Guide To Web Application And Platform Architectures (Springer Professional Computing)
New concepts and technologies are being introduced continuously for application development in the World-Wide Web. Selecting the right implementation strategies and tools when building a Web application has become a tedious task, requiring in-depth knowledge and significant experience from both software developers and software managers. The mission of this book is to guide the reader through the opaque jungle of Web technologies. Based on their long industrial and academic experience, Stefan Jablonski and his coauthors provide a framework architecture for Web applications which helps choose the best strategy for a given project. The authors classify common technologies and standards like .NET, CORBA, J2EE, DCOM, WSDL and many more with respect to platform, architectural layer, and application package, and guide the reader through a three-phase development process consisting of preparation, design, and technology selection steps. The whole approach is exemplified using a real-world case: the architectural design of an order-entry management system.

Synopsis

There are a whole host of web related technologies or methods or architectures out there. Choosing which of these to use to implement your web site application can be very difficult. The problem is that most texts are each about a particular choice of technologies. In contrast, this book offers a vendor neutral analysis of the main offerings. Which is the best virtue of the book. The authors
explain the main methods for remote application development. Like Remote Method Interface [RMI] or Remote Procedure Calls [RPCs]. Heavily pushed by Sun Microsystems and others during the 90s. Also in that decade was the rise of CORBA and SOAP. These addressed the problem of code compatibility, when a program written in one language wished to call a routine in another program running on a different computer. Alas, CORBA’s binary nature and overall complexity was soon revealed. Then the book surveys the more recent Web Services. This has garnered its own slew of acronyms and standards - WSDL, UDDI, WS-BPEL etc. Just trying to keep a coherent picture of all this is very daunting. Plus, let us not forget Microsoft’s massive push into .NET, to compete with Sun’s J2EE. There is much common functionality between this. Though .NET binds you to Microsoft’s operating systems, and J2EE can be used outside Sun’s machines. Kudos to the authors for trying to help us through this mess.

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