Welcome from the Editors

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A new research journal involves an element of risk. Will it meet a practical need? Will it play a unique role in an often-crowded area? Has it addressed an audience? And, most importantly, will researchers contribute their work to attract the audience and make it a success?

The journal issue focuses on enterprise integration strategies that deal with the exchange of messages as the basic component of the solution architecture enabling the integration of people, information, applications and business processes. The latest trend in cloud computing is also well regarded and frequently published by this journal. However, the portals and portal applications are central components of these solutions.

The fields of web portals and Service Oriented Architecture generally today face two new challenges: First is the impact of the international economic situation on enterprise appetite for new technology investment. This comes alongside a second challenge, a debate on whether SOA will meet its promise or has been oversold by its advocates. Contributions in this and our previous two issues have already begun to address these questions.

In this special issue, we are introducing a group of researchers who through their workshop activity attempted to bring together collaborating researchers from multiple disciplines. The large portion of this issue is edited by Olga Nabuco, Mariagrazia Fugini, Marcos da Silveira and Khalil Drira. They present three papers, which topics range from discussion of semantic web service interoperability, lightweight collaborative web browsing to usage of web capabilities in medical field.

The additional contribution titled “E-Performance Systems: A Method of Measuring Performance” has been received from Abdulaziz Al-Raisi, Saad Amin, and Saad Tahir.

Through the wide range of topics associated with enterprise integration solutions, special issues and other innovative approaches and discussions we hope to meet our goal of providing a research journal addressing the interests of both academic researchers and industry practitioners. Are we succeeding? We welcome your feedback.

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