Workshop on Project Coordination

Introduction

A major requirement for the creation and management of virtual corporations is distributed project coordination, which was the focus of the “Project Coordination” track of WET ICE '96. Virtual corporations are temporary associations among heterogeneous groups and organizations based on the key competencies of its members.

This task includes project planning and scheduling, execution of projects, coordination of activities, resolution of competing objectives, achievement of global coherence, change propagation, communication across heterogeneous groups, and maintenance of access to valid information. Without these and other similar functions, the work becomes disorganized, and the twin goals of time compression and cost reduction cannot be achieved.

The workshop was organized by Frank Maurer (University of Kaiserslautern, Germany), Charles Petrie (Stanford University, USA), and Johan Vanwelkenhuysen (INRIA/Acacia, France). It consisted of nine paper presentations and a lot of discussions. The discussions resulted in a collection of requirements on project coordination support systems and a proposal of a generic architecture of such a tool. Information concerning the workshop is available via the World Wide Web at http://wwwagr.informatik.uni-kl.de/~maurer/WETICE96.html.

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