



## Modeling the Semantic Web

Galway, Ireland June 23, 2004

A group of 70 international experts from industry and academic attended the second Face to Face SDK Cluster and Semantic Web Services full day meeting in Lausanne, Switzerland on June 14, 2004. SDK is a combination of three European funded projects SEKT, DIP and Knowledge Web. These projects were created to strengthen European research and industry in the Semantic Web Services. This full day meeting was chaired by Dieter Fensel and Christoph Bussler of DERI (Digital Enterprise Research Institute) and followed the first Face to Face meeting on March 15, 2004, Wiesbaden Germany.

The meeting began with an overview of the achievements of the SDK working group consisting of WSMO (Web Service Modeling Ontology) WSML (Web Service Modeling Language) and WSMX (Web Service Execution Environment), which together provide a conceptual model for the description of Semantic Web Services. The meeting afforded a number of researchers with the opportunity to present insights into recent projects. For example, a Virtual Travel Agency was used as an intriguing Business to Consumer WSMO use case model. The model involved WSML, ontology development, mediators, goals and web service capability modeling, and goal capability matching.

The key component of the meeting was a Rule Language Panel chaired by Dieter Fensel. The panel consisted of three recognized leading world experts including Ian Horrocks from the University of Manchester, Guus Schreiber from The Free University Amsterdam, and Michael Kifer from the University at Stony Brook, New York. Their vast expertise includes disciplines like Description Logic, Conceptual Modeling Languages and Rule Languages. Each provided his professional, yet differentiated opinions on the future of OWL (Web Ontology Language); thus opening the floor to continuous debate. Following the expert panel opinion, the meeting concluded with researchers presenting the future potential of WSMO within SEKT, DIP and Knowledge Web, the projects which built the SDK Cluster.

SEKT, DIP and Knowledge Web are multi year integrated projects funded by the European Commission 6<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme with a total budget of over €36M. They began on January 1, 2004. SEKT is coordinated by British Telecom Plc., UK. DIP and KW are collectively coordinated by the recently created Digital Enterprise Research Institute (DERI), which is based at the National University of Ireland, Galway and the University of Innsbruck, Austria.

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