

7th International Workshop on Web-Oriented Software Technologies (IWWOST'08)

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Preface

The increasing use of the Web as a software platform together with the advance of technology has given rise to new generations of Web Applications that become more sophisticated almost every year. For example, these applications allow ubiquitous Web access from stationary and mobile computing platforms, they provide individuals and collectivities with personalized features, they support complex business processes, they are involved in organization-wide workflows, they exhibit advanced behaviors, and they allow users to create virtual communities for sharing knowledge, among other capabilities.

Facing to the ever growing number of users, usability and accessibility became a major requirement for the universal access of Web applications. Improvements on the Web technologies have progressively changed the way users can interact with Web applications. Web 2.0 and Rich Internet Applications (RIAs) technologies have enabled the creation of complex user interfaces which are getting closer to the interaction level one can find on traditional desktop applications. However, there is a lack of knowledge on how such technologies affect the development process of complex and usable Rich Internet Applications.

Since 2001, IWWOST has been an international forum for discussing the state-of-the art modeling approaches for Web applications. The first edition was held in Valencia in 2001, the second in Malaga (together with ECOOP 2002), the third in Oviedo (co-located with ICWE 2003), the fourth in Munich

(co-located with ICWE 2004), the fifth in Porto (co-located with CAiSE 2005) and the sixth in Como (co-located with ICWE 2007).

The present edition presents papers discussing the impact of Web 2.0 technologies on the development process of Web applications from different viewpoints. We have selected 11 papers that are very representative of the state-of-the-art in the field. Whilst several papers focus on engineering issues related to development of Rich Internet Applications (in particular model-based approaches) the program also welcomed papers devoted to the design and evaluation of the user interfaces for Rich Internet Applications. All these papers provide thoughtful insights about how to improve the user experience with Web applications in the era of Web 2.0.

We would like to thank our all dedicated Program Committee that provided thoughtful reviews. We are also very thankful for all the support we have received from the ICWE organizers, in particular Mária Bielíková and Martin Gaedke.

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