



2nd Quarter 2008

Dear Reader,

Our newsletter provides you with information about recent developments in the European Project COLL-PLEXITY, in particular, about the progress in our project. Moreover, you will find relevant news about upcoming events in the field of complexity and collaboration research. We hope you will enjoy reading it.

Your COLL-PLEXITY team

Current state of the COLL-PLEXITY project

In the course of our workshop at the WZL, RWTH Aachen (10th-11th of April, 2008) we discussed and determined the further approach within the workpackage 3 (WP3). The objective of WP3 is to add the complexity dimension on the previous developed collaborative problem and system models, moreover to build the basis for the Generic Model of Complexity (GeMoC).

Considering the necessity of a similar proceeding within the development of these discrete complexity models in WP3, we agreed on a "multi-matrix" approach towards GeMoC. To build up the complexity model for collaborative systems, we put the sub-dimensions of the generic model base for systems (WP2) into relation to each other and analysed the interrelations via a specific software tool. Based on this, we were able to derive the complexity drivers by analysing the influence of each system characteristic on the overall system complexity. Indirect effects of system characteristics have been considered by applying a second order influence analysis.

Based on the method of "cross-linked thinking" and supported by a software tool we are able to design the complexity model for collaborative problem via workshops with our industry partners "Schiesser AG" and "Virtuelle Fabrik AG". Therefore the previous identified industry complexity problems (WP0 and WP1) are corporately analysed concerning form and strength of interaction. After this step, we will again discuss possible complexity drivers based on the previously identified industry problems. Both the system and the problem view on complexity drivers will be matched in WP4, resulting in the GeMoC.

At a workshop at SZTAKI in Budapest (20th-21st of May) we started with WP4. First step will be the selection of an adequate overall framework for the GeMoC out of our previous results – e.g. the Viable System Model. The next meeting will be held on 21st-22nd July at St. Gallen.

Upcoming events

June 23-26, 2008*: 8th IFIP International Conference on Information Technology for Balanced Automation Systems (BASYS 2008) (Porto, Portugal) www.basysconference.org

July 6-11, 2008*: 17th IFAC World Congress (Seoul, Korea) www.ifac2008.org

Aug. 24-30, 2008*: 58th CIRP General Assembly www.cirp2008.org.uk

Sept. 3-7, 2008: DECOS 2008 - Describing Complex Systems in (Zadar, Croatia)
<http://www.conf-decos.net>

Sept. 9-11, 2008: BICS Conference - Emergence in Complex Systems (Bath, UK)
www.bath.ac.uk/math-sci/events/bics-ecs

Sept. 14-19, 2008*: ECCS2008 - European Conference on Complex Systems (Jerusalem, Israel)
www.jeruccs2008.org

Oct. 9-11, 2008: 1st icc INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NETWORK MODELLING AND ECONOMIC SYSTEMS in (Lisbon, Portugal) www.listaweb.com.pt/icc/icc-nmes2008

* COLL-PLEXITY is represented in this conference

Call for Papers

October 31, 2008: Organization Science, “The Genesis and Dynamics of Networks” (Paper submission deadline for Special Issue Conference on Network Dynamics: June 2009, Italy)

www.informs.org/site/Organization_Science/index.php?c=13&kat=Submission+Guidelines

September 20, 2008: COMPLEX'2009 - The First International Conference on Complex Sciences: Theory and Applications www.complex-sys.org (Conference: February 23-25, 2009, Shanghai, China)

Please visit www.coll-plexity.net for further project information

Contact Address

Mr. Sebastian Doering – Laboratory for Machine Tools and Production Engineering of RWTH Aachen University – Steinbachstr. 19 – D-52074 Aachen – Germany

E-mail: info@coll-plexity.net – Phone: +49 241 8028194

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