

Workflows und Web Services

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> Workflows und Web Services WS 2003/2004

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Types of E-Business



Business To Consumer (B2C)	Business To Business (B2B)	Intra Business
Relation between enterprise and customers Sales-related aspects are predominant, like product presentation, advertising, service advisory, shopping	Relation between processes of different enterprises Predominant are relation to suppliers, and customer relations to other enterprises like industrial consumers, retailers, banks	Electronic organization of internal business processes, like realization within workflow systems

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B2B - Current Situation

- Traditional B2B has focused on well-defined, standard message formats and protocols (e.g., RosettaNet, cXML)
 - Ad hoc B2B occurs today via XML over HTTP
- How to publish business functions to customers, partners and suppliers?
 - E.g. access to reservation systems, quote systems
 - Programmatic access to a service, independent of underlying implementation and client software
- Technologies such as Corba, DCOM, EJBs, etc. barely present in this context

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Web Services



- New distributed computing platform built on existing infrastructure including XML & HTTP
 - Web services are for B2B what browsers are for B2C
- Self-contained, self describing, modular service that can be published, located and invoked across the web
 - Refer to open standards and specifications:
 - component model (WSDL)
 - inter-component model communication (SOAP)
 - discovery (UDDI)
 - Platform- and implementation-independent access
 - Described, searched, and executed based on XML
 - E.g. credit card validation, airline schedules, rental car.
- Enable component-oriented applications
 - Loose coupling from client to service
 - Enable to integrate legacy systems into the web
 - Useful for other distributed computing frameworks such as Corba, DCOM, EJBs

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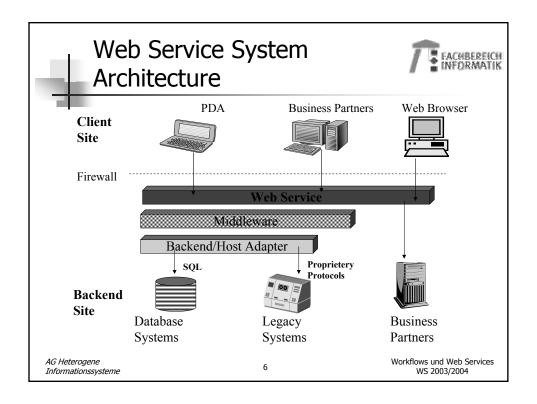
Web Services: Examples



- Stock information
 - Current stock value of a particular stock within a protofolio application
- Proof reading
 - Proof reading for a certain document
- Order service
 - Automatic order for a given product ID and quantity
- Travel planning and organization
 - Services tor car rental, flight reservation, and hotel booking

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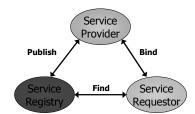
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Service-Oriented Architecture (SOA)

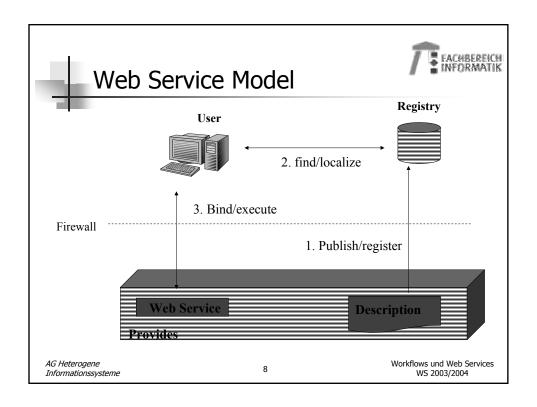


- Service Requestor
 - Finds required services via Service Broker
 - Binds to services via Service Provider
- Service Provider
 - Provides e-business services
 - Publishes availability of these services through a registry
- Service Registry
 - Provides support for publishing and locating services
 - Like telephone yellow pages



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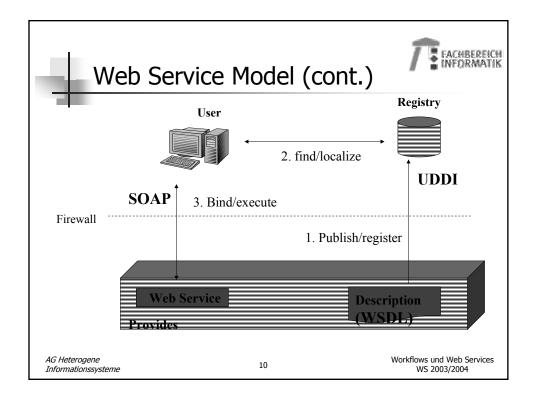
Standards

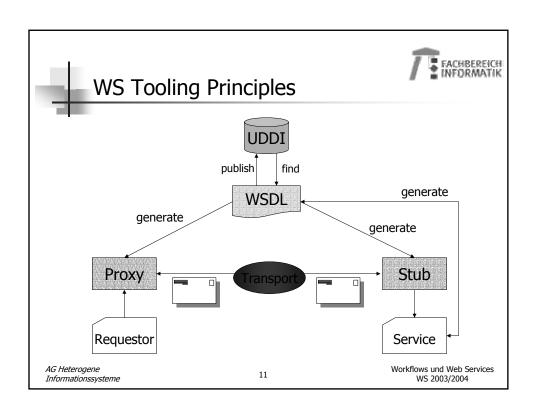


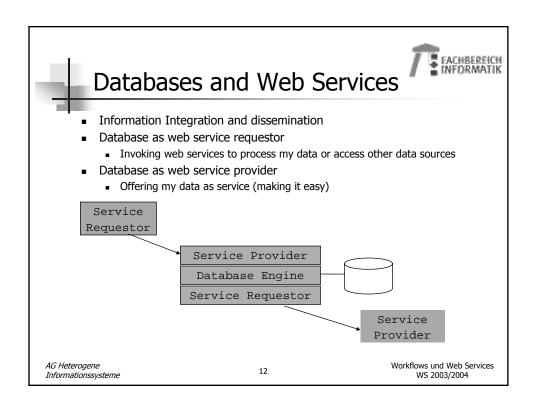
- UDDI
 - Universal Description, Discovery and Integration
 - Registry of and search for web services
- SOAP
 - Simple Object Access Protocol
 - Communication protocol
- WSDL
 - Web Services Description Language
 - Description of a service's functionality
- XML
 - eXtensible Markup Language
 - Underlying basic representation approach

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Web Services Today



- Web services have matured
 - Intranet usage is much wider than Internet usage
 - See http://www.xmethods.net for sample Internet services
- Recent extensions or work in progress
 - Web Services Security
 - XML Digital Signature
 - XML Encryption
 - Authentication
 - Transaction management
 - ...
- Workflows/Business Process Modeling
 - Orchestration of web services
 - Vital for B2B integration
 - Recent specifications proposed by Microsoft, IBM, BEA

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Workflow Technology

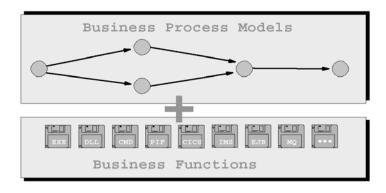


- Companies use computers to support their business,
 - most frequently
- The way to do business is prescribed via a business process,
 - very often
- Applications support business processes and have to ensure compliance with business processes
 - => Application = Business Process + Business Functions
- Changes in how to perform business must be reflected as soon as possible in applications
- A workflow is a business process in execution (an instance of a process model) in a computing environment
 - Not all parts of a process are run in a computing environment some processes are not run on a computer at all!
 - Often, "workflow" and "process" is identified

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Workflow-Based Applications: Structure





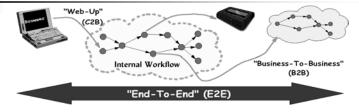
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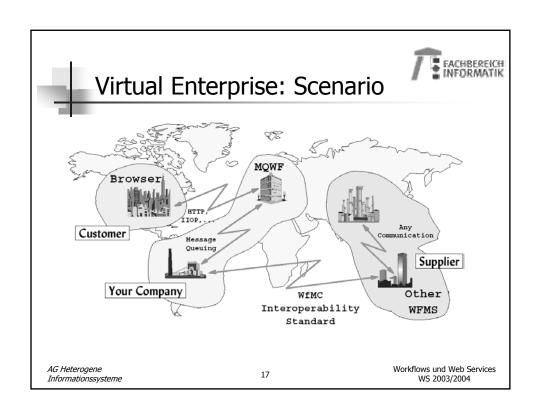
Workflows And External Communications

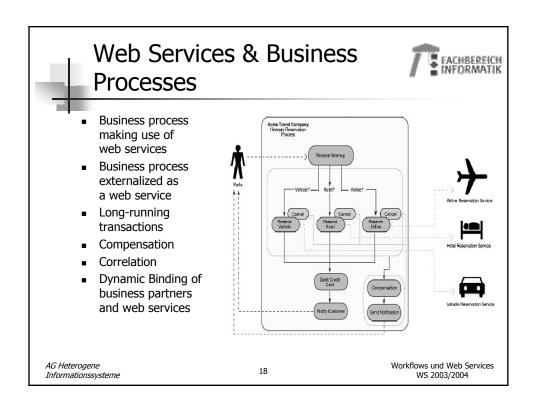


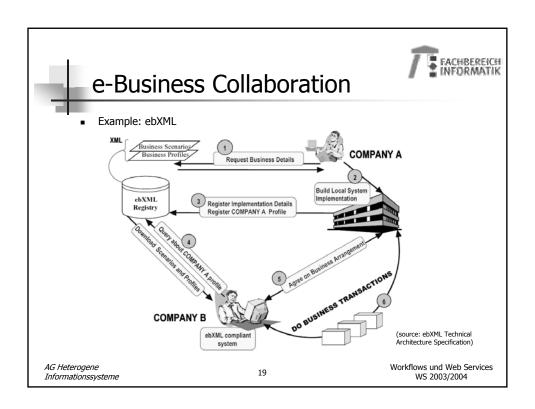


- Customers invoke company's applications to perform certain steps of the busines process
 - E.g. place on order, inquire status,...
 - Company's applications must get a browser-based front-end for that purpose ("web-up")
- Workflow activities may directly communicate with the outside
 - Send e-mail, faxes, messages,...
- Workflow activities may trigger actions in another company
 - Simple invokation of program or start of another workflow ("subprocess" from invokers point-of-view)
 - Such "business-to-business" scenarios are the base for realizing sophisticated "supply chains"

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Course Outline



- 1. Motivation
- 2. XML Basics for Web Services
 - Core
 - Namespaces
 - DTD, XML Schema
 - DOM, XSLT
- 3. Web Services Foundations
 - Service Oriented Architecture
 - Invocation (SOAP, ...)
 - Description (WSDL, ...)
 - Discovery (UDDI, ...)
- 4. Web Services Support in Middleware Platforms
 - J2EE
 - .NET

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Course Outline (2)



- 5. Web Services Advanced Topics
 - Security
 - Data Access
 - Interoperability
 - Grid Computing
- 6. Workflow Management Introduction
 - Motivation, Evolution of WfM
 - Transactional Workflow
- 7. Business engineering
 - Business Process Modeling
 - Process Analysis and Simulation
- 8. Workflow Management Systems
 - Basic Components (buildtime, runtime)
 - Support for Workflow Dimensions
 - Activities and (Sub-)Processes
 - Work Item Lists

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Course Outline (3)



- 9. Workflows and Transactions
 - Advanced Transaction Concepts
 - Atomic Spheres and Compensation Spheres
 - Recoverable Messaging and Stratified Transactions
- 10. Web Services & Business Processes
 - Web Services Composition
 - Stateful Web Services
- 11. Web Services Transactions and Coordination
 - Activation, Registration and Coordination
 - Coordination Protocols and Coordination Context
 - Atomic Transactions
 - Business Transaction
- 12. e-Business Collaboration and Integration
 - RosettaNet, ebXML, ...

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 Production Workflow Concepts and Techniques
 Prentice Hall, 2000
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