



SEMIC.EU YEARLY CONFERENCE 2011

Rethinking Semantic Interoperability Through Collaboration



SEMIC.EU Yearly Conference 2011

*Rethinking Semantic Interoperability
Through Collaboration*

Conference Report

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figures

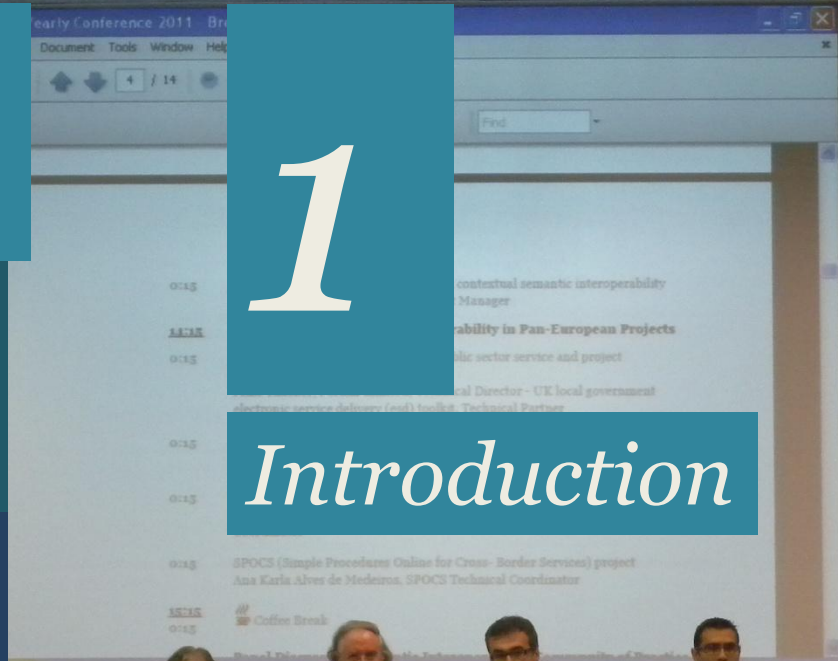
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Rethinking Semantic Interoperability Through Collaboration



The lack of Semantic interoperability remains, since many years, a key obstacle to the seamless flow and exchange of data, information and services amongst the European Member States and beyond. Progress is remarkable at the technical interoperability level, with already mature and turn-key solutions to overcoming existing inconsistencies. However, semantic interoperability is still lagging behind with issues not only related to the development of appropriate tools and applications, but also to the natural difficulties in the social process required to reach agreements on common representations and definitions. For the European Public Administrations in 27 countries, in particular, collaboration seems to be the key element for moving forward in this area. That is why this year's SEMIC.EU Conference will focus on the collaborative aspects of semantic interoperability.

The objective of the conference was to gain a broader understanding on the current state-of-affairs of semantic interoperability in Europe, and to understand the updated SEMIC.EU strategy; a strategy based on collaboration with the Member States and the broader community with a clear target to support Public Administrations in their interoperability efforts.

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Number of participants

97 participants
80% participation rate

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Number of registrations 118

Number of participants who registered 93

Number of non-registered participants 4

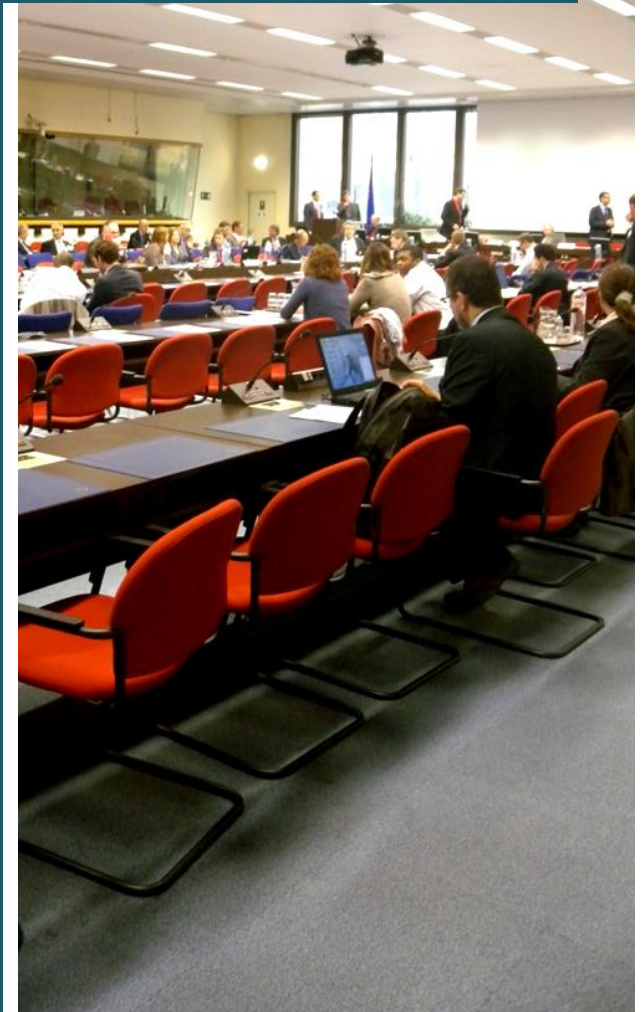
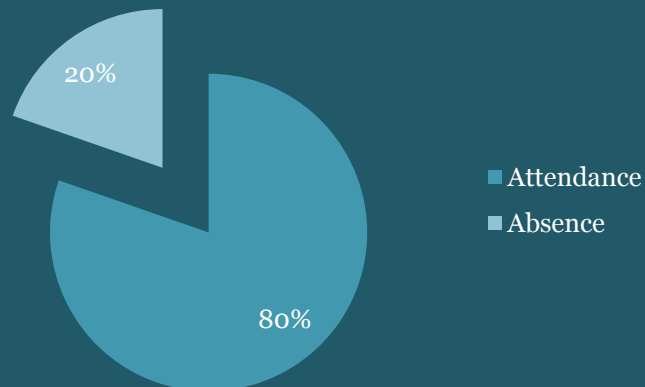
Total 97

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Participation rate



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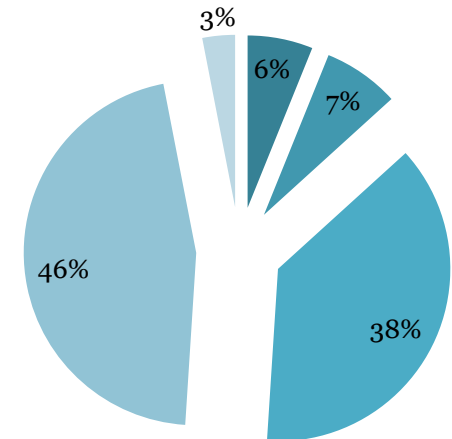
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Organisation types of participants

| | |
|-------------------------|----|
| Academia | 6 |
| Non-Profit Organisation | 7 |
| Private Company | 37 |
| Public Administration | 45 |
| Standardisation Body | 2 |
| Total | 97 |

Public administrations and Private companies were represented with 45 and 37 participants respectively

- Academia
- Non-Profit Organisation
- Private Company
- Public Administration
- Standardisation Body



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Participants by country of origin



Belgium, Netherlands and United Kingdom were the countries most represented with 38, 19 and 6 participants respectively



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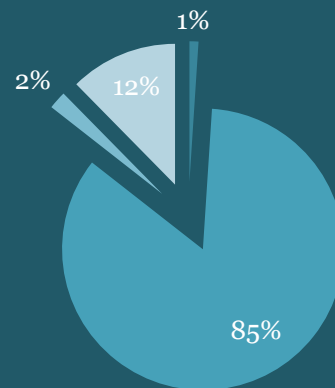
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Types of participants

| | |
|-----------------|----|
| Facilitator | 1 |
| Guest | 82 |
| Keynote Speaker | 2 |
| Speaker | 12 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total | 97 |

- Facilitator
- Guest
- Keynote Speaker
- Speaker



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Welcome by Declan Deasy

European Commission DIGIT.B, Information Systems and Interoperability Solutions, Director



Mr. Declan Deasy opened the conference

Digital Agenda: Digital Agenda 2010-2020 for Europe is one of the flagships of the Europe 2020 strategy. The Digital Agenda outlines a number of ambitious objectives for the European Information Society.

Interoperability and standards: The Digital Agenda explicitly refers to interoperability of IT products and standards as a key requirement to build a truly digital society.

E-Commission. The European Commission will lead by example on open and transparent eGovernment by creating in 2010 and implementing an ambitious eCommission 2011-2015 action plan.

ISA Programme: A key action to promote interoperability between public administrations will be the Commission's adoption of an ambitious European Interoperability Strategy and the European Interoperability Framework to be drawn up under the ISA programme (Interoperability Solutions for European Public Administrations).

SEMIC.EU: In the context of the ISA Programme, SEMIC.EU can contribute by promoting semantic interoperability through collaboration with the Member States and broader communities. Mr Declan Deasy announce the following new directions for SEMIC.EU:

- **e-Government Core Vocabularies:** To start harmonizing and agreeing on common definitions at EU level.
- **Federation of National Semantic Assets Repositories:** To tap on, promote, and reuse national efforts and results.
- **Creation of the EU Semantic Interoperability Community of Practice:** To animate an open community for sharing experiences, lessons-learned, etc.
- **New ISA Integrated Collaborative Platform** to merge SEMIC.EU, OSOR.EU, and ePractice platforms in a single ISA portal. The new ISA collaborative platform, which will be released in the second half of 2011, will provide a support for community building among public administrations in Europe.

Links

<http://ec.europa.eu/isa/>

http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/digital-agenda/

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Keynote Talks

The Semantic Interoperability Community of Practice experience in the USA

Dr. Brand Niemann

Semantic Community, Director and Senior Data Scientist



Brand Niemann shared his views on Semantic Interoperability through collaboration.

Semantic Interoperability Community of Practice (SICoP): In the United States a so-called Semantic Interoperability Community of Practice (SICoP) was active in the period 2003-2008. The SICoP was a special interest group of individuals from a broad range of government organisations, industry and academic partners;

Advisory group: The SICoP provided findings and recommendations on semantic interoperability to the Best Practices Committee of the Chief Information Officers Council (CIOC) of the U.S. Government. The SICoP was co-lead by Brand Niemann together with Mills Davis. Brand Niemann was above all a facilitator and this is the key trait of any community leader;

Outcome: The SICoP produced white papers, organised meetings, conferences and pilots. In particular, through these pilots many solutions demonstrated- the idea being that any solution provider should be able to quickly set-up a pilot of its solution, if given a practical problem and data;

Message: We should no longer develop IT centric systems. Instead, we should move towards knowledge centric systems. These systems should “free-up” data by separating the “flow from know”. Through these systems it should be easy to look at the data, manipulate it and retrieve it. We can therefore differentiate 3 types of systems:

- o Citizen-centric Government — Systems That Know;
- o Advanced Analytics — Systems That Learn;
- o Smart Operations — Systems That Reason.

According to Brand Niemann, the creation of a similar Community of Practice in Europe, adapted to the European context, will contribute to raising awareness and aligning national policies and initiatives.

Links

<http://semanticcommunity.info>

<http://web-services.gov>

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Keynote Talks

Opportunities and challenges for using semantic technologies

Dr. Stefan Decker

National University of Ireland, the Digital Enterprise Research Institute (DERI), Director

Prof. Stefan Decker gave an introductory talk on the opportunities and challenges related to the usage of semantic technologies for publishing Linked Open Government Data on Web. Semantic interoperability is a prerequisite to the successful usage of semantic technologies. Semantic interoperability, however, is broader than only the Semantic Web or Linked Open Data.

Linked open data (LOD): In addition to a human-understandable web of unstructured hypertexts, the Web is also increasingly becoming a database of *linked, structured* information that is machine-understandable. The advantage of machine-understandable linked open data on the Web is that machines (computers) can answer complex *queries* on the basis of available information.

RDF: semantic technologies related to the Resource Description Format (RDF) can be used to make Linked Open Data available on the Web. Many websites already use it.

Links

<http://www.deri.ie> – Digital Enterprise Research Institute
<http://www.w3.org/DesignIssues/LinkedData.html> - LOD design issues
<http://lod-cloud.net> – Linked Open Data Cloud
<http://sig.ma> – Semantic Information Mashup – “What Google will look like in the future”
<http://late-project.eu> – Publication of data of the European Union
<http://data.gov.uk/> - Publication of data of UK governmental agencies
<http://map.psi.enacting.org> – UK Public Sector Information Data Mashup
<http://www.w3.org/2007/eGov/IG> - W3C eGovernment Interest Group (eGov IG)

Government data: Governments are increasingly making their data publicly available, hereby sometimes adhering to the LOD design principles. The EU Public Sector Information (PSI) Directive is a driver for this phenomenon.

SIG.MA: The Semantic Information Mashup (SIG.MA) provides a federated, portal view on Linked Data of several web sites on the Web.

Ontologies and interoperability: The interoperability of LOD on the Web is dependent on the usage of agreed “ontologies”. Interoperability does not need to be perfect from the start. Agreement on a small set of concepts can already bring many advantages.

Benefits: The benefits of Linked Open *Governmental* Data include among others the efficient reuse of data, the increase of citizen involvement and participation, and the improvement of government effectiveness and interoperation.

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SEMIC.EU Talks



Can the lack of Semantic Interoperability in Europe be seen as a collaborative challenge?

João Frade
PwC Manager

PwC is currently assessing the SEMIC.EU business model. This involves the revision of the SEMIC.EU roadmap and a detailed analysis of the SEMIC.EU experience to date. João highlighted some initial findings and conclusions about SEMIC.EU:

Relevance: SEMIC.EU's services are perceived as relevant by its target groups.

Interoperability ecosystem: SEMIC.EU operates in a complex socio-technical system which requires continuous "top-down" thinking and "bottom-up" learning

Influence of SEMIC.EU: To reach its objectives SEMIC.EU can only take an indirect approach (influence, inform and support) since the direct one (to sanction use) is not an option.

Awareness: Despite the many challenges, SEMIC.EU is today a well-known platform for semantic interoperability in Europe

Federation: Member States have started to implement Repositories for semantic interoperability at national level. SEMIC.EU should move forward towards Federation using the ADMS.

Clearing process: SEMIC.EU Conformance Branding did not gain traction. SEMIC.EU should simplify the Clearing Process.

Interoperability is much like a collective, public good for which economists have long shown that there exist market failures. No single public administration is able or willing to invest in interoperability. However, once interoperability has been established, all public administrations will benefit from it. SEMIC.EU should promote collaboration as the only way to solve this "market failure".



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SEMIC.EU Talks

Core Concepts and first steps towards a federation of asset repositories

Dr. Renke Fahl-Spiewack

Jinit[, Team Leader

Renke Fahl-Spiewack presented two recent initiatives of SEMIC.EU:

Core Concepts: To foster semantic interoperability, harmonization is required at a higher level of abstraction that surpasses the context of individual interoperability domains. A core concept is a simplified, fundamental data model that represents the *minimal* characteristics of a concept. SEMIC.EU has developed the SEMIC.EU Core Person Concept in close collaboration with over 100 co-authors. A minimalistic approach is taken, whereby first agreement is reached on a small number of fundamental concepts where diverse or conflicting views are less intensive. The Core Concepts are *reusable* and *extensible* in different domains. In the coming years SEMIC.EU will continue to define a set of 20-30 core concepts, such as a Core Organisation, a Core Vehicle, and et cetera.

First steps towards a federation of asset repositories: On the Web, there are many repositories of interoperability assets for e-Government, such as the British GovTalk.gov.uk repository, the Danish Digitalisér.dk platform, the German XRepository, or the SEMIC.EU asset repository.

To realize a single point of access, SEMIC.EU has recently taken the initiative to develop the so-called Asset Description Metadata Schema (ADMS). This initiative brings together representatives from Member States, semantic assets repository owners, metadata and vocabulary experts and standardization bodies to draft a simple but highly reusable schema for describing semantic assets using a common specification which builds on top and reuses existing work. The Digital Enterprise Research Institute (DERI) of the National University of Ireland has developed a prototype of a federated asset repository that federates the aforementioned asset repositories. The benefit of federation of assets is to increase the retrievability of assets, while preserving the autonomy of each repository.

Neither Core Concepts nor the federation of asset repositories should be considered to be mature concepts. They are currently experiments by SEMIC.EU to foster cross-border and cross-sectoral interoperability in Europe. SEMIC.EU will continue to rework and refine these assets in close collaboration with all interested stakeholders.

Links

<http://vmudi205.deri.ie/elda/index.html>

<http://www.SEMIC.EU/SEMIC/view/snaw/network/Communities/ADMS.xhtml> ADMS community on SEMIC.EU



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National Semantic Projects in Europe

Digitaliser.dk - more than a repository

Adam Arndt

National IT and Telecom Agency, Special Adviser

Adam Arndt introduced the Danish Digitaliser.dk platform.

Digitaliser.dk: Digitaliser.dk is a community platform and a repository for standards, XML, open-source software, and public sector data.

Objective: The objective of the platform is to foster the *collaboration* of public administrations in Denmark across organisational boundaries by supporting on-line communities. It is cheaper to steal good ideas than to buy them.

Benefits: The sharing of ideas and cross-fertilisation is likely to contribute to better public services, lower costs, and less public procurement.

Platform: The platform was custom-built and exposes some of its functionality with an API. External parties have already developed several apps for the platform.

Statistics: Digitaliser has 4409 registered users and more than 15000 XML schema's and technical specifications.

Link

<http://digitaliser.dk/> Danish interoperability portal

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National Semantic Projects in Europe



Yhteentoimivuus.fi is how you spell interoperability in Finnish

Tommi Karttaavi

*Association of Finnish Local and Regional Authorities, Senior
Advisor, Information Society*

Tommi Karttaavi introduced the e-Government interoperability initiatives of the Finnish Government.

yhteentoimivuus.fi. Finland will launch a new interoperability portal called yhteentoimivuus.fi (Finnish for interoperability) in the fall of 2011. The portal is based on the current SEMIC.EU platform.

Asset status. Interestingly, the new Finnish interoperability portal will use the following assets statuses: informational (no special status), recommended (strongly suggested to use), mandatory (public administrations are obliged to use it). The mandatory status can be given by a decree by the Council of State, which is enabled by a Finnish new Public Administration IT Management Law that is not yet in effect.

Open questions: Tommi Karttaavi also raised a number of interesting questions on semantic interoperability. If data models are not harmonised within a MS how to harmonise them for cross-border use? Should ADMS metadata on federated assets be available in RDF?

Vassilios Peristeras invited Tommi Karttaavi and all other participants to participate in the ADMS community and contribute requirements and comments of the current draft specification.

Link

www.yhteentoimivuus.fi Finnish interoperability portal

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National Semantic Projects in Europe



The Estonian Semantic Interoperability Framework: Building a Better e-State through Collaboration

Dr. Peep Küngas

*University of Tartu, Institute of Computer Science, Senior
researcher*

Dr. Peep Küngas presented the results of the X-road case study on the electronic public services that are offered by Estonian public administrations:

Registration of electronic public service descriptions. In Estonia, the registration by service providers and registry owners of electronic public service descriptions is mandatory for new IS development projects. These service descriptions are publicly available at RIHA (<http://riha.eesti.ee>). RIHA covers from SOA perspective facilities for publishing interfaces of services.

Collection of public service interface data: Peep Küngas collected data on the web service descriptions (WSDL) that define the interfaces of electronic public services of 58 information systems, 1048 data services, including over 7757 data fields.

Analysis of redundancy, information diffusion, and modularity: Peep Küngas used advanced analysis techniques to identify the amount of redundancy, information diffusion, and modularity of the data services.

Foundational ontologies: Currently, Estonia has set up a number of pilot projects to define primary (foundational) ontologies, such as addresses, geoinfo, legal persons, natural persons.

Dr. Peep Küngas concluded his presentation by stating that achieving semantic interoperability requires the right mix of competences, technologies, collaboration, and especially tangible intermediate results to motivate people.

Links

<http://www.boatrader.com/web-services/xroad> X-Road dataset

<http://riha.eesti.ee> RIHA register of semantic descriptions of electronic services

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National Semantic Projects in Europe



The Essence project: collaborative and contextual semantic interoperability

Paul Oude Luttighuis

Essence, Project Manager

Paul Oude Luttighuis introduced the Essence project, a seven-party public-private consortium project aimed at improving semantic interoperability across and beyond the Dutch e-government. The approach is inspired by Pieter Wisse's Metapattern work and builds on the following principles.

Semantic variation is inevitable. There are limits to semantic standardisation. There is inevitable, indispensable, deliberate, necessary, and extensive semantic variation across *contexts*. *The key to semantic interoperability is not to fight or neglect this variation, but to recognize and manage it.*

Contextual specification. You cannot agree on the meaning of a concept without knowing its context. The project uses a distinctive approach that embeds context knowledge in the semantic model itself, rather than keeping it outside the model.

Semantic reconciliation. Reconciliation is a collaborative process of developing a combined model out of two or more different contextual models, thereby identifying commonalities and differences, in mutual connection.

As part of Phase 1, the Essence project has conducted four cases, addressing a.o. interoperability issues of the Dutch Tax, Employment, and Education offices.

Links

<http://www.novay.nl/projecten/essence/7781> Essence project website (in Dutch)

<http://www.open-standaarden.nl/english/> Dutch government's Standardisation Board

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Pan-European Projects

A Linked Data approach to sharing public sector service and project information

Mike Thacker

Porism Limited, Technical Director - UK local government electronic service delivery (esd) toolkit, Technical Partner

Mike Thacker introduced the Effective Service Delivery (ESD) Toolkit. This is a set of standards and tools to describe public services and help public administrations to deliver more public services electronically.

Service: A service defines what is delivered from one organisation, department or person to another. It covers both tangible products, such as home improvements for people with disabilities and services, such as residential care or waste disposal.

The **Local Government Business Model** is an ontology that attempts to define the main elements (i.e. concepts such as services, customers, places and organisations) that interact in the work of the public sector and relationships between them.

European Service List: The European Service List, published by ESD-Toolkit, provides a listing of all the services that are delivered locally by Smart Cities' partner municipalities in the UK, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Germany and Flanders. These services are grouped together under broad functional headings.

Likewise, the ESD-Toolkit has developed a project ontology to share information on project work in the public sector.

Links

<http://esd.org.uk> esd-toolkit

<http://esd-toolkit.eu> EU standards

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Pan-European Projects

Creating an Ecosystem of Linked Governmental Data

Bastiaan Deblieck

Semantic Technology at TenForce, Business Unit Manager



The LOD2 project is working on technologies, methodologies, and practical case studies to help (among others) public administrations to start publishing their data respecting the principles of Linked Open Data. These technologies, methodologies, and practical case studies can be structured according to the LOD2 lifecycle:

Extraction: technology and methodologies to extract data

Storage/querying: technology and methodologies to better store, link, and query linked open data

Manual revision/authoring: technology and methodologies to revise and author data.

Interlinking/fusion: technology and methodologies to create pipes of linked data on the Web (e.g. Semantic Pipes).

Quality analysis: technology and methodologies to analyse the quality of published data (e.g. outlier detection).

Classification/enrichment: technology and methodologies to enrich existing data set and improve data

Evolution and repair: technology and methodologies to improve the quality of data

Search/Browsing/exploration: technology and methodologies to search and browse data (e.g. SIG.MA).

Links

<http://lod2.eu/> - LOD2 project site

<http://pipes.deri.org/> - Semantic Pipes

<http://www.w3.org/DesignIssues/LinkedData.html/> - Linked Data Design Issues

<http://publicdata.eu> - Europe's public data.

<http://sig.ma> - Semantic Information Mashup

<http://lod2.eu/Article/Publink.html>



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Pan-European Projects

EuroFiling project: Semantic interoperability in primary financial reporting

Ignacio Boixo

*European Banking Authority XBRL Operational Network,
Coordinator*

Ignacio Boixo started his presentation by explaining the regulatory context of the Financial sector in Europe.

International Banking agreements, EU, and national regulations require Financial Institutions to file their financial statements with the Banking Authorities.

XBRL: The usage of the eXtensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL) has greatly reduced the administrative costs throughout the entire process, both for the banking industry and financial authorities.

Eurofiling project: the Eurofiling project is an open joint initiative of the XBRL Operational Network of the European Banking Authority in collaboration with XBRL Europe, as well as other stakeholders.

XBRL interoperability assets: The project works on Data Models, XBRL taxonomies, know-how and materials for Supervisory Frameworks: COREP and FINREP.

Digital divide: Ignacio raised an important challenge for the further adoption of XBRL by Enlargement countries in Europe (e.g. Bosnia Herzegovina). Enlargement countries must pay lots of money to consultants from more advanced countries to implement the XBRL standard. This discrepancy stands in the way of further harmonisation.

Link

<http://eurofiling.info/> - EuroFiling project

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Pan-European Projects

SPOCS (Simple Procedures Online for Cross- Border Services) project

Ana Karla Alves de Medeiros

SPOCS Technical Coordinator



Ana Karla Alves de Medeiros started her presentation by explaining the challenge of the EU Service Directive (2006/123/EC) with regard to the provision of cross-border services in the Internal Market.

Cross-border service provision in the Internal Market: A Portuguese architect, for example, who wants to obtain information and deal with formalities to provision his services in The Netherlands must be able to easily obtain this.

Points of single contact. The EU Service Directive obliges Member States to set up "points of single contact", through which service providers can obtain all relevant information and deal with all administrative formalities without the need to contact several authorities. The "points of single contact" have to be accessible at a distance and by electronic means.

SPOCS project: The Simple Procedures for Online Cross-Border Services (SPOCS) project aims at creating an interoperability layer for to facilitate cross-border services. The national infrastructure should not be impacted by this interoperability layer.

Semantic interoperability: Semantic interoperability is relevant at the level of eDocuments - Omnifarious Container-format for eDocuments (OCDs). For example, to exchange birth certificates cross-border. A bottom-up approach is used. Countries are allowed to use whatever format and metadata they have, and the interoperability layer does the mediation at design time.

80/20 rule: The SPOCS pilot will first focus on those documents that are mostly exchanged cross border.

Link

<http://www.eu-spocs.eu> - Simple Procedures Online for Cross- Border Services project

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Panel Discussion

What should be the role of the European Commission to promote semantic interoperability in Europe?

Dr. Vassilios Peristeras, Dr. Brand Niemann, Prof. Stefan Decker, Dr. Renke Fahl-Spiewack and Pieter Breynne



Pieter Breynne: The European Commission can be a driver for the specification and adoption of semantic standards and specifications. The e-Prior e-Procurement solution developed by the European Commission and funded by the former IDABC and current ISA programme is an example of this. The adoption of e-invoicing is a catch-22 problem: if only few are using it, there is no critical mass to convince others of using it. In the area of e-invoicing, the European Commission decided to contribute to the standardisation process, fostering the development of the CEN/BII 2 specifications, based on UBL. In general, the European Commission can accelerate the delivery of interoperable electronic public services by public administrations through similar initiatives.

Paul Oude Luttighuis: We should distinguish between pan-European interoperability problems and helping member states in specific interoperability problems. Every member state has its own interoperability problems. The European Commission should foster collaboration between member states, with the intent to identify the differences and commonalities, and share and reuse success cases.

Stefan Decker: Who would have thought what would the Web look like in the year 2010? In the year 1990, coming up with a plan to develop the Web as it is today would have seemed to be difficult. The web was defined top-down, but a bottom-up process is also involved. So this is exactly what the European Commission should do too. It should set the framework, but also rely on and support the emergent collaboration to establish semantic interoperability.

Brand Niemann: the European Commission should support the Communities of Practice (EU/SICoP) and encourage initiatives of principle leadership.

Declan Deasy: The European Commission must act as a catalyst and facilitator in the interoperability domain. In general, this involves the sharing of best practices and experiences with the potential of being reused. I expect the new ISA Integrated Collaborative Platform also to further contribute to this.

Adam Arndt: In my opinion, we need all of the above. The e-Prior project is a very good example of the Commission “leading by doing”. The harmonisation that will result from the federation exercise is also significant. Furthermore, we need good legislation that drives harmonisation. The European Commission should be an observer and propose new legislation initiatives to drive the interoperability effort.

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Expectations

To learn more about semantic interoperability applied in specific project/activities 23 71,9%

To learn more about Semantic Web and Linked Data 10 31,3%

To learn more about Core Person and Core Concepts 6 18,8%

To get information about the current state of play of SEMIC.EU 24 75,0%

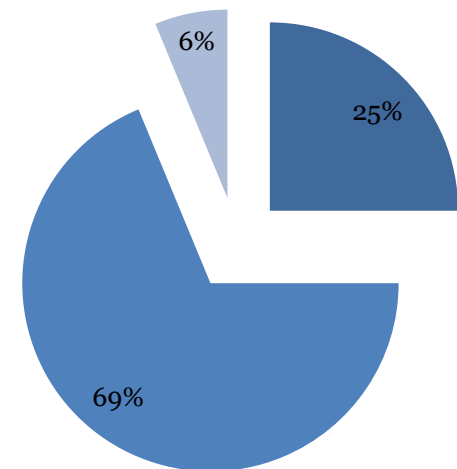
To learn and share experiences on semantic interoperability 24 75,0%

Networking 13 40,6%

94% of respondents agree that the conference has met their expectations

The conference has met expectations

- I strongly agree
- I agree
- Neither agree or disagree



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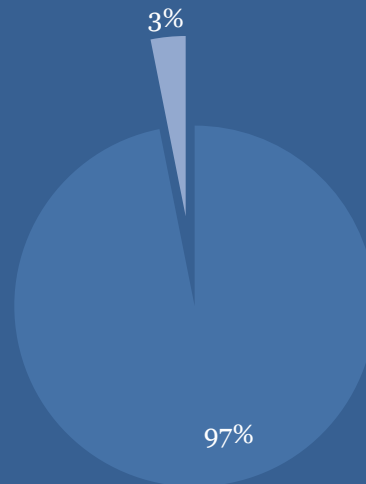
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Next participation ?

*97% of
respondents think
that they will
participate in the
next conference.*

■ Yes ■ No



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Usefulness of the conference

The conference was relevant to me.

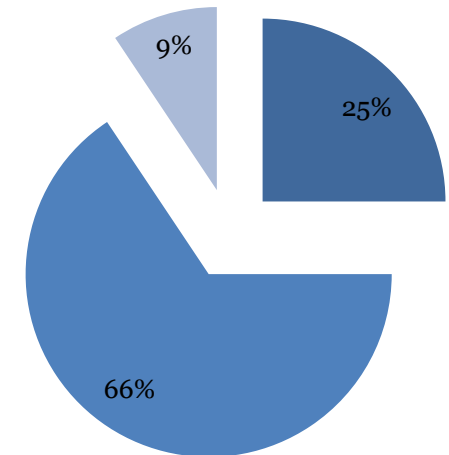
| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| I strongly agree | 8 |
| I agree | 21 |
| Neither agree or disagree | 3 |
| I disagree | 0 |
| I strongly disagree | 0 |
| Total | 32 |

The conference was relevant to my organisation.

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| I strongly agree | 8 |
| I agree | 21 |
| Neither agree or disagree | 3 |
| I disagree | 0 |
| I strongly disagree | 0 |
| Total | 32 |

91% of respondents think the conference was relevant for them and for their organisation.

- I strongly agree
- I agree
- Neither agree or disagree



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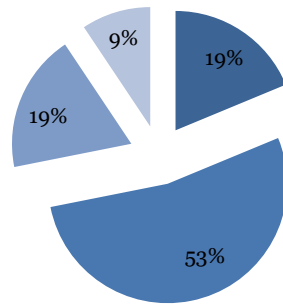
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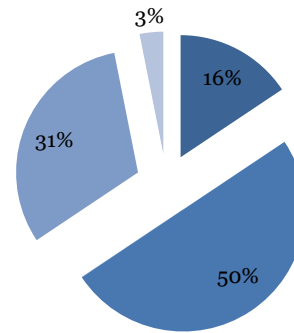
Usefulness of the conference

*The presentations and discussions were **inspiring.***

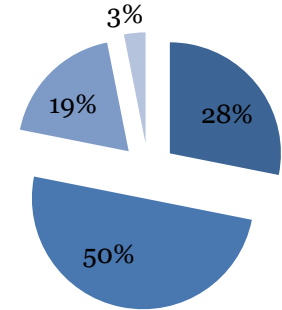
Keynote speakers



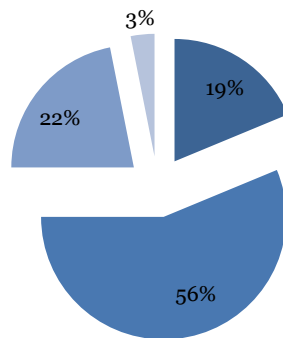
SEMIC.EU Speakers



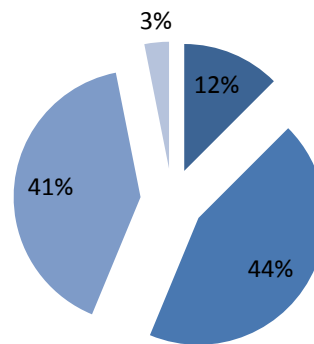
National Semantic Projects in Europe



Pan-European Projects



Panel Discussion



- I strongly agree
- I agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- I disagree

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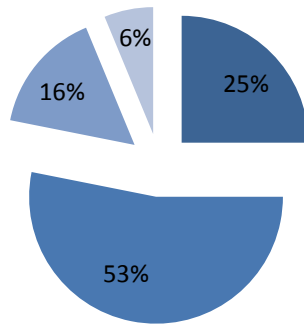
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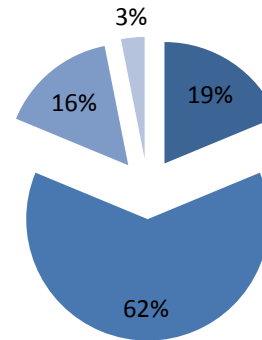
Usefulness of the conference

*The presentations and discussions were **relevant.***

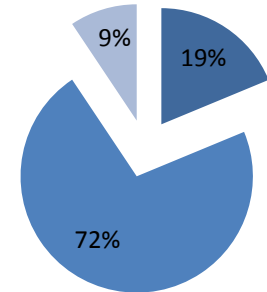
Keynote Speakers



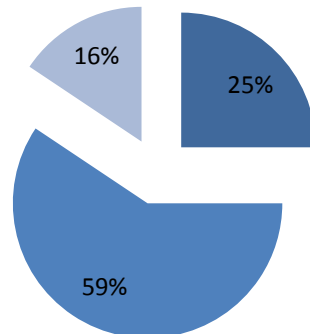
SEMIC.EU Speakers



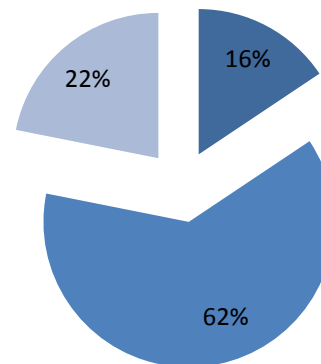
National Semantic Projects in Europe



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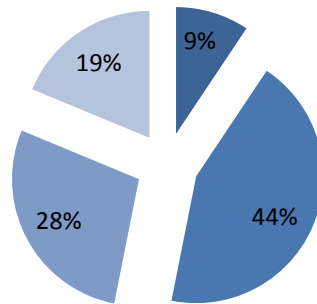
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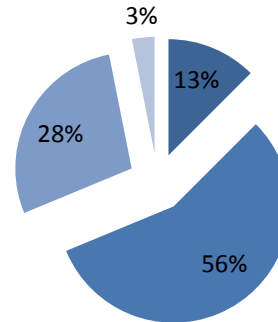
Usefulness of the conference

*The presentations and discussions had **the right level of detail.***

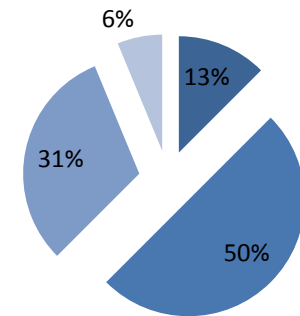
Keynote Speakers



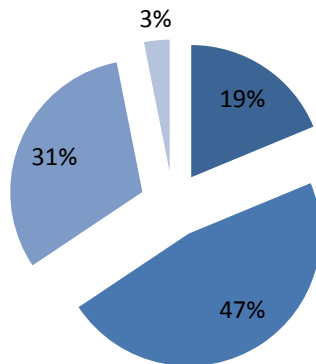
SEMIC.EU Speakers



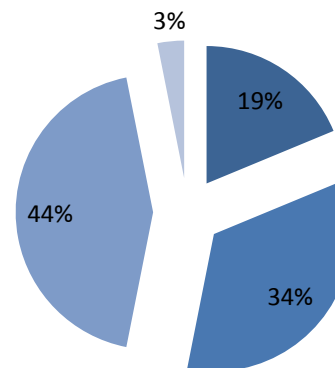
National Semantic Projects in Europe



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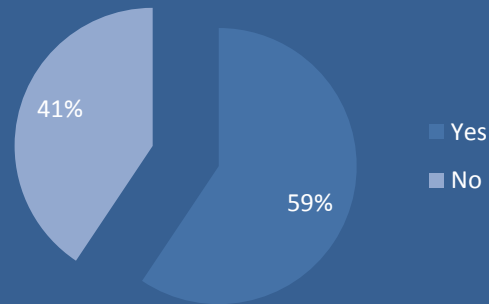
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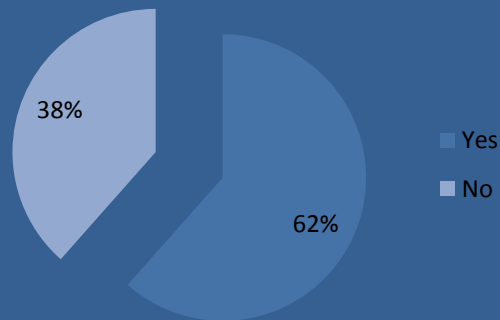
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About SEMIC.EU

SEMIC.EU members among
participants



If not, will they become
members ?



*41% of respondents are
not SEMIC.EU
members.*

*62% of them
plan to
become
SEMIC.EU
members.*

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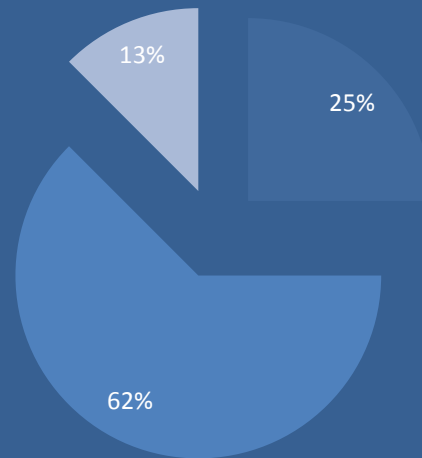
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About SEMIC.EU

The conference has clarified the vision, mission and objectives of SEMIC.EU.

- I strongly agree
- I agree
- Neither agree or disagree



For 87% of respondents, the conference has clarified the vision, mission and objectives of SEMIC.EU

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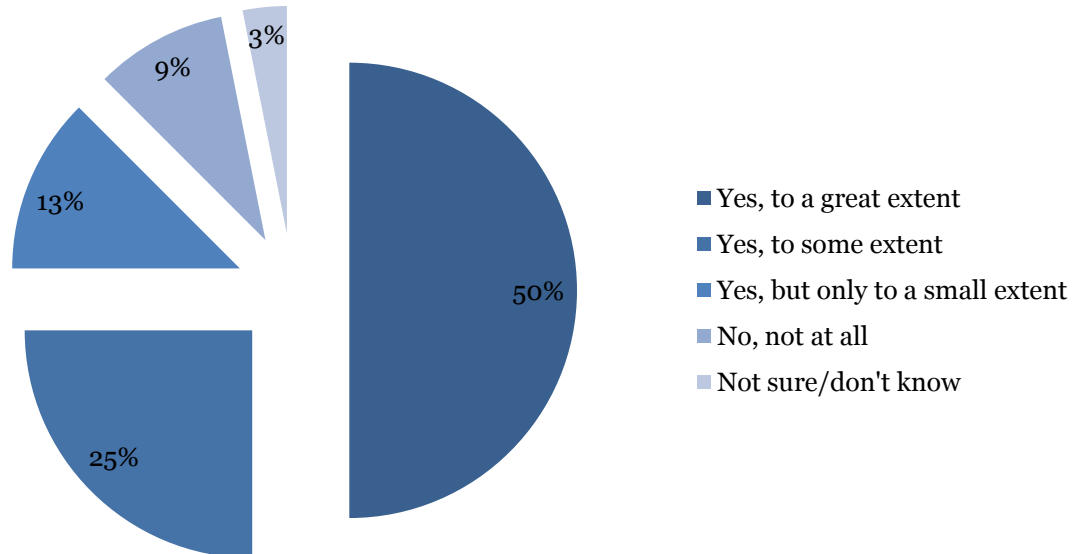
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About SEMIC.EU

For 75% of respondents, improving interoperability is a priority within their organisation.

Is improving interoperability a priority within your organisation ?



Agenda : Interoperability

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*...y action to promote interoperability
...een public administrations will be the
...mission's adoption of an ambitious
...ean Interoperability Strategy and the
...ean Interoperability Framework to
...rawn up under the ISA programme
...operability Solutions for Eu
...: Administrations)*

- Digit

5

Conclusion



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SEMIC.EU is running with full engines and there are resources to secure continuity for the next years. Semantic interoperability is a very active issue of discussion and action in many Member-States and international projects. This means that there is already a lot of accumulated knowledge and experiences to share. The European Commission has a role to play for promoting re-use and facilitating the sharing process.

Declan Deasy

European Commission DIGIT.B, Information Systems and Interoperability Solutions, Director