

Microsoft, IBM, Sun Microsystems and HP in face-to-face Web Services Management and Compatibility Keynote debate

Submitted by: EEMA

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Web Services Major Players Face the Music at EEMA's Annual Conference

EEMA - the independent, European non-profit association for e-Business today announced that key players from IBM, Microsoft, Sun Microsystems and HP will 'face the music' in a live keynote debate about Web Services management and compatibility at EEMA 2003 - the association's 16th Annual Conference. The debate will take place on the afternoon of Tuesday 17th June at the Hotel Dorint Don Giovanni, Prague.

For the first time ever Web Services pioneers will go head-to-head to provide the definitive answers to the burning issues. The debate will be chaired on behalf of EEMA by EEMA member, Bill Pugsley the Managing Director of Perwill plc - DISA, RosettaNet, OASIS, BASDA.

"People thinking of deploying Web Services are confused about compatibility and management issues amongst other things" commented Pugsley. "The aim of the debate is to gain clarification from the vendors about the real differences between J2EE and .NET and the synergy between the two. The players will be confronted with issues of management and compatibility (convergence or divergence), the industry standards circus and open-source alternatives on the market" continued Pugsley.

Panellist and one of the three platinum sponsors of EEMA 2003, IBM's Director of Web Services Technology, Dr Bob Sutor explains, "By agreeing to sit around the table together we have committed to confront head-on the core issues and challenges concerning the management and compatibility of Web Services. Our goal is to make sure our customers have solutions that meet their own requirements for web services, not ours!"

The confirmed panellists for the debate are:

Chief Web Services Strategist at Sun Microsystems, Mark Hapner
Director of Web Services Technology at IBM, Dr. Bob Sutor
Chief Architect .NET, EMEA at Microsoft, Neil Hutson
General Manager for Web Services at Hewlett-Packard, Jacek Walicki

EEMA 2003 is the association's 16th annual conference and this year is devoted to Web Services Management and Compatibility. It takes place between June 16-18 2003. EEMA members and non-member are invited to attend. For the full programme and to register to attend, please visit

www.eema.org/eema2003.asp

Platinum sponsors for EEMA 2003 are Sun, Microsoft and IBM. Gold sponsors are HP and BT. The business track is sponsored by Integrator, the technical track by UTI Systems, the Conference Dinner by MaXware, with refreshments courtesy of VeriSign.

About EEMA - www.eema.org

EEMA, founded in 1987, is the leading independent, European non-profit e-Business association, pushing forward the boundaries of e-commerce, technology and legislation.

Its numerous interest groups, workshops, conferences and seminars each specialise in areas of current concern, to educate and inform its member companies on latest developments and technologies, whilst at the same time enabling members of the association to compare views and ideas.

Working closely with governmental bodies, standards organisations and e-Business initiatives throughout Europe, EEMA is an instrumental force in moving European business towards working electronically. Visit www.eema.org <http://www.eema.org> or contact EEMA at info@eema.org <<mailto:info@eema.org>> or +44 1386 793028.

About Web Services

Web Services technology enables existing programmes written in different languages to talk to each other over the internet, providing an interface to link companies, suppliers, partner networks and supply chains. For example, Web Services might be used to link a logistics company's freight scheduling system, transportation management system and supply chain application. Prior to web services, this would have been a time-consuming costly, complicated job, involving elaborate coding and reference to over 50 standards to ensure interoperability.

The under-pinning technologies of SOAP, WSDL and UDDI have been developed to act as the back-bone to Web Services.

Editorial Contacts

Further information on EEMA - including interviews and photography of the panellists - is available from Graham Thatcher and Juliette Doel at MCC International.

If you would like to attend EEMA 2003, please contact Ruth Cattell for a press pass.

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