News letter

Issue n° 2 Summer 2011

USiXML

Editorial

We present to you today the second UsiXML news letter that follows the dissemination of information about our UsiXML project that will enhance the business domain of model based design by introducing this approach to the design phase of user interfaces!
We wanted to thank all external partners who are becoming more and more numerous, demonstrating their trust in UsiXML by registering to our End User Club, as Promoters, as Supporters and even as simply Observers !

D. Faure, Project Manager and J. Vanderdonckt, Scientific Coordinator.

Status of the project

Our first phase on the meta modelling of the UsiXML language is currently ended, all meta-models are released and the consortium has defined the syntaxes. Our tools designers are working hard to provide the consortium and our Supporters and Promoters with our first version of tools!
The future work around our demonstrators has started and will be exhibited during the ITEA2 symposium in Helsinki next October.
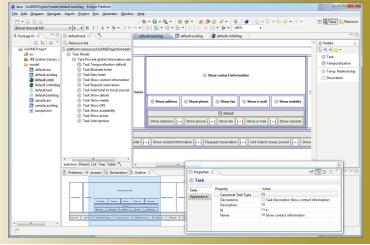
Beta version of Tools available

Thanks to the work of the UsiXML Consortium we are now able to propose a first working version of the editors, based on the meta-model definitions. The UsiXML development environment is currently composed by four model editors covering the Domain, Task, Context and Abstract User Interface meta-models. They were developed as Eclipse plugins using the EMF, GMP and GEF technologies. These editors generate models that follow the XMI OMG standard.

The **Task model editor** supports full editing functionality on: Tasks, Decorations, Compositions, Temporalizations and Temporal Relationships.

The **Context model editor** supports full editing functionality on: Observables, Zones, States, Constraints, Variables, Extensions, Observations, Representation and Observations.

The **Abstract User Interface model editor** supports the editing of the following subset of features defined by the abstract user interface meta-model: CompoundUI, DataUI, SelectionUI, RatingUI, AuthenticationUI, CaptchaUI and TriggerUI.

The **Domain model editor** supports a basic set of functionality including the creation of Classes, Interfaces, Associations, Realizations, Generalizations, Attributes and Methods.

The future works that will be done on these tools will be the introduction of additional features such as the improvement of model verification and new editing and design features.

www.eclipse.org/modeling/emf, www.eclipse.org/modeling/gmp, www.eclipse.org/gef, www.omg.org/spec/XMI/2.4/Beta2.

ITEA 2

Future Events & Demonstrations

During the Interact'2011 conference, planned for september, three events will be organized: A **workshop** on "Software Support for User Interface Description Language"; A **tutorial about** "Context-aware adaptation of user interfaces" and a **Special Interest Group** on User Interface eXtensible Markup Language. Don't hesitate to register and participate in these events!

INTERACT 2011
13th IFIP TC13 Conference on Human-Computer Interaction
Lisbon, Portugal
September. 5-9 2011

The UsiXML project will have a large booth in the next Co-Summit exhibition in Helsinki next October. This event will be the opportunity for you to meet members of our consortium, to learn about our research results and to look at our tools and demonstrations!

What are the limits of UsiXML models regarding the large panel of applications ? First, the **SurMar demonstrator** shows that UsiXML is relevant for Maritime Surveillance HMI modelling in a real Thales business domain !

Second, the **Walkaware demonstrator** in the domain of tourism will show the capabilities of UsiXML to design user interfaces for multiple devices ranging from web applications to interactive stands, GPS devices and smartphone.

The **Compose demonstrator** innovates by dynamically generating a UsiXML task model from the specification of an opportunistic user goal. In turn it triggers the UsiXML tools suite so as to generate a User Interface compliant with the task model and the current context of use. The Compose software is based on planning algorithms.

Last but not least, the UsiXML consortium will present the new version of the **UsiXML web site** designed in ... UsiXML !

Moreover, visiting our booth you will be provided with explanations and demonstrations about our tools.

25 & 26 OCTOBER
Helsinki, Finland
CO-SUMMIT 2011
CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION FOR CLEAN TECHNOLOGIES

Publications / Press release

ITEA2 M Magazine

A press article in the issue 10 of the ITEA2 magazine will be published during the Autumn about Modelling. The ITEA2 projects UsiXML and Modelisar will be presented.

Who's who ?   Focus on Nathalie Aquino's work

Nathalie Aquino is a PhD student at the Research Center on Software Production Methods of the Universitat Politècnica de Valéncia (UPV), Spain, since 2007.

Her PhD thesis focuses on the definition of an approach to include Interaction Modeling in Model-Driven Software Development environments. She is designing and implementing a software production process where users can model user interfaces with a high degree of personalization. This is achieved by defining a set of parameters which are used to guide user interface model transformations. The parameters makes it possible to distinguish clearly at the conceptual modelling level an Abstract User Interface from its Concrete representation in a given operational context. This includes both perspectives in a sound conceptual schema-based software production method. This approach is being implemented in a commercial MDD-based tool to assess its utility.

Her principle areas of research and interest include software engineering, human computer interaction, and model-driven engineering of user interfaces.

More information at http://www.pros.upv.es/

Nathalie Aquino

Registration

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UsiXML Vision

Advanced user interface development made easy with model-based approaches. The UsiXML project develops the open UsiXML language along with the tool suite that will simplify and improve the development of user interfaces for complex dynamic environments. This includes multi-device, multi-modal, multi-user, multi-culture/language, multi-organisation, multi-context, and multi-platform user interfaces. It will provide particular benefits for industry in terms of productivity, usability and accessibility. The overall goal is to promote UsiXML as a standard that will guarantee user interface usability and accessibility while improving developers' productivity**.**

The End-User Club

a network of active players interested in UsiXML developments

End-User Club membership is free and will remain open! The End-User Club is the opportunity for interested parties outside of the UsiXML consortium to forge new relations with other members of the UsiXML consortium to discover opportunities for developing novel applications related to the domain and the possibility of joint participation in future RTD projects. Members of the End-User Club are entitled to participate in the UsiXML information and demonstration days, to open discussions, seminars and tutorials, as well as to special events such as workshops organized in conjunction with key international conferences.

Current Supporters and Promoters of UsiXML End User Club were provided with access to our state of the art on User Interface Description Language, to the description of the workflow system to integrate new evolutions into the UsiXML language, to the first version of the tools requirements and now they will be given access to the released tools. Do not hesitate to register !

End User Club members

I am Observer of **USIXML**

Observer

Express their interest for the project, its goals, scientific results, methods, tools or demonstrators.

Université Lille1 — Fraunhofer FIT — altfactor e-content — iwt — cbt Communication Engineering — TAMPERE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

TU WIEN Vienna University of Technology — LAMIH — OULUN YLIOPISTO UNIVERSITY of OULU — universiteit hasselt — SAP — FUNDAÇÃO EDSON QUEIROZ UNIVERSIDADE DE FORTALEZA ENSINANDO E APRENDENDO — Swansea University

lifl — SIVECO ROMANIA SA Software that matters — Loria — (Z)odianet Home Robotics — Systems Ltd. — PROCTON Labs — opéraergonomie improvehumanexperience

NIST National Institute of Standards and Technology — fortiss innovation in software and systems — CTIC — ufscar — LogSys Your IT in Logistics — OASIS Advancing open standards for the information society

SuperOffice. — BARCO Visibly yours — D-CIS LAB — DCNS — sopheon — innovalia ASSOCIATION

I am Supporter of **USIXML**

Supporter

Express their interest for specific results of the project (from meta-models to validators) and wish to receive information.

UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA DE AGUASCALIENTES — Tecnomatica — TELECOM Bretagne — utc Université de Technologie Compiègne — FSG Faculté des Sciences de Gabès — IUT INSTITUT UNIVERSITAIRE DE TECHNOLOGIE LA ROCHELLE — VTT

I am Promoter of **USIXML**

Promoter

Express their interest for UsiXML goals and plan to create demonstrator using the UsiXML language and tools.

SODIUS — UNIVERSITÉ Poitiers — tudor PUBLIC RESEARCH CENTRE HENRI TUDOR — IRIT Institut de Recherche en Informatique de Toulouse — ulm university universität uulm

ITEA 2

Focus on partners

Namahn

Namahn is a user-centered design consultancy based in Brussels, Belgium. We help clients design digital products in a user-centered way (as opposed to technology-centered). Our clients' aim is to deploy a product that is a pleasure to use, appropriate to the context of use, and leads to error-free operation. Namahn works on 'digital products', that is, software-based products such as consumer electronics devices, kiosks, portals, knowledge bases, enterprise systems, decision support systems or equipment consoles. Any user interface can be improved or radically transformed by applying Namahn's rigorous approach to design centered around the user. Namahn delivers more than just appropriate and approachable products.

Baum Engineering

BAUM Engineering was founded in 1999. The company is focused on designing and implementing software and hardware products for blind and visually impaired peoples. Our screen reader COBRA, is the most sophisticated MSAM based screen-reader. Braille displays from the Vario family are designed in our company and are produced in Germany; these devices are the most advanced available on the market. We offer a wide range of electronic devices and software products for educational, professional and private use to provide opportunities for visually impaired and blind people to access computer technology which will enable these individuals to achieve independence and improve their quality of life. Our products are designed to insure access to culture, information and communication technology. We use our expertise in assistive technology fabrication to improve the accessibility of visual impaired people to third party software products.

W4

W4 is a SME, software editor, with about 60 persons, created in 1996. The company is located in Massy, France (Paris area) and has already participated in various Front-End related European projects.

Lyria (www.lyria.com), editor of the LEONARDI framework, was taken over by W4 in 2004 (www.w4.eu), a leading French BPM (Business Process Management) editor. As a result, W4 now provides products merging Model Driven concepts with BPM. W4 is particularly visible in the tool market for rapid application development and is increasing its market shares in the field of interactive business oriented applications.

UsiXML End User Club Flyer can be accessed at http://www.usixml.eu/end_user_club

Registration

David.Faure@thalesgroup.com