

Minitrack Introduction
Enterprise Systems Architecting: Theory, Practice & Challenges
in the
Organizational Systems and Technology Track

The Enterprise Systems Architecting (ESA) minitrack is focusing on the challenges that ESA represents to organizations. Three papers have been selected that represent different aspects of these challenges.

Our first paper is "Enterprise Software Architecture as a Consistent Model for the CIO" by Mathias Ekstedt, P. Johnson, A. Lindstrom, M. Gammelgard, E. Johansson, L. Plazaola, E. Silva, and J. Lilieskold. One of the challenges facing CIOs is IT portfolio investment and management. The authors relate the utility of knowledge to the cost of IT acquisition. They provide an approach for assessing the cost of acquiring information about IT against the cost of maintaining a consistent ESA. The CIO must weight these costs in determining the frequency with which the architectural model is updated.

Our second paper is "An Information System Architectural Framework for Enterprise Application Integration" by André Vasconcelos, M. da Silva, A. Fernandes, and J. Tribolet. An ESA must support the integration and interoperation of architectural elements – both intra- and inter-organization. The authors describe how to represent integration requirements and a model for representing and understanding real world IT integration needs.

Our third paper is "Process Portals – Architecture and Integration" by Thomas Puschmann and Rainer Alt. Process portals are an emerging major architectural element that allow organizations to provide access to services and information. Current architectural styles do not adequately address process portal requirements. The authors describe an extended ESA and discuss a case study that shows how to standardize portal functions and implications for architectural models.