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The KIT

Knowledge & Information Technology



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→ TECHTalk: Bertrand Meyer on Requirements Engineering

Coming very soon to a webinar near you!

On March 4, at 9:00 PST / noon EST / 18:00 CET, Prof. Bertrand Meyer, creator of the Eiffel language and currently Professor of Software Engineering and Provost at the Schaffhausen Institute of Technology in Switzerland, will discuss "The Four PEGS of Requirements Engineering" (and will explain what the acronym means -- no spoiler here).

"Bad software requirements can jeopardize projects. There is a considerable literature on requirements, but practice is far behind: what passes for requirements in industry usually consists of a few use cases or user stories, which are useful but not sufficient as a solution. [...] Meyer will present ongoing work intended to help industry produce more useful requirements. It

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includes precise definitions of requirements concepts and a standard plan for requirements specifications, intended to replace the venerable but woefully obsolete IEEE standard from 1998."

The webinar is hosted by ACM as part of their TECHTalk series.

[Register here](#) to attend or to receive the link to the recording if you cannot attend in real time.

Forward this issue to colleagues and friends!



OMG Cloud Working Group Meeting -- Agenda and Keynote Speaker

The first quarter meeting of the Object Management Group (the fifth virtual one in a row) is coming up, and as usual the Cloud Working Group session is open to all. The CWG, co-chaired by Claude Baudoin, will meet on March 24 from 10 am to 3 pm EDT (7 am--noon PDT, 15:00-20:00 CET).

Our keynote speaker (at 10:30 EDT) will be Jordan Fischer, Esq., from the law firm of Beckage, on "security, privacy, laws and regulations, and the cloud" (working title). There will also be updates on the work of the Cloud Security Alliance and of ISO, IEEE, and ANSI committees on cloud and security standards. The agenda is not fully set yet, but you can see it (and the teleconference instructions) [here](#).

While the meeting is open, we have a technical limit of 150 participants. If you are not one of our usual participants and wish to attend, please [let us know](#) so we have an idea whom to expect.



StandICT.eu

The "Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Standardisation Observatory and Support Facility in Europe" is quite a mouthful, so its abbreviation StandICT.eu will nicely do. This new organization has two functions:

- serve as an observatory on standards activities, publishing periodic reports
- provide funding (€3 million for the 2021-2023 period) to "support participation of European standardization specialists in key international and global SDOs and consortia."

[Click here](#) for more detailed information and a list of calls for participation.



Cloud Computing Collected References

A bibliography of about 340 references, compiled from the work of the OMG Cloud Working group over the last 10 years, has been assembled and "scrubbed" of outdated links, and was approved for publication a few days ago. [Click here](#) to download or view the bibliography (PDF).



Top Trends in Knowledge Management in 2021

KMWorld held a webinar on Feb. 23 to review the evolution of KM. The panelists were Stéphan Donzé (AODocs), Mark Hammer (Bloomfire), David Karandish (Capacity), and Marydee Ojala (Information Today) was the moderator.

A number of buzzwords were thrown around: "intelligent aggregation," "actionability," and more. Karandish was focused on KM for customer service, saying that "a perfect experience means self-service, anticipation, automation, speed, integration, escalation" (SAASIE). Improving the customer's experience is certainly a good business case for KM, but it is not the only one, and we increasingly see the narrower focus in discussions and papers.

Donzé had by far the more strategic view. Because of the pandemic, "we're in the middle of the largest proof-of-concept of working remotely." Sharing documents in the cloud has replaced the meeting room and has been a key enabler of continued economic activity. Companies have wanted to control their information space (lifecycle, metadata, permissions, version control, business process automation) but users want a more open collaborative environment, and companies can no longer prevent them from accessing the cloud tools they want. This speaker also pointed out a second trend: AI has become better than humans at processing natural language or recognizing pictures, which enables the automatic classification and indexing of documents.

Seen Recently...

"Given that Solarwinds' CEO decided to blame an intern for an issue, I wanted to take a moment to explain my thoughts on what interns should be blamed for. First, malfeasance. If they act dishonestly or unethically, that's their fault. There is no second item on the list. The entire point of an internship is to learn. If that learning damages the company, either the company has failed to supervise the intern, or their processes need improvement. Often it's both. If a company views interns as scapegoats or as cheap labor, they're wrong and you shouldn't consider interning there."

-- [Corey Quinn](#), cloud analyst and frequent poster about Amazon Web Services

