



PRO-VE'09 – 10th IFIP Working Conference on Virtual Enterprises

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PROVE'09 Special Session

Collaborative Work Environments: from Architecture to Evaluation

Scope

This session presents key results from the EU-funded ECOSPACE project on collaborative workspaces for eProfessionals. This project proposes the vision that by 2012 professional workers in Europe are empowered for seamless, dynamic and creative collaboration across teams, organisations and communities through a personalised collaborative working environment. To realize this vision, ECOSPACE deploys a systemic approach built on horizontal technology push activities focusing on architecture, middleware services and tools, and vertical application pull activities. Vertical validating applications apply a Living Lab approach within three application areas: media production, complex projects, and professional communities. Living labs act as breeding grounds for innovation; they prepare the broad acceptance of the results, and create open business opportunities for new generic or sector-specific products and services. ECOSPACE results in new working paradigms and metaphors for eProfessionals, and a user-centric platform enabling the interoperability of innovative collaboration tools and services. It empowers users to easily build-up and deploy on-demand virtualised and knowledge rich collaborative environments that frees the user from information and communication overload and that will enable him to concentrate on creativity and productivity.

The session highlights this vision through presenting research results focusing on:

- The design and development of an open standards, service-oriented architecture for complementary and alike systems.
- A collaboration upperware and services to enable seamless and instant collaboration among knowledge workers in group forming networks, beyond organisational boundaries.
- The creation of new tools that simplify the complexity of collaboration in dynamic work environments and which enable users for creative and knowledge intensive tasks.
- The validation of collaboration tools using a living labs approach, highlighting a user-driven and cyclic approach to innovation.

Organizers

- Hans Schaffers (ESoCE Net), E-mail: hschaffers@esoce.net
- Wolfgang Prinz (Fraunhofer FIT), E-mail: wolfgang.prinz@fit.fraunhofer.de
- Vassilios Peristeras (DERI), E-mail: vassilios.peristeras@deri.org