Web services

Service oriented architecture (SOA)

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Last content

- + XML
- + Web services ASP.NET
- + AJAX

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SOA

- + Why SOA?
- + SOA Definition
- + Why not SOA?
- SOA characteristics

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Why SOA?

- + An interesting 'story' from reference [4]: WhySOA.pdf
- + The Management and IT try to:
 - Turn existing software assets into reusable services that can be used no matter how the business change
 - Implement new business ideas using existing IT programs, now are provided as services
 - Further extend these services for future business development
- → Better Living through Reuse

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Why SOA?

Consider a smaller example of purchase order process:

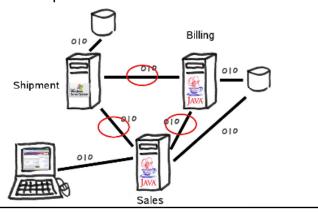
- The customer submits a purchase order (via the Internet):
 - Sales department check with credit card department if credit is okay
 - Sales department check with inventory department if the goods are on stock
 - Sales department informs the billing department to bill the customer
 - Sales department informs the shipment department to send out the goods
 - Shipment department sends the goods to customer
 - Shipment department informs the billing department to send the invoice
 - Billing department sends the invoice to the customer

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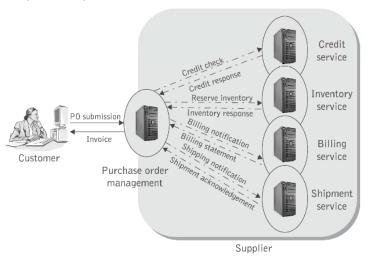
Why SOA?

- + This purchase order is a *business process* involving different IT systems with different components and technologies.
- Automation of this business process requires these IT systems of the departments to interact.



Why SOA?

→ Each department provide *services* for the others to use

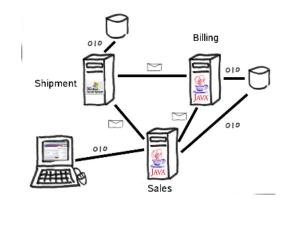


→ This automatic system has service oriented architecture (SOA)

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Why SOA?

+ Web services provide an implementation for the solution



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Why SOA?

+ Need more case studies of SOA

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SOA - Definition

- SOA is an architecture for building business applications as a set of loosely coupled black-box components composed to deliver a well-defined level of service by linking together business processes.
- + At its most basic, SOA is a collection of services:
 - communicate with each other in the context of a business process.
 - involve either simple data passing or different services coordinating some activity.

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SOA - Service

- + Service: the performance of work (a function) by one for another.
 - E.g. restaurant services: customers, waiters / waitresses kitchen, cleaning, supply-ordering ...
- + Business service: the logical encapsulation of business function.
 - E.g. order-taking service, meal-preparation service...

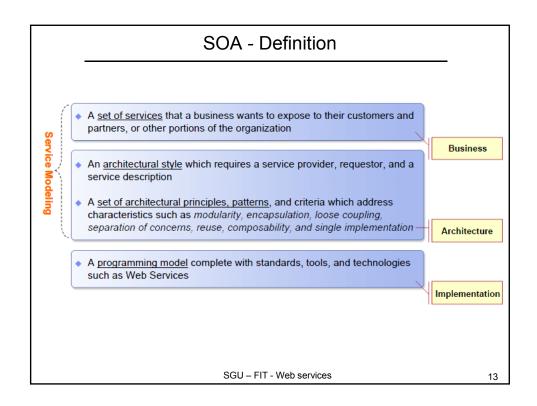
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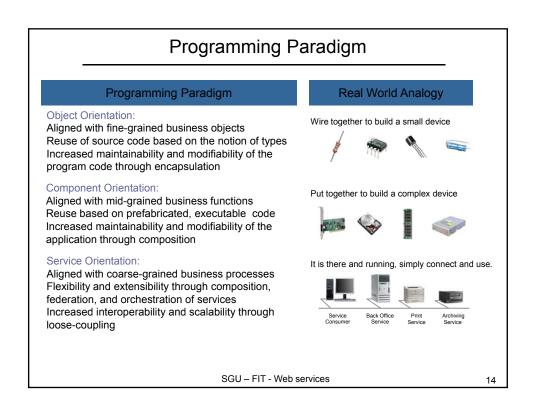
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SOA - Service

- → Service in SOA:
 - From a business perspective, services are IT assets that correspond to real-world business activities or recognizable business functions and that can be accessed according to the service interface that have been established.
 - From a technical perspective, services are reusable IT assets that
 have well-defined interfaces (a.k.a. service contracts) that clearly
 separate the services' externally accessible interface from the
 services' technical implementation.

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SOA benefits

- + Business Agility
- + Cost Savings
- + Maximizing IT Investments
- + Aligning IT to Business Processes

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Why not SOA?

- → For a stable or homogeneous enterprise IT environment, SOA may not be important or cost effective to implement.
- + If an organization is not offering software functionality as services to external parties or not using external services, which require flexibility and standard-based accessibility, SOA may not be useful.
- + SOA is not desirable in case of real time requirements because SOA relies on loosely coupled asynchronous communication.

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SOA & web services

+ Different from web services ?

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SOA & web services

+ Web services are a breed of Web application. They are self-contained, self-describing, modular applications that can be published, located, and invoked across the Web. Web services perform functions, which can be anything from simple requests to complicated business processes. ... Once a Web service is deployed, other applications (and other Web services) can discover and invoke the deployed service.

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SOA & web services

- + Web service:
 - Use of standards: HTTP, XML, SOAP, WSDL, . . .
 - Providing functions (services) to other computer programs (not to Web browsers).
 - Exchange of messages:
 - One way
 - Two way: request / response

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SOA & web services

- + Different from web services:
 - SOA is an architecture. It is more than any particular set of technologies, such as Web services.
 - Web services are one possible way to implement SOA. Additional, it is
 the most common way because web services are established as the
 standard technology; so, they provide high interoperability.

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Next week

- + (Some) Design for SOA
- + WCF the latest Microsoft's solution to implement SOA designs

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References

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