

Project Deliverable D8.8

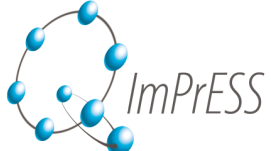
First Collaboration Report

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Abstract

This document contains the first report for SSAI&E inter-project collaboration. It is intended to describe the progress on the collaboration objectives and priorities of the project, the collaboration strategy and the planned collaboration activities as planned in project deliverable “D8.7: Collaboration Plan”.

Keywords: collaboration report, inter-project collaboration, SSAI&E, collaboration working group, joint dissemination

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Revision history

Version	Change date	Author(s)	Description
0.1	2008-12-04	Johannes Tysiak	Initial Version
0.2	2008-12-15	Wladimir Safonov	Added CWGs chapters
0.3	2008-12-22	Wladimir Safonov	Added Showcase + Other Efforts chapters
0.4	2009-01-10	Achim Baier	Formatting/Wording + “To-Do”
1.0	2009-01-17	Achim Baier / Wladimir Safonov	Conclusion, Shape
1.1	2009-01-19	Mircea Trifu	Review

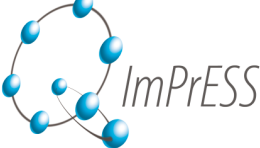
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1 Introduction

The purpose of this document is to report on the activities for the Q-ImPRESS project within the context of the inter-project collaboration between ICT projects under the WP2007/2008 objective “Service and Software Architectures, Infrastructure and Engineering” (SSAI&E). This document is closely tied to project deliverable “D8.7: Collaboration Plan”, which presents the overall strategy and plan of the Q-ImPRESS consortium with regard to collaboration activities. This report covers the first year of the Q-ImPRESS project (M1-M12).

2 Collaboration Report

This section reports on the collaboration activities of the Q-ImPRESS consortium. Subsection 2.1 presents the overall collaboration strategy as planned in “D8.7: Collaboration Plan”. Subsection 2.2 discusses the collaboration activities, which were implemented during the first project year (M1-M12).

2.1 Collaboration Strategy

This section elaborates on the strategy for inter-project collaboration for the Q-ImPRESS project. The strategy was derived from the objective and priorities for Q-ImPRESS identified during the collaboration kick-off event and was presented in detail in project deliverable “D8.7: Collaboration Plan”, p. 7. Figure 1 shows a schematic overview of this strategy. The figure also shows the involvement of the project partners in each of the planned inter-project

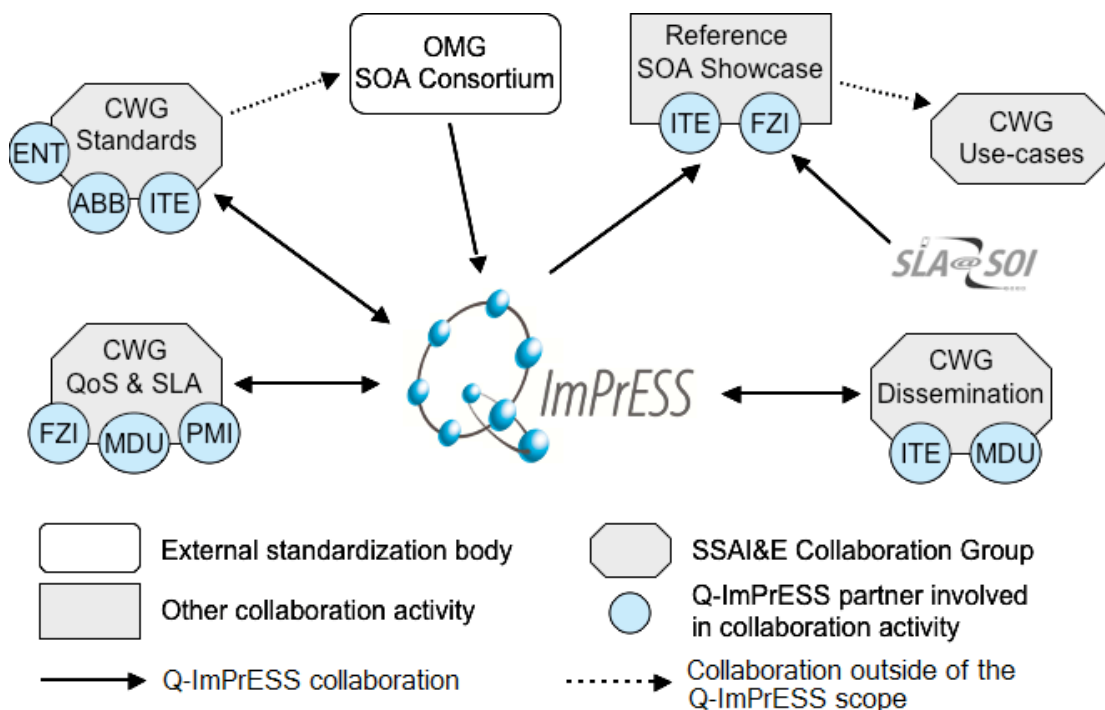
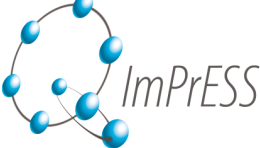


Figure 1: Collaboration strategy for the Q-ImPRESS project

collaboration areas.

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The Q-ImPrESS project will actively participate in the following collaboration areas.

Participation in Collaboration Working Groups

The Q-ImPrESS consortium will be actively involved in two of the newly established collaboration working groups: the “CWG on Standards” and the “CWG on QoS & SLA”. The bidirectional arrows between the Q-ImPrESS project and these two CWGs in Figure 1 suggest a bidirectional information flow, meaning that on the one hand the Q-ImPrESS project will provide input to the CWGs, and on the other hand it will benefit from the results of the CWG.

Contribution to Standards

The members of the Q-ImPrESS consortium will keep in touch with the OMG standardisation body and especially with the SOA Consortium subgroup in order to monitor relevant standards in the area of modelling services and service architectures. Of particular interest here is the upcoming UPMS (UML Profile and Meta-model for Services) standard, which is currently in the drafting phase. Information about these standards as well as other topics of interest for the Q-ImPrESS project with high potential for standardisation will be fed into the CWG on Standards, which might then decide to approach the standardisation body with a written proposal for improvements. The dotted line between this CWG and the OMG in Figure 1 suggests this desired information flow.

Joint Dissemination

The Q-ImPrESS consortium will exploit opportunities both to organize and to participate in joint dissemination activities, hence the collaboration with the “CWG on Dissemination”.

Reference Case-studies

In addition to the involvement in the above mentioned collaboration groups, the Q-ImPrESS project will work together closely with the SLA@SOI project on the integration of the Enterprise SOA showcase with the Open Reference Case-study from SLA@SOI. The purpose of this integration is to create a single reference showcase to demonstrate the key concepts and features of both projects. The resulting showcase is a first step towards creating a standard example for demonstrating and comparing different service-oriented engineering approaches.

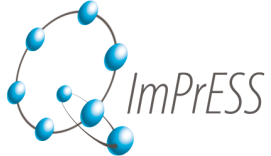
2.2 Collaboration Activities during M1-M12

This section discusses the concrete collaboration activities, which were implemented by the Q-ImPrESS consortium during the first project year.

2.2.1 Participation in the CWG on QoS & SLA

The Q-ImPrESS project participates in the *QoS & SLA* Collaboration Working Group (CWG), whose goal is to identify and highlight specific research topics in the area of QoS and SLAs and to collaborate with the other FP6 and FP7 projects involved.

The Q-ImPrESS project is interested in the collaboration working group to find further opportunities for model and analysis validations and to identify new case studies which could be possibly considered as reference examples in the Q-ImPrESS project. As agreed during the CWG meetings, Q-ImPrESS will participate in the CWG phone meetings planned every two months and in the next CWG meetings, which will be planned every sixth months.

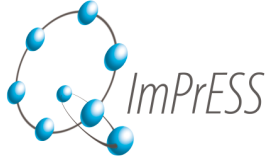
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Q-ImPrESS participated in the first QoS & SLAs CWG session of the collaboration event that took place Brussels on 22.09.2008, where a short presentation of the Q-ImPrESS project was provided to the participants. The second meeting with the projects involved in the CWG was hosted by Q-ImPrESS at FZI in Karlsruhe on 14.10.2008, where representatives of the participating projects gave a short presentation of the QoS&SLAs research specific topics of their corresponding projects.

The meeting produced a matrix (mapping the research topics to the involved projects) to identify and foster collaboration on specific issues. The different service level objectives being considered in various projects have also been discussed. Table 1 summarizes the other projects involved in the CWG and their research aims.

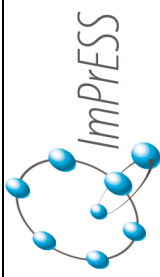
Project	Research aims	Type	Duration (month)
EGEE III	Develop a service grid infrastructure available to scientists 24/7	FP6-IST	48
SORMA	Market-based resource allocation in grids	FP6-IST	36
ArguGrid	Semantic (argumentation) grid/SOA	FP6-IST	36
ASSESSGRID	Risk assessment methods as decision support systems SLA management	FP6-IST	30
BREIN	Multi-agent and semantic Web framework supporting VOs	FP6-IST	36
IRMOS	SOI for real time applications	FP7-ICT	36
BEinGrid	Provide business experiments which exploit EU Grid technologies	FP6-IST	42
SmartLM	Software license server for grids and clouds	FP7-ICT	30
RESERVOIR	Cloud computing advancing grid and virtualization	FP7-ICT	36
SLA@SOI	Multi-layer (from the business level to the infrastructure) SLA management framework	FP7-ICT	36

Table 1: Research projects involved with Q-ImPrESS in the QoS & SLA collaboration

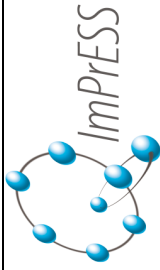
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working group

In order to identify opportunities for collaboration, the research objectives of each project have been further analyzed. The analysis focused on the identification of the project application domain/use cases, which could be exploited by Q-ImPrESS. Furthermore, the specific topics related to QoS aspects of each project have been also identified. The summary of the analysis is reported in Table 2. The projects participating in the CWG are mainly from grid area (8 out of 11) and focus on the run time infrastructure and on the interaction among multiple layers and stakeholders of SOA systems. The expected potential for collaboration with these projects is therefore limited, as Q-ImPrESS mainly attempts to address anticipated QoS characteristics of the system during the development phase.



Project	Goals	End	Application Domain/ Use cases	SLA Topics
EGEE III	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand, optimize and simplify the use of Europe's largest production Grid by providing 24/7 service Support to more user communities Addition of further computational and data resources Prepare the migration of the existing Grid from a project-based model to a sustainable federated infrastructure based on National Grid Initiatives 	May 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Astronomy & Astrophysics, Computational Chemistry, Earth Sciences, Fusion, High Energy Physics, Life Sciences, Condensed Matter Physics, Computational Fluid Dynamics, Computer Science/Tools, Civil Protection, Finance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Define network SLAs for e2e paths between EGEE Resource Centers Network SLA template definition SLA monitoring IP-level performance and reliability
SORMA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of a platform that allows the dynamic trading of ICT resources "on-demand" Transparent resource management for end users 	July 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Video Rendering Service Demand forecasting service in SCM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring Trading Reputation management
ArguGrid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enact the reasoning and decision making processes and negotiation required for dynamic composition of Grid resources and services into executable workflows, using argumentative agents to support Grid service providers and requestors (agent based) Grid-enabled e-business applications where multiple service requestors and providers exist 	May 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earth Observation E-Procurement: Business Planning & Outsourcing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Response time and availability
ASSESSGRID	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk assessment methods as decision support for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accepting/rejecting SLAs Price/penalty negotiation Fault-tolerance actions Capacity planning 	Dec. 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High performance Computing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk evaluation (probability of Failure of an SLA) SLA negotiation SLA monitoring SLA workflow (pre-reservation) SLA discovery (brokering) SLA-aware scheduling

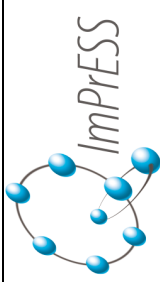


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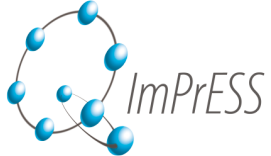
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BREIN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Virtual Organization implementation by multi-agent and semantic Web 	Aug. 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Virtual Engineering Virtual Organization (Stakeholder: ANSYS) - Virtual Hub flights (Stakeholder: Stuttgart Airport) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Semantic Annotations to SLAs - SLA Negotiation - SLA-based Resource Brokering - SLA Monitoring and Evaluation - Mapping of SLA terms
IRMOS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Design, develop and validate a Service Oriented Infrastructure which will allow the adoption of interactive real-time applications 	Jan. 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Real time applications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mapping between high-level application and fine-grained resource-level attributes (response time, concurrency, throughput, availability, data stream synchronization, reliability, isolation, latency, jitter) - Mapping between business-level objectives to resource management policies and vice versa - Planning & creation of a network of services - QoS control mechanisms (redundancy, fault tolerance, etc.) - Timely scheduling of services running on different shares of a resource
BEinGrid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exploit European Grid middleware by creating a toolset repository of Grid services from across the Grid research domain and to use these services to deliver a set of successful business experiments (25) that stimulate the early adoption of Grid technologies across the European Union 	Dec. 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 12 different sectors: retailing, architecture, textile, finance. Q-ImPRESS interested in service based experiments - BE09: online game platform, SLA to govern game creation and execution (network speed, RAM, CPU, and no. players) - BE25: eHealth, SLA for peak demand computation nodes (resource availability and job execution time) - BE20: Telecom Fraud, SLA for data rate exchange (data exchange frequency) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Negotiation - Optimization - Monitoring - Accounting



SmartLM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Realize software licenses as services providing platform independent access like other virtualized resource - Define and implement new service-oriented business models - Adapt a number of widely-used license-protected commercial applications to be executed under control of the new licensing mechanisms 	July 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Co-allocation of computational resources and licenses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SLA topics (availability, reliability): - SLA Modelling - SLA Negotiation and re-negotiation - Trust & Security aspects - SLA Monitoring
RESERVOIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ICT infrastructure for reliable and effective delivery of services as utilities - Services on demand integrating grid and virtualization technologies 	Jan. 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cloud computing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SLA Monitoring (HTTP traffic, CPU) - SLA Protection (dynamic resource provisioning) - SLA violations accounting and billing - SLA metrics (Throughput, Response time, Isolation, Reliability, Availability, Minimum Bandwidth, etc.)
SLA@SOI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Holistic view for the management of SLA and to SLA management framework implementation - Advanced engineering methodologies for creation of predictable and manageable services 	May 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ERP as a Service - SOA Applications - Business Applications - Financial Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Automated e-contracting framework - Grounding of SLAs from the business level to the infrastructure - Exploitation of virtualization technologies at infrastructure level for SLA enforcement

Table 2: Projects goals and QoS & SLA related topics.

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The project closest to Q-ImPRESS, in terms of research aims and application scenario, is SLA@SOI, which focuses on multiple layers and SLA interrelationships of SOA applications. SLA@SOI could possibly support Q-ImPRESS trade-off analyses with its results on negotiation of multiple quality attributes. Furthermore, SLA@SOI could exploit the Q-ImPRESS architecture evolution analysis approach. FZI and PMI have already established contacts with SLA@SOI participants and in the next stages of the CWG will actively involve SLA@SOI partners.

Q-ImPRESS will also try to start collaboration with the RESERVOIR project participants, since cloud computing is one of the most futuristic applications of SOA and virtualization will support the implementation of upcoming Service Oriented Infrastructures. Hence, RESERVOIR could provide very interesting scenarios for the validation of the Q-ImPRESS research.

In the next stages of the CWG Q-ImPRESS will be involved in the revision of the research matrix and of the *Service Level Objectives Document*, whose goal is to introduce a common terminology on services and QoS issues among the CWG participants. Furthermore, Q-ImPRESS will be involved in the *QoS & SLA CWG whitepaper*, whose goal is to describe QoS and SLAs in terms of the description of work of each project in order to help new future European projects to join the CWG. This document will also be updated periodically to include the achieved results of each project, in order to support the exploitation of the research results by different projects and to further identify collaboration points.

Finally, other case studies for the validation of the Q-ImPRESS framework will be possibly considered from the *Use Cases Collaboration Working Group*.

2.2.2 Participation in the CWG on Contribution to Standards

Q-ImPRESS is interested in the upcoming UPMS (UML Profile and Meta-model for Services) standard and any related standards that might be proposed on modelling QoS related aspects. In order to achieve the maximum impact from the collaboration with the relevant standardisation bodies, it participates in the CWG on Contribution to Standards. The CWG represents the standardisation interests of SSAI&E projects and would allow to approach the standardisation body with a consistent proposal for improvements adequate for all participating projects (as expressed by the dotted line in Figure 1).

The participation in the CWG on Contribution to Standards could especially greatly support dissemination effort in the Q-ImPRESS project, as it would enable the project partners to keep project results aligned with the state-of-the-art standards and technologies. In consequence, a stronger interest in the Q-ImPRESS modelling tools and meta-models can be expected on the side of potential industrial users of the methodology.

The first session of the CWG on Contribution to Standards took place together with the first QoS & SLA CWG session in Brussels on 22.09.2008. The lead of the CWG, NESSI (Networked European Software & Services Initiative), gave CWG members an overview of available approaches and strategies for possible collaborations with the standardisation bodies. In order to maximize efforts of individual CWG members and to be able to regard their specific expectations on the standardisation collaboration, NESSI provides a set of technologies, methods and tools that are needed to manage services technically, which are called NESSI Open Service Framework (NEXOF). This framework makes up a consistent basis for the standard compliance of the member projects' results. The way to the NEXOF leads through the NEXOF Reference Architecture (NEXOF-RA), whose goal is to provide design guidelines for NESSI strategic projects (EzWEB, MASTER, RESERVOIR,

SLA@SOI, SOA4ALL). To give any CWG member the possibility to make contributions to the NEXOF-RA, an Open Contribution Process for the NEXOF-RA is defined and provided by NESSI as a universal platform for contributing to the standards, as depicted in Figure 2. This iterative approach allows to coherently integrate project results into NEXOF.

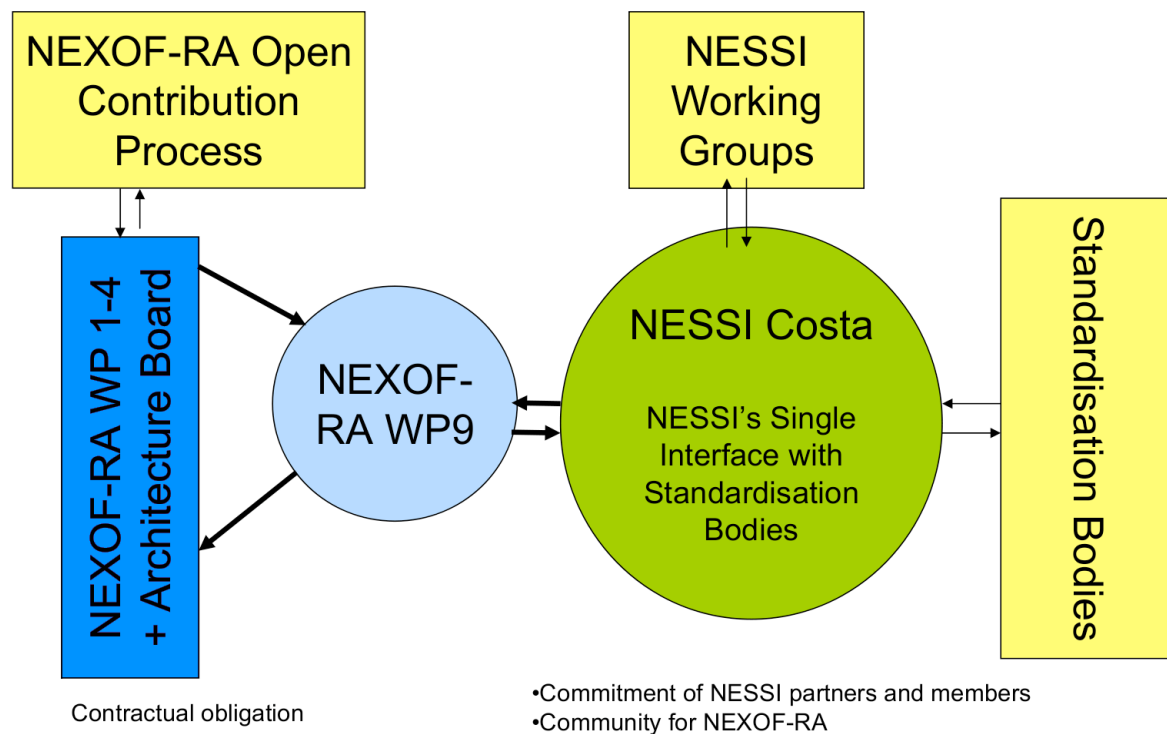


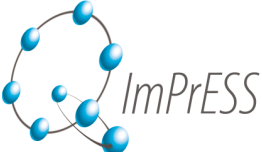
Figure 2: NEXOF-RA Open Contribution Process

2.2.3 Joint Dissemination Activities

The Q-ImPrESS project organized a number of joint collaboration events, to which other SSAI&E projects have been invited to participate. In addition to these events, the Q-ImPrESS project has also joint events organized by other SSAI&E projects.

The table below gives an overview of the implemented joint dissemination activities, either organized or attended by members of the Q-ImPrESS consortium in M1-M12.

ORGANISED EVENTS			
Euromicro SEAA – Quality and SOA session			
Date:	03.09.2008	Link:	http://seaa2008.isti.cnr.it/
Responsible:	PMI	Location:	Parma, Italy
Participation:	Open to anyone (call for papers)		
Euromicro SEAA – Panel on SOA and Quality			
Date:	05.09.2008	Link:	http://seaa2008.isti.cnr.it/
Responsible:	PMI, MDU	Location:	Parma, Italy
Participation:	PLASTIC, SECSE, Q-ImPrESS		
COMPARCH – Panel on Extra-functional Contracts versus Service Level Agreements			
Date:	15.10.2008	Link:	http://comparch2008.ipd.uka.de/

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Responsible:	FZI	Location:	Karlsruhe, Germany
Participation:	SLA@SOI, Q-ImPrESS		
QoSA 2008 – Quality of Software Architectures			
Date:	14.10.2008	Link:	http://qosa.ipd.uka.de/QoSA08
Responsible:	FZI	Location:	Karlsruhe, Germany
Participation:	Open to anyone (call for papers)		

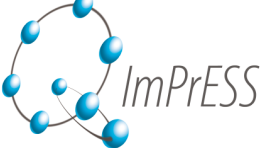
ATTENDED EVENTS			
ARAMIS Workshop – Invited project paper			
Date:	16.09.2008	Link:	http://www.selab.isti.cnr.it/Aramis2008/
Responsible:	FZI	Location:	L'Aquila, Italy
Participation:	PLASTIC, SHADOWS, Q-ImPrESS		

2.2.4 Showcase on Enterprise SOA

The development of an Enterprise SOA Showcase matches the goals of another ICT project, SLA@SOI. In order to address the needs of both projects, a special collaboration task force on Enterprise SOA Showcase has been initiated. Its first meeting took place on 18.04.2008 at the Forschungszentrum Informatik (FZI) in Karlsruhe. Both partners shortly introduced their projects and gave an overview of the current project state with a focus on the Showcase development. From the side of SLA@SOI, the first ideas and expectations on the Showcase concept have been identified and discussed. ITE was able to present a preliminary version of the Showcase, which had been already developed in the early project stage. Although technically not reflecting the final version, the functional side of the runnable Showcase helped both partners to become more concrete on their visions and goals during the discussion. It was decided to further elaborate technical and functional aspects of both Showcases to take a closer look at possible interaction scenarios in the next meeting.

The second meeting of the task force took place on 10.12.2008 again at the FZI in Karlsruhe. For this meeting both partners prepared initial versions of their Showcase implementations in order to identify feasible interaction scenarios for both systems. The presented Showcase versions were equipped as follows:

- SLA@SOI Showcase consisted of a single system incorporating load generator and workflow processing systems. The implemented scenario reflects typical business processes in a large supermarket chain: the sales process and the order process. The sales process includes goods processing at the cash desk and the order process describes ordering of goods from the central or regional warehouse. The load generator simulates customers in the stores, and allows to control the incoming load for the sales process. The initial version of the Showcase covered only a simple one-store case with an unlimited warehouse.
- Q-ImPrESS Showcase presented by ITE included a more elaborated version of the addressed business scenario, described in the Project Deliverable D8.7 „Collaboration Plan“ on p. 10. To reinforce the importance of the Showcase as a realistic business process simulator, it has been enriched with further sources of business-relevant information like customers, products and pricing management. It now includes individual systems for customer management (CRM), product management (PDM)

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and Pricing information (Pricing) each of them exposing a separate Web frontend allowing to browse and to edit stored information. They also have been provided with a number of Web Services, designed to be used in the Showcase as well as by external systems, requiring business information from the Showcase. This allows the definition of an order generation process and its implemented by means of a distributed system with interactions resembling real world communication scenarios. Furthermore, the Showcase included a re-implemented version of the Shipment simulator, which has been now adjusted to generate shipment information depending on the current product availability in the inventory. This approach allows to vary product availability for different product groups and consequently to affect the order shipping time depending on the customer ordering profile. In case of a later data analysis through a BI system, this aspect plays an important role to create realistic business reports on the simulated business process.

By discussing the available interfaces in the Q-ImPrESS Showcase, the identification of feasible cooperation scenarios between the two systems became possible. The following ideas came up during the meeting:

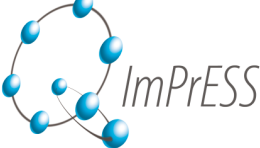
- SLA@SOI Showcase requires a source of pricing information. It is planned that the supermarket stores will be provided with a certain autonomy in the price management, i.e. will have a local price database. However, possible extension of the business process with a Payback System will require integration of an external system for discounts into the workflow. This will allow handling customers with special discount conditions, managed centrally in the enterprise-level systems. In order to check for applicable discounts for each sale, the Pricing system from the Q-ImPrESS Showcase can be employed. Currently implemented functionality for volume and customer type discounts can be adjusted for this purpose to include information about the Payback customer number. This way a simple and straight integration between both Showcases will be achieved.
- In the current version, SLA@SOI Showcase does not feature inventory management for the supermarket stores. To implement this functionality, the store will have to monitor its warehouse state and to continuously monitor and replenish it according to the sold goods. This requires that goods will be ordered from the central warehouse and requires an order processing workflow. The Q-ImPrESS Showcase can offer the required order placement interfaces and supply the SLA@SOI Showcase with the shipment information. Such integration on the one side would help to put realistic load onto the Q-ImPrESS showcase and on the other side to implement the order process in the SLA@SOI Showcase.

2.2.5 Other Collaboration Efforts

Several collaboration activities lie outside of the direct scopes of the aforementioned task forces or groups, but still play an important role in the overall collaboration strategy. These activities are described separately in the following section.

OMG Technical Meeting in Ottawa

Two representatives of the Q-ImPrESS consortium attended the OMG Technical Meeting in Ottawa, Canada during July 23 to July 27, 2008. The first objective was to establish direct

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contact with this standardisation body. The OMG is currently working on the upcoming UML Profile and Metamodel for Services (UPMS). The Q-ImPRESS consortium intends to closely monitor and possibly influence the development of this upcoming standard. The Q-ImPRESS representatives established contact with the co-chair of the relevant OMG SOA Special Interest Group (SIG), who is working on the current UPMS draft. The OMG contacts were interested in the efforts of the Q-ImPRESS research project. Contributions to the current UPMS draft are welcome, although the OMG demands contributors to be OMG members. For Q-ImPRESS this means, at least one of the consortium partners must be an OMG member in order to get closer in contact with the standardisation body. Towards that end, both FZI is currently evaluating the possibility to reactivate its previous OMG membership and join the SOA SIG.

The second objective for the Q-ImPRESS representatives was to create awareness of the ongoing efforts in interested research and industry groups. In order to accomplish this goal, the representatives joined the SOA consortium meeting, which was co-located with the OMG technical meeting. The SOA consortium is a SOA advocacy group comprised of end users, service providers and technology vendors, committed to help the general adoption of SOA. Members of the SOA consortium attend regular meetings and exchange new developments in SOA-related areas, as well as problems which arise with the adoption of SOA. The prediction of quality attributes within service oriented systems was an issue which was brought up during the discussion at the SOA consortium meeting. The participants of the meeting were interested in the efforts currently under way in the Q-ImPRESS project. After the meeting, interested parties were provided with additional information on the goals of the Q-ImPRESS project and its current working status. One of the interested parties was a representative of the European THALES group. As a consequence, a first follow-up meeting took place between representatives of the Q-ImPRESS consortium and the THALES group. Both parties intend to stay in close contact, as the issues addressed by the Q-ImPRESS project are also current research topics within the THALES group.

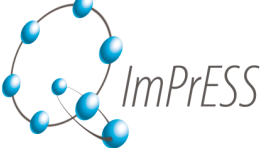
Internet of Services 2008 – Collaboration Meeting for FP6 & FP7 projects

Q-ImPRESS attended the event “Internet of Services 2008 - Collaboration Meeting for FP6 & FP7 projects” (http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ict/ssai/events-20080922-23-cm-soft_en.html). During this event some CWGs also had their first meeting (see above). Besides participating in the CWG meetings, the Q-ImPRESS project participated in the demonstrator session. Unfortunately, the received feedback was very limited, because the focus was mainly on FP6 not FP7 projects. In our opinion the reason for this was the fact that most FP7 projects only started a few months before this event. At that stage most of the projects were concentrated on their own research and were not yet ready for intensive collaboration.

As a result of this – with the exception of the CWG – no concrete “next steps” were identified and agreed upon. Nevertheless some promising contacts to other projects were established. This will potentially facilitate further collaboration at a later stage, when all projects reach a more stable development phase.

For example we identified SHAPE (<http://www.shape-project.eu>) as a potential project for future collaboration. SHAPE is highly related to UPMS and Model Driven Engineering and therefore an excellent collaboration candidate for Q-ImPRESS on the following topics:

- Exchange of contacts to standardization bodies
- Progress monitoring of upcoming UPMS meta-model
- Easier contribution to UPMS

	First Collaboration Report: D8.8	
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3 Conclusions

Right now we are in an early stage of inter-project collaboration. It is currently not possible to finally evaluate the current effort and its outcome. It has to be mentioned that inter-project collaboration could only be the second step. Some partners of the Q-ImPrESS consortium didn't know each other prior to project start and therefore good and reliable relations/collaboration between partners from various domains and with various cultures had to be established first. Prior to inter-project collaboration stable and common deliverables have to be available. As soon as the first versions of the Service Architecture Meta-Model (available), the Enterprise SOA showcase (available) and the method and workflow documentation (M16) are available, the Q-ImPrESS consortium plans to expand its collaboration efforts.