Policy Management for the Web

A Workshop to be held at the
14th International World Wide Web Conference
Tuesday 10 May 2005, Chiba Japan

In order to realize the full potential of the World Wide Web as an open, dynamic, and distributed "universe of network-accessible information", it is important for web entities to behave appropriately. Policy management provides the openness, flexibility, and autonomy required to regulate this environment as entities can reason over their own policies and the policies of other entities to decide how to behave. Using policies also allows entities to specify expected behavior of entities they interact with. Entities can also adapt to increasingly complex requirements without the need for substantial changes to the structure or implementation through the use of policies. Policy management includes policy specification, deployment, reasoning over policies, updating and maintaining policies, and enforcement. We propose that policy management is required for the web for (i) constraining different kinds of behavior including security, privacy, conversation, and collaboration, (ii) configuration management, (iii) describing business processes, and (iv) establishing trust and reputation. Relevant topics include the following:

- Policy specification, implementation, and enforcement
- Dynamic merging of policies
- Static and dynamic conflict resolution
- Dynamic policy modification
- Formal models for policy verification
- Relationship of trust and reputation to policies
- Business contracts and rules
- Case studies for policy management
- Applicability of XML, RDF and OWL for policy specification
- Obligation management
- Policies for access control, privacy, and collaboration
- Decidability and tractability issues
- Digital Rights Management policies
- Policy engineering
- Enhancing P3P with policies
- User-oriented policy authoring systems

Format and venue. PM4W will be a one day workshop consisting of invited talk(s), presentations of submitted papers, and (probably) a panel as well as time for discussion. The workshop will be held as part of WWW2005 in Chiba, Japan at Nippon Convention Center (or better known as Makuhari Messe). Makuhari Messe is conveniently located halfway between central Tokyo and the New Tokyo International Airport (Narita Airport).

Submission details. We seek two kinds of papers: research papers that report on the results of original research and short papers that articulate a position, describe an application or demonstrate a working language or system. Both research papers and short papers will be included in the workshop proceedings. Research papers should describe original research not published elsewhere and should not exceed eight pages in length. Short papers are expected to be four to six pages. Short position papers should provide insight into the requirements for, or challenges of, developing or applying policies for web-based information systems. Short application papers should describe an implemented novel use of policies in a web-based environment. Short demonstration papers should document an implemented system or language that uses policies. Each submission should indicate the type of paper being submitted: research, position, application or demonstration. See the web site for additional information on format requirements.

Deadlines. Papers must be submitted electronically by 1 February 2005. Decisions will be announced on 15 March and final camera ready copy must be submitted by 15 April.