

New research project for itemis AG with Intershop and University of Leipzig AMOR-concept triggers a lot of international interest

Lünen / Leipzig – 14th April 2009. With AMOR, itemis AG, the technological leader for model based software development, has entered a new association - concealed behind the four letters is not the Roman god of love, but the new research project »Advanced Model-Repository«. In this context the itemis branch in Leipzig is developing a general concept, together with the Institute for Applied Informatics (InfAI), University of Leipzig and Intershop Communications AG, which is a leading solution provider for the electronics trade, to manage the program parts known as artefacts in model based software development.

In the research project, that runs until the end of November 2011 and which is supported by the German Federal Ministry of Research & Development in the form of a support program »IKT 2020 – Forschung für Innovation (Research for Innovation)«, the technology partners itemis AG and InfAI design a Model-Repository and build a prototype as a solution based on »Eclipse«, the worlds leading Open-Source-Platform for speciality tools.

The AMOR-concept strives for a satisfactory and efficient solution for the management of the artefacts in the model based development, which is playing a major roll in the continuous industrialisation of the software industry. Up till now, especially in the distributed, incremental development of systems, problems appear due to the concurrent working process and the different artefact versions.

»AMOR can help to strengthen the leading position of German companies in tool development for software producers«, says a convinced Steffen Stundzig. The manager of the itemis branch in Leipzig sees, as well as the other parties involved in the project, that there is a good chance that there will be a large acceptance by international software vendors: »The project itself already has the interest from overseas companies«, Stundzig reports.

Excellent prospects in follow-up projects

The repository developed within the scope of the AMOR-project, in which the models are searchable, versionable and become archived reusable, will get deployed and tested by application partner Intershop Communications AG. The E-Commerce-Software of Intershop is used by many large German online-traders, including Otto, Quelle and Tchibo.

However, the AMOR-concept also supports model driven development in any other area of application without further ado. »For this reason there exist excellent prospects to initiate concrete follow-up projects in those the repository gets used«, says Stundzig.

In the foreground of the AMOR-project stands the use of free and existing development tools, which are already strongly widespread among small- to middle-sized companies. By opening it as an Open-Source-Project based on »Eclipse«, external interested parties can also integrate the development results without paying license fees and have active influence on the further development of AMOR.

Latest info on the project can be found on the website <http://model-repository.de>.

About Intershop

Intershop Communications AG (founded 1992) is a leading provider of innovative and comprehensive e-commerce solutions. The company provides with Enfinity Suite 6, a powerful standard for distributing via the Internet, all associated services as well as comprehensive online marketing

services. Beyond that Intershop takes over the entire process chain of the online commerce including fulfilment on behalf of its customers. World-wide, over 300 large and medium-size enterprises and organizations are working with Intershop. Among them are HP, BMW, Bosch, Otto, Tchibo, Deutsche Telekom and Quelle.

In the past, Intershop already has carried out and successfully finished various research projects cooperatively with universities and other partners. AMOR is also built-on the results of these projects. Furthermore, AMOR is the next necessary step in the introduction of the model-driven software development in a practical application, since it provides the technologies needed for a model repository.

In this project Intershop functions as an application partner, who practically tests the repository or as the case may be its concepts.

About the Institute for Applied Informatics (InfAI) *Registered society*

The Institute for Applied Informatics, *Registered society*, (InfAI) is an association of professors of computer science and economic informatics at the University of Leipzig. It is an affiliated institute of the University of Leipzig and was founded in 2006.

The InfAI has set itself the goal for the non-profitable promotion of science and research in the fields of computer science and economic informatics. For this purpose it accomplishes interdisciplinary research projects, whereby their results are made available to the public and in particular, flow back into the University of Leipzig. There they also serve as the development of instructional contents for students studying computer science and economic informatics. Beyond this it makes way for organizing workshops, symposiums and conventions.

Furthermore the InfAI participates in the Special Interest Group for »Model Driven Software-Engineering«, (SIG-MDSE). This interest group, consisting of experts from economics and science, devote themselves to model based and architecture centred software development. Through regular workshops a transfer of knowledge takes place between economics and science. These collective experiences, which are predominately practice-oriented, may also be included in the project. The InfAI is the scientific partner in this project.

About itemis AG

The Company

The itemis AG, which have their headquarters in Lünen, is an independent IT-consulting firm. The company was founded in 2003 and now have over 120 employees in several locations throughout Germany as well as in France and Switzerland since last year.

Eclipse-Engagement

Alongside SAP and Sopera, itemis AG is one of the five strategic Eclipse-members based in Germany. The Lünen company provides a team of eight developers who assist in the Eclipse Modeling Project (EMP) and are substantially involved in the Open-Source Generator Framework, openArchitectureWare (oAW). Wolfgang Neuhaus, executive of itemis AG, and head of software development Ed Merks are both members of the »Eclipse-Foundation« committee.

Product and Market

The itemis AG is a sector independent technological leader in the area of automated software development. It offers software development tools and services for the markets of business applications and embedded systems.

Awards

The itemis AG obtained the seal of quality »TOP 100« for their achievements and thus is one of the five most innovative companies of German medium-sized businesses. In the category »innovation supporting top management« the company got ranked in first place.

In January this year the itemis AG was decorated as Top-Employer and won first prize in the category »employee development and perspectives«. Altogether it came in eighth place in the overall standings of the »TopJob« competition.

You will find further information on the company and current research projects under www.itemis.com

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