated, industry-strength mediation support whether the promise of Semantic Web services and dynamic value chains can become a reality.

As a consequence, mediators are a fundamental component of a comprehensive Semantic Web services framework. However, they are not yet fully developed as a research topic in this community. Many theoretical and practical issues of yielding sophisticated, scalable, and reliable mediators are not solved. The workshop aims at bringing together experts from various areas of research in order to advance the theoretical and practical knowledge about the design and implementation of mediators in Semantic Web services.

We received a very broad spectrum of submissions and are confident that the nine papers that we finally selected for publication and presentation will contribute to a better understanding of mediation in the context of Semantic Web services. All papers were reviewed by at least two members of the Program Committee.

The organizers would like to thank all authors for their submissions and the members of the Program Committee for their time in reviewing the papers.
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