Preface

Fourth International Workshop on Business/IT Alignment and Interoperability BUSITAL'09

Organizations are today becoming more and more dependent on their information systems and other kinds of IT-based support systems to realise their business strategies, building value networks with partners, and managing their resources effectively. But how can organizations ensure that their IT investments are well aligned with the needs of their business? A number of frameworks and methods have been designed to help managers in aligning business and IT. The Fourth International Workshop on Business/IT Alignment and Interoperability (BUSITAL'09) is a forum for practitioners and researchers that want to explore the benefits, challenges and solutions of business and IT alignment. In particular, it is focusing on:

- the needs for alignment among the business strategy (business goals and business models), enterprise modeling (business processes and organization infrastructure), and information systems (infrastructure and applications), and
- the identification and assessment of suitable conceptual modeling methods and techniques that fit as the glue for making this alignment effective.

In view of the CAiSE 2009 conference theme "Information Systems for Business Innovation: The Next Wave" we have specifically encouraged papers that address the alignment issue in the context of networked enterprises.

BUSITAL'09 received ten submissions of which seven high quality papers were accepted for presentation at the workshop. These papers contribute to an understanding of how conceptual modelling, collaborative modeling, value modelling and other modelling approaches can be used to support the alignment of business and IT.

We would like to thank all the members of the program committee of BUSITAL'09 for their efforts in reviewing the papers and all the authors for their work in contributing to the workshop. We hope you will enjoy the BUSITAL'09 proceedings.

April 2009

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