Welcome to the 8th OOPSLA Workshop on Domain-Specific Modeling – DSM'08

Preface

Domain-Specific Modeling (DSM) has recently received a surge of interest due to its ability to raise the abstraction level of system development beyond programming by specifying the solution directly using domain concepts. DSM enables end-users to be participants in describing problems in their domain and can also improve the productivity of software developers. In many cases, final products can be generated automatically from these high-level specifications. This automation is possible because both the language and generators are aligned to the requirements of a specific domain. The abstractions that are available in domain-specific models allow reasoning and design at the appropriate level of abstraction using icons and idioms familiar to domain experts. For example, a domain-specific model for cell phone software would have concepts like "Soft key button," "SMS" and "Ring tone," and generators to create calls to the corresponding code components and underlying frameworks.

Continued investigation is still needed in order to further advance the acceptance and viability of domain-specific modeling. This workshop, which is in its eighth incarnation at OOPSLA 2008, features research and position papers describing new ideas at either a practical or theoretical level. On the practical side, several papers in these proceedings describe application of modeling techniques within a specific domain. The two-day program contains demonstrations of DSM tools, a panel on evolution issues, and also a keynote.

We have organized the 16 papers in these proceedings to emphasize general areas of interest into which the papers loosely fit. In addition to examples of DSM, authors from both industry and academia present research ideas that initiate and forward the technical underpinnings of domain-specific modeling. As a whole the body of work highlights the importance of metamodeling, which significantly eases the implementation of domain-specific languages and provides support for experimenting with the modeling language as it is built.

We hope that you will enjoy this record of the workshop and find the information within these proceedings valuable toward your understanding of the current state-of-the-art in domain-specific modeling.

Jeff Gray, Jonathan Sprinkle, Juha-Pekka Tolvanen, Matti Rossi

October 2008
Nashville, Tennessee USA

8th WORKSHOP ON DOMAIN-SPECIFIC MODELING

October 19-20, 2008 Nashville, Tennessee USA

Program Committee

Pierre America, Philips
Peter Bell, SystemsForge
Jorn Bettin, Sofismo
Philip T. Cox, Dalhousie University
Krzysztof Czarnecki, University of Waterloo
Brandon Eames, Utah State University
Ethan Jackson, Microsoft
Frederic Jouault, University of Nantes
Jürgen Jung, Deutche Post AG
Steven Kelly, MetaCase
Benoit Langlois, Thales
Gunther Lenz, Microsoft
Shih-Hsi Liu, California State University, Fresno
Kalle Lyytinen, Case Western Reserve University
Pentti Marttiin, Nokia Siemens Networks
Birger Moller-Pedersen, University of Oslo
Juha Pärssinen, VTT
Arturo Sanchez, University of North Florida
Markus Völter, independent consultant
Jing Zhang, Motorola Research

Organizing Committee

Juha-Pekka Tolvanen, MetaCase
Jeff Gray, University of Alabama at Birmingham
Matti Rossi, Helsinki School of Economics
Jonathan Sprinkle, University of Arizona