Service-Oriented Architecture

Concepts, Technology, and Design

Thomas Erl



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ISBN 0-13-185858-0

Text printed in the United States on recycled paper at R.R. Donnelley in Crawfordsville, Indiana. First printing, July 2005

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Preface

Authoring this book involved nearly a year of writing, research, and staying on top of a subject matter that is constantly expanding its reach and importance. Although the majority of the chapters focus on service-oriented architecture from a vendor-neutral perspective, achieving an accurate representation of this perspective required that I spend a great deal of time evaluating SOA support in all primary vendor platforms. As part of this research stage I spoke with more than a hundred senior IT professionals, either through interviews or through my work as an awards judge evaluating platform submissions.

One of the most interesting facets of this project has been in defining service-orientation within the context of Web services. While studying the individual parts of what constitutes service-orientation as a paradigm, I came to realize just how many of its roots lie in past innovations. Yet at the same time, it is distinct, blending traditional and new concepts in support of a unique architectural model.

Despite its apparent "newness," SOA, on a fundamental level, is based on a very old and established school of thought. Service-orientation, as a means of separating things into independent and logical units, is a very common concept. As I progressed through these chapters, I began to notice this more often in everyday life. Items, people, organizations we come into contact with either offer some form of service or participate in performing a service. Once applied to technology architecture, though, service-orientation is concerned with a specific part of our service-oriented world: business automation.

Competitive business climates demand that corporations minimize redundant effort and maximize the expediency with which strategic goals can be achieved. Inefficient organizations that consistently waste resources are bound to fall behind. The manner in

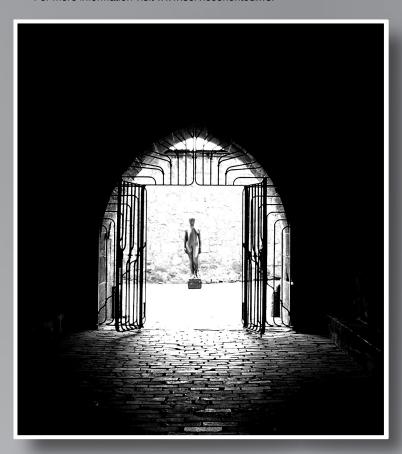
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which an organization automates its business is a critical factor in determining the level of efficiency at which it operates and, ultimately, the extent of success it attains in its ventures.

This is what makes SOA so valuable. By shaping automation logic through service-orientation, existing investments can be leveraged, business intelligence can be accurately expressed, and inherent automation agility can be achieved. When coupled with the Web services technology platform, SOA offers a significant and real benefit potential that can transform the technology and outlook of an organization. My goal for this book is to help you explore, understand, and realize this potential.

Acknowledgments

While writing this book I was blessed with a strong team of technical reviewers and superior editorial, production, and marketing professionals. My thanks to all of you for your tireless efforts. A special thanks to my family for their patience and unwavering support.



Chapter 1

Introduction

- 1.1 Why this book is important
- 1.2 Objectives of this book
- 1.3 Who this book is for
- 1.4 What this book does not cover
- 1.5 How this book is organized
- 1.6 Additional information

1.1 Why this book is important

ne of my favorite quotes came from an exchange I overheard while preparing to speak at a conference. Two IT professionals were discussing their respective environments, when one asked the other if his team was building a service-oriented architecture. The individual responded by saying "My architect thinks it's service-oriented, my developers insist it's object-oriented, and my analysts wish it would be more business-oriented. All I can tell you is that it isn't what it was before we started building Web services."

This candid statement is a sign of the times. Service-oriented architecture (SOA) has become the focal point of the IT industry, yet few fully understand it. This book aims to fill this knowledge gap by helping you accomplish the following goals:

- understand SOA, service-orientation, and Web services
- learn how to build SOA with Web services

Let's begin by identifying the most common obstacle to adopting SOA.

1.1.1 The false SOA

I cannot recall any one term causing as much confusion as "service-oriented." Its apparent ambiguity has led vendors, IT professionals, and the media to claim their own interpretations. This, of course, makes grasping the meaning of a technical architecture labeled as "service-oriented" all the more difficult.

SOA, as an abstract paradigm, has traditionally represented a baseline distributed architecture with no reference to implementation. While relevant to us, this model represents only a subset of SOA in its most common and contemporary form.

Coupled with the Web services platform and a set of commonly accepted service-orientation principles, SOA has emerged as an architectural platform explicitly distinct from its predecessors. It introduces new concepts supported by select technologies that significantly augment characteristics of traditional distributed computing platforms—so much so that service-oriented environments often end up redefining IT infrastructure.

Why this book is important

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This contemporary variety of SOA has received its share of attention. It has been promoted as a platform capable of revolutionizing enterprise environments by leveraging advancements in Web services technology and injecting organizations with hopes of federation, agility, and cross-platform harmony.

Many have been led to the notion that a technical architecture deemed service-oriented is simply one comprised of Web services. This is a common but dangerous assumption that leads to the number one mistake made by organizations intending to adopt SOA—the perception that the benefits promised by current mainstream SOA are attainable solely through a deeper investment in the Web services platform.

The reason this is happening is understandable. It is difficult for an organization to measure the extent of service-orientation possessed by its automation solutions when it is not clear what it actually means for automation logic to be truly service-oriented. What is needed is an ideal organizations can use as a target model.

1.1.2 The ideal SOA

We all have ideals that we aspire to attain. Ideals represent a state of excellence that motivate us to accomplish things beyond what we may have been able to without the ideal to look up to.

Service-orientation presents an ideal vision of a world in which resources are cleanly partitioned and consistently represented. When applied to IT architecture, service-orientation establishes a universal model in which automation logic and even business logic conform to this vision. This model applies equally to a task, a solution, an enterprise, a community, and beyond.

By adhering to this vision, past technical and philosophical disparities are blanketed by layers of abstraction that introduce a globally accepted standard for representing logic and information. This level of standardization offers an enormous benefit potential for organizations, as many of the traditional challenges faced by ever-changing IT environments can be directly addressed through the application of these standardized layers.

The service-orientation ideal has sparked a movement that has positioned SOA as the next phase in the evolution of business automation. In the same manner in which mainframe systems were succeeded by client-server applications, and client-server environments then evolved into distributed solutions based on Web technologies, the contemporary, Web services-driven SOA is succeeding traditional distributed architecture on a global scale.

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All major software manufacturers and vendors are promoting support for SOA—some even through direct involvement in the development of open standards. As a result, every major development platform now officially supports the creation of service-oriented solutions. It would appear as though the realization of the SOA ideal is well underway. Why, then, is the false SOA so common?

1.1.3 The real SOA

The reality is that the rise of the false SOA has distorted the vision of the ideal SOA. Not only is the false SOA divergent from the "true path of service-orientation," it reinforces SOA anti-patterns by extending and further entrenching the traditional distributed computing model to which SOA offers an alternative. The eventual realization that initial expectations will not be fulfilled can be further compounded once the costs, effort, and overall ugliness of a retro-fitting effort are calculated.

All of this can be avoided. What is required is an understanding of service-orientation, how it shapes technical architecture into SOA, and concrete, step-by-step processes for realizing SOA in a contemporary form.

Be forewarned, though, that SOA makes some impositions. A change in mindset is required, as business logic now needs to be viewed within a service-oriented context. Applying this context also requires a change in automation logic, as solutions now need to be built in support of service-orientation. Finally, a technical architecture capable of hosting service-oriented automation logic further introduces new technology and infrastructure requirements.

Real SOAs demand that an organization undergo this form of top-down transformation. However, the ideal an organization works toward during this process is not necessarily part of a universal vision of global service-orientation. It is an ideal based on how the concept of service-orientation, the architectural model provided by contemporary SOA, and the feature set offered by supporting technologies can benefit the vision and goals of your organization.

A real SOA requires real change, real foresight, and real commitment. Most of all, though, it requires guidance. This last requirement is what this book intends to assist you with.

1.2 Objectives of this book

Let's revisit the two primary goals we established earlier and elaborate on each.

Objectives of this book

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1.2.1 Understanding SOA, service-orientation, and Web services

This book is not solely focused on architecture. Service-oriented architecture is a core part of the service-oriented computing platform that brings with it new concepts, technologies, and challenges. This book explores key parts of this platform to provide well-rounded coverage of the multi-faceted world of building service-oriented automation solutions.

Specifically, the following aspects of the SOA platform are explained:

- Primitive and contemporary variations of SOA are described and defined, establishing a set of nearly 20 common characteristics that can be fulfilled by current Web services technologies and design techniques explained in the step-by-step "how to" processes.
- Fundamental Web services theory is covered, along with a study of how the emergence of XML and Web services, coupled with the dynamics between standards organizations and software vendors, have all influenced and contributed to the evolution of SOA.
- The principles of service-orientation are described in detail. Their influence on Web service design is explained, and they are further incorporated into the step-by-step design processes.
- Over 10 WS-* specifications are described in detail. Separate parts of this book are
 dedicated to explaining concepts in plain English and then covering the technical
 details with code samples.
- Advanced SOA concepts and design issues are discussed, including the creation of specialized service layers. These allow for the abstraction of business and technology domains within the enterprise and form the basis for business and applicationcentric service designs.

1.2.2 Learning how to build SOA with Web services

A large portion of this book is dedicated to providing step-by-step instructions on how to accomplish the following tasks:

- perform a service-oriented analysis
- model service candidates derived from existing business documentation
- design the composition of an SOA

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- design application services for technology abstraction
- design business services for business logic abstraction
- design service-oriented business processes
- assess SOA support provided by J2EE and .NET platforms

1.3 Who this book is for

SOA is a broad subject matter. It represents a new generation architectural platform that encompasses a series of contemporary technologies (both proprietary and vendor-neutral).

This book will therefore be useful to various IT professionals who are interested in learning more about the following:

- how to build SOA
- service-orientation principles
- designing different types of services for SOA
- service-oriented business modeling
- features provided by key WS-* specifications
- orchestration with WS-BPEL
- SOA support in J2EE and .NET platforms
- modeling business-centric services
- creating design standards for SOA-based solutions
- Web services technology within the context of SOA

1.4 What this book does not cover

While issues relating to integration and interoperability are referenced and discussed throughout this book, service-oriented integration as a specific topic is not covered. This is to prevent overlap with *Service-Oriented Architecture: A Field Guide to Integrating XML and Web Services*, this book's companion guide. The *Field Guide* is dedicated to matters of integration and explores numerous service-oriented integration architectures, strategies, and best practices.

How this book is organized

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Also though this book will be useful to developers who want to understand how to build services for SOA and how different technology platforms support the SOA model, this is not a book that explains how to program Web services using any particular programming language. The step-by-step instructions provided focus on building and orchestrating service endpoints—not the underlying component logic. We therefore supply tutorials and/or code examples for the following open Web services languages: WSDL, SOAP, XML Schema, WS-BPEL, WS-Coordination, WS-Policy, WS-Metadata-Exchange, WS-Security, WS-Addressing, and WS-ReliableMessaging.

NOTE

A knowledge of XML is recommended prior to reading this book. Suggested reading materials are listed at www.serviceoriented.ws, and a collection of introductory papers can be found at www.xmltechnologyexpert.com.

1.5 How this book is organized

The next 17 chapters contain a mountain of information. Some serious thought was given to organization so that this book would be easy to read, while maintaining a logical structure.

Content was finally divided into the following primary parts:

- Part I: SOA and Web Services Fundamentals
- Part II: SOA and WS-* Extensions
- Part III: SOA and Service-Orientation
- Part IV: Building SOA (Planning and Analysis)
- Part V: Building SOA (Technology and Design)

Essentially, Parts I, II, and III cover basic and advanced SOA concepts and theory that prepare you for Parts IV and V, which supply a series of step-by-step "how to" instructions for building SOA. Part V further contains coverage of WS-* technologies and SOA platform support provided by J2EE and .NET.

A common thread across all parts of the book is the consistent use of case studies. Over 125 individual case study examples are interspersed throughout the chapters to provide constant real-life reference points that further demonstrate key topics. Case studies are introduced in Chapter 2, which establishes background information for two fictional organizations.

Let's now take a closer look at what's covered in the remaining chapters.

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1.5.1 Part I: SOA and Web Services Fundamentals

Key SOA concepts are explained, a look at how SOA has evolved from past platforms follows, and then a description of the Web services framework wraps up this first part of the book.

Introducing SOA (Chapter 3)

We start off with a chapter dedicated to nailing down a clear definition of what SOA actually is and is not. We accomplish this by first studying the core characteristics of what constitutes a fundamental or "primitive SOA." We supplement this by introducing the principles of service-orientation, and then look at the many influences that are elevating the primitive service-oriented architecture into a broader, enterprise-level platform.

As part of this exercise, we identify and explain 20 key characteristics associated with what we term as "contemporary SOA." After we progress through individual descriptions of these characteristics, we provide detailed and generic definitions of what constitutes an SOA.

To further clarify what SOA is *not*, we proceed to address a series of common myths and misperceptions. These sections help cut through some of the confusion surrounding SOA and set the groundwork for the many SOA-related topics we discuss in subsequent chapters.

We then move on to identifying and explaining the key benefits behind adopting SOA. Although these benefits are discussed throughout this book, it is important to separate them ahead of time so that we can form a clear vision of what it is we are accomplishing by transitioning to this architectural model.

Finally, we conclude this chapter with a look at the most common pitfalls facing any organization on the path toward SOA. Understanding these "worst practices" is important not only to avoiding a whole lot of problems, but also to better appreciate the reasoning behind some of the analysis and design processes provided in later chapters.

The Evolution of SOA (Chapter 4)

This chapter continues with an exploration of how SOA came to be. Specifically, we follow a timeline that looks at the following:

 Past architectural platforms from which SOA has evolved and inherited traits and qualities. How this book is organized

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- Current influences (as fueled by XML and Web services technology platforms) that have shaped SOA into what it is now.
- The ongoing activity of standards organizations and contributing vendors that are further extending the breadth of the SOA platform.

We begin with a brief historical account of XML and Web services and discuss how these now established technologies have shaped SOA and are, to a large extent, responsible for its success. Subsequently, we turn the tables and discuss how the resulting popularity of SOA has changed the manner in which some XML and Web services technologies have been traditionally positioned and utilized.

We then dive into the current world of SOA as we discuss who and what is making SOA happen. Organizations and software vendors involved with developing contemporary SOA specifications and products are discussed. Most notably, the roles played by the following organizations are explained:

- World Wide Web Consortium (W3C)
- Web Services Interoperability Organization (WS-I)
- Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards (OASIS)

The unique dynamics between standards organizations and software manufacturers are explored, with an emphasis on how vendors have influenced and contributed to the development of Web services specifications.

Next, we provide definitions for the terms "application architecture" and "enterprise architecture" and then define the architectural scope of SOA as it relates to these types of architectures. We subsequently dig up the roots of service-orientation by describing each of the following traditional platforms for the purpose of contrasting them with SOA:

- client-service architecture
- distributed Internet architecture
- distributed architectures that use Web services peripherally

For each of these architectural models, we explore the following aspects: application logic, application processing, technology, security, and administration. This part of the chapter is rounded out by a preliminary comparison of service-orientation and object-orientation.

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Web Services and Primitive SOA (Chapter 5)

In Chapter 3 we formally defined the characteristics of primitive SOA. This chapter now explains how these characteristics are fulfilled by first-generation Web services technologies.

Note that this chapter introduces a new feature of the book called *In Plain English*. Even though all sections in this chapter are supplemented with examples that are part of our continuing case studies, they are further outfitted with these intentionally simplistic, non-technical analogies.

We begin with a review of the fundamental mechanics behind the Web services communications framework.

Topics covered include the following:

- basic Web services messaging
- · service providers and service requestors
- · service descriptions, service contracts, and metadata
- active and passive intermediaries
- message paths and service compositions
- common service models

Next, we move on to primitive SOA specifics, as we describe how service descriptions accomplish the core quality of loose coupling that contractually binds services within an SOA. Concepts specific to abstract and concrete WSDL definitions are explained and then supplemented with an introduction to UDDI and service registries.

We follow this section with an explanation of how SOAP is being used to address the messaging needs of SOA. The standardized messaging format provided by SOAP is discussed, along with a look at the SOAP message structure and the runtime roles played by SOAP processing nodes.

1.5.2 Part II: SOA and WS-* Extensions

The next set of chapters tackle advanced issues related to a multitude of contemporary SOA extensions.

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Web Services and Contemporary SOA—Part I: Activity Management and Composition (Chapter 6)

This chapter picks up the tempo by venturing into the WS-* landscape. This is the first of two chapters dedicated to exploring how SOA can be extended using features provided by WS-* specifications.

The following parts of contemporary SOA are explored:

- Message exchange patterns
- Activities
- Coordination
- Atomic transactions
- Business activities
- Orchestration
- Choreography

The sequence of these topics is intentional, as each establishes a layer of functionality upon which the next builds.

Concepts relating to the latter five items in the above list are derived from the following WS-* specifications:

- WS-Coordination
- WS-AtomicTransaction
- WS-BusinessActivity
- WS-BPEL (formerly known as BPEL4WS)
- WS-CDL (formerly known as WS-Choreography)

Because this book intentionally separates concepts from technology, the actual language and syntax-level details for these WS-* extensions are covered in *Part V: Building SOA (Technology and Design)*.

Further, this chapter explains how these specifications and their associated concepts inter-relate, as well as how they individually tie into and fulfill the predefined characteristics of contemporary SOA. Finally, it is also worth mentioning that this chapter continues providing *In Plain English* sections to help clarify concepts using non-technical analogies.

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Web Services and Contemporary SOA—Part II: Advanced Messaging, Metadata, and Security (Chapter 7)

This chapter dives even more deeply into the world of SOA extensions, as we study and explain another series of concepts related to additional WS-* specifications.

The following topics are covered:

- Addressing
- Reliable Messaging
- Correlation
- Policies
- Metadata Exchange
- Security
- Notification and Eventing

The concepts behind each of these topics are derived from the following WS-* specifications:

- WS-Addressing
- WS-ReliableMessaging
- WS-Policy Framework (including WS-PolicyAttachments and WS-PolicyAssertions)
- WS-MetadataExchange
- WS-Security (including XML-Encryption and XML-Signature)
- WS-Notification Framework (including WS-BaseNotification, WS-Topics, and WS-BrokeredNotification)
- WS-Eventing

As with Chapter 6, only concepts are discussed at this stage. The respective languages of the first five specifications in the above list are explained later in Chapter 17.

Also as with the previous chapter, how the individual extensions inter-relate and address specific characteristics of contemporary SOA is explained and supplemented with additional *In Plain English* sections.

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1.5.3 Part III: SOA and Service-Orientation

Service-orientation, as a design paradigm, is explored in this part of the book. These chapters establish crucial concepts that form the basis for service and architecture-level design approaches described in later chapters.

Principles of Service-Orientation (Chapter 8)

We now turn our attention to the fundamental principles of service-orientation. It is these principles that form the basis for SOA and shape and standardize the individual services from which SOA is comprised.

This chapter introduces a view of the enterprise referenced throughout subsequent parts of this book, establishing a model that separates an enterprise into business and application logic domains. We then go on to discuss how SOA promotes service-orientation throughout both of these domains.

Next, we dissect a logical SOA and study its most fundamental parts. We begin this process with an examination of the core components of the Web services framework and then illustrate how these are positioned and augmented within SOA. We continue this exercise by examining how the components of an SOA inter-relate.

We then move on to a detailed review of the eight most common principles of service-orientation. Each is explained individually and each is accompanied by a case study example. These principles are then revisited as we explore how they inter-relate. In these sections we discover how some principles support or rely on others.

The subsequent section provides a mini-study of how common object-orientation (OO) principles relate to or influence the service-orientation principles we just discussed. This is an interesting analysis for those familiar with object-orientation.

The chapter concludes with an important revelation. After explaining the principles of service-orientation, we compare them with the feature set supplied by the first-generation Web services platform. This then tells us which of the service-orientation principles are provided automatically by the mere use of Web services and which require explicit effort to realize. This is an important piece of knowledge, as it gives us a checklist of design issues that we later incorporate in the step-by-step design processes.

Service Layers (Chapter 9)

Advanced service-orientation issues are addressed in this chapter, as we set our sights on realizing further characteristics of *contemporary* SOA. We first examine the primary influences that are shaping and broadening the reach of SOA. We then study which of

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these influences are responsible for realizing certain characteristics. Through deduction we end up with a list of contemporary SOA characteristics that require explicit design effort. Key among these are service-oriented business modeling and organizational agility.

We then move on to defining an approach to designing SOA in support of these characteristics wherein a series of specialized service layers abstract key parts of generic and application-specific logic. This fosters SOA throughout the enterprise and facilitates the realization of many important benefits.

The following three service layers are defined at this stage:

- Application service layer
- Business service layer
- Orchestration service layer

These layers establish the basis for a series of standardized services that are discussed and further explained in subsequent chapters. Next, we raise some issues in relation to the creation of solution-agnostic services and then conclude this chapter with an exploration of eight different service layer configuration scenarios that illustrate a range of possible SOA designs.

1.5.4 Part IV: Building SOA (Planning and Analysis)

All of the previous chapters provide a knowledge of concepts and theory that can now be applied to the real world. These next two chapters structure an SOA delivery project around the creation of a contemporary SOA and then supply detailed guidance as to how business and application logic can be defined and modeled into service candidates.

SOA Delivery Strategies (Chapter 10)

SOA is now viewed from a project delivery perspective by identifying and describing the typical phases that comprise an SOA delivery lifecycle. These phases are then assembled into the following three SOA delivery strategies:

- Top-down strategy
- Bottom-up strategy
- Agile strategy

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The pros and cons of each are contrasted, and an emphasis is placed on the agile strategy, which attempts to blend the benefits and requirements of the top-down and bottom-up approaches.

Service-Oriented Analysis—Part I: Introduction (Chapter 11)

At this point we have covered fundamental and advanced concepts relating to SOA, service-orientation, and the many facets of the supporting Web services framework. This chapter now takes the first step of applying this knowledge by establishing the service-oriented analysis phase.

The overall objectives of service-oriented analysis are defined, followed by a list of steps required to complete this stage. The last of these steps is a service modeling process that is described in Chapter 12.

This chapter then examines what constitutes a business-centric SOA. It explains the key benefits of investing in the creation of business service layers and highlights the various ways business services can be derived from existing business models.

For the most part, the sections in this chapter assist you in preparing for the step-by-step service modeling process described in the following chapter.

Service-Oriented Analysis—Part II: Service Modeling (Chapter 12)

We now embark on a twelve-step analysis process wherein we apply service-orientation to an existing business workflow and derive business and application service candidates.

This important part of building SOA allows us to create service candidates that become a primary input for the ultimate SOA design we finalize as part of the service-oriented design processes described in upcoming chapters. Our service modeling process is supplemented with detailed case study examples that demonstrate the execution of individual process steps.

Following the process description are a dozen service modeling guidelines, providing advice, recommended analysis standards, and further insights into how best to approach and complete an SOA analysis.

Next, we provide an optional classification system that can be applied to further enhance the analysis process. This approach breaks down and labels units of logic, which can improve the clarity of documentation and the identification of potential reuse opportunities.

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Finally, we complete this chapter with another detailed case study example wherein the second of our two fictional companies takes us through the service modeling process again, this time applying the aforementioned classification system. Additionally, this example results in the creation of three different service candidate combinations for the purpose of contrasting approaches.

1.5.5 Part V: Building SOA (Technology and Design)

This, the largest part in the book, provides step-by-step processes for designing specialized SOA services and creating a service-oriented business process. Numerous technology tutorials are supplied to help understand the code examples used throughout these chapters. This part concludes with an overview of what constitutes an SOA technology platform, including a review of current SOA support provided by the .NET framework and the J2EE platform.

Service-Oriented Design—Part I: Introduction (Chapter 13)

This chapter continues where we left off when we completed the service-oriented analysis phase. We now prepare to move our service candidates into service-oriented design.

The first step is an SOA composition exercise that helps identify the architectural boundary of our planned solution (this step is detailed in Chapter 14). The remaining steps consist of the following individual design processes:

- Entity-centric business service design
- Application service design
- · Task-centric business service design
- Service-oriented business process design

Step-by-step descriptions for each of these design processes are provided in Chapters 15 and 16.

These exercises will result in the creation of WSDL definitions that implement service candidates (which originated from the service-oriented analysis process). Therefore, this chapter helps us further prepare by providing short tutorials for the following key language elements:

- WSDL
- WSDL-related XML Schema elements
- SOAP message structure elements

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Note that the language elements described are limited to those used in the case study code samples.

This chapter ends with a discussion of service interface modeling approaches, during which modeling tools are contrasted with hand coding techniques.

Service-Oriented Design—Part II: SOA Composition Guidelines (Chapter 14)

Chapter 14 kicks off the service-oriented design process by providing guidance for composing a service-oriented architecture based on known functional requirements and technical limitations. As part of this procedure, we provide guidelines for choosing service layers and positioning identified standards and SOA extensions.

Specifically, we raise design issues related to incorporating XML, WSDL, XML Schema, SOAP, UDDI, and the WS-I Basic Profile into SOA. We then conclude this chapter with a set of considerations and guidelines for choosing WS-* specifications, with an emphasis on the use of WS-BPEL.

Service-Oriented Design—Part III: Service Design (Chapter 15)

This chapter, the longest in this book, contains three detailed, step-by-step process descriptions for designing services that correspond to two of the three service layers we established in Chapter 9.

The following design processes are described:

- Entity-centric business service design
- Application service design
- Task-centric business service design

Each process description is supplemented with extensive case study examples that demonstrate the application of individual process steps in real-world scenarios. This important chapter is then concluded with a set of service design guidelines applicable to the previously described processes.

Service-Oriented Design—Part IV: Business Process Design (Chapter 16)

Step-by-step instructions for building a service-oriented business process are provided in this chapter. A WS-BPEL process definition is created as part of the case study examples to orchestrate services that were modeled and designed in previous chapters.

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Before we get into the service-oriented business process design, we provide a tutorial describing key WS-BPEL language elements used in the detailed examples that supplement the process description steps. (A brief look at the contents of WS-Coordination SOAP headers is also included.)

Fundamental WS- Extensions (Chapter 17)*

Our SOA so far consists of a set of services that establish up to three levels of abstraction, along with a service-oriented business process responsible for orchestrating them. This next chapter provides technical insight into how the feature set of SOA can be extended with the WS-* specifications we introduced in Chapter 7.

Key elements and constructs for the following specifications are covered:

- WS-Addressing
- WS-ReliableMessaging
- WS-Policy
- WS-MetadataExchange
- WS-Security

Each language description is supplemented with case study examples containing the code used to implement the corresponding conceptual examples provided in Chapter 7.

SOA Platforms (Chapter 18)

Our final chapter takes a close look at what constitutes an implementation platform for SOA. The individual parts that comprise the development and runtime environments required to build and host a service-oriented solution are explained, along with an "under the hood" look at the implementation logic behind a typical Web service.

This is followed by two identically structured sections that supply an overview of SOA support provided by the J2EE and .NET platforms. Each of these sections begins with a high-level introduction of the respective platforms and then continues to revisit the following aspects of SOA established in earlier chapters:

- Characteristics of primitive SOA
- Principles of service-orientation
- Characteristics of contemporary SOA

Additional information 19

Case Studies: Conclusion (Appendix A)

Appendix A acts as a bookend to the case study storylines that began in Chapter 2. The progress of each organization is reviewed, and the resulting solution environments are studied. The original objectives established at the beginning of the book are revisited to ensure that all have been met.

Service Models Reference (Appendix B)

This appendix provides a quick reference table for all of the service models described in this book.

1.5.6 Conventions

- Summary of Key Points—Each primary section within a chapter ends with a summary that recaps and highlights the main topics or conclusions covered. These summaries are provided to allow readers to confirm that a given subject matter was fully understood.
- Figures—This book contains over 300 diagrams, which are referred to as "figures."
 A legend for the symbols used in these figures is provided by the book's Web site at www.serviceoriented.ws.
- Code examples—On several occasions code used in this book contains examples with
 long lines. This happens most often when some of the larger URLs are used for
 namespace references. To avoid these lines from wrapping, hard line breaks are
 sometimes inserted. While this is done intentionally to improve clarity, it can also
 result in invalid XML. If you are trying out any of these examples, rejoin these lines
 before validating the code.

1.6 Additional information

1.6.1 The XML & Web Services Integration Framework (XWIF)

Some of the contents in this book originated from research I performed for SOA Systems Inc. (formerly XMLTC Consulting Inc.), as part of the XML & Web Services Integration Framework (XWIF) project. For more information, visit www.soasystems.com or www.xwif.com.

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1.6.2 www.serviceoriented.ws

Updates, source code, and various other supporting resources can be found at www.serviceoriented.ws. I am interested in your feedback. Any experiences you'd like to share or suggestions you may have as to how I can continue to improve this book would be much appreciated.

1.6.3 Contact the Author

To contact me directly, visit my bio site at www.thomaserl.com/technology.



About the Author

Thomas Erl is an independent consultant with XMLTC Consulting in Vancouver, Canada. His previous book, *Service-Oriented Architecture: A Field Guide to Integrating XML and Web Services*, became the top-selling book of 2004 in both Web Services and SOA categories. This guide addresses numerous integration issues and provides strategies and best practices for transitioning toward SOA.

Thomas is a member of OASIS and is active in related research efforts, such as the XML & Web Services Integration Framework (XWIF). He is a speaker and instructor for private and public events and conferences, and has published numerous papers, including articles for the Web Services Journal, WLDJ, and Application Development Trends.

For more information, visit http://www.thomaserl.com/technology/.

About SOA Systems

SOA Systems Inc. is a consulting firm actively involved in the research and development of service-oriented architecture, service-orientation, XML, and Web services standards and technology. Through its research and enterprise solution projects SOA Systems has developed a recognized methodology for integrating and realizing service-oriented concepts, technology, and architecture.

For more information, visit www.soasystems.com.

One of the consulting services provided by SOA Systems is comprehensive SOA transition planning and the objective assessment of vendor technology products.

For more information, visit www.soaplanning.com.

The content in this book is the basis for a series of SOA seminars and workshops developed and offered by SOA Systems.

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