

Glossary

Advertising:

Makes potential consumers of a service on a fabric aware that the service exists. This MAY involve advertising the Service Description.

"a methodology to convey awareness of (the existence of) a service(s) to all consumers on a fabric

Comment: Deleted all since advertising may be done by two different means in order to reach all consumers. Deleted "Intended" since it adds very little.

Agent (requester or provider) –

An entity acting on behalf of another entity to fulfill a task

Comment: This definition didn't seem appropriate for our needs. It is very generalized.

Architecture

Software architecture for a system is the structure or structures of the system, which consist of elements and their externally visible properties, and their relationships among them.

Comment: I found three of the four to be too concrete. The remaining one summarizes it nicely.

Service Consumer

An entity which exploits a service.

Contract: (I liked Francis's definition)

5.1 the syntactic, semantic and logical constraints governing on the use of a service.

Comment: I do not think we have to define audience. Our use of the term is not substantially different than how others use it. We will have to define who the audience is for our specific RM however, but that is not done in the glossary.

Data Model:

The logical expression of a set of information (data?) items associated with the consumption of a service. Discovery

The act of gaining knowledge of a logical service, its existence and details of how to use it.

Interface:

named set of operations that characterize the behaviour of an entity.

Message (This one is very hard)

A serialization of a data signal?

Policy

Assertions that service consumers and/or providers must adhere to.. Policies may be set by the requester or provider and may require or permit negotiation. Policies may be in the form of permissions or obligations.

Comment: I don't think we have to include these. We are not using them in a substantially different way at this time.

Requester or provider –

Person or organization involved in an SOA transaction

an agent that interacts with a service in order to achieve a goal

Comment: We haven't talked about "resource" that much so I see no need to define it at this time.

Security

[Nickull] A security policy, in addition to other service policies, is part of a service contract. A security policy is a declaration of a set of requirements that must be met in order to consume a service.

[Metz] Operational Description, Terms of Use, Method of Use, Required Security, etc

[MacKenzie] Service policy may mandate security requirements to be met, and if they are not, interaction may be refused.

[Nickull] A declaration that indicates no requirements must be met is still conceptually considered a security policy."

Semantics-

Shared conceptualization of the implied meaning of information.

Represents a contract governing the meaning and purpose.

Service

a contractually defined behavior provided by an entity for use by another entity.

Service description

A specification of the information necessary to a) allow a potential consumer to determine whether or not this service is applicable, and b) facilitate invocation.

Comment: Not machine processible in the reference model

the essence of service:

Service contract

the contract is the same as the data model

SOA

a subgroup of Enterprise Architecture. The difference between Enterprise Architecture and SOA lies mostly in the fact that EA is specific to an enterprise, while SOA can be abstracted out of a given Enterprise, and collected along with other SOA components so abstracted to form a registry of available services

SOA is potentially a specialization of a combination of many things - interface based design (IBD), component architecture (CA), OO methodology etc.

SOA Reference Model

A reference model is an abstract framework for understanding significant relationships among the entities of some environment, and for the development of consistent standards or specifications supporting that environment. A reference model is based on a small number of unifying concepts. A reference model is not directly tied to any standards, technologies or other concrete implementation details, but it does seek to provide a common semantics that can be used unambiguously across and between different implementations.

Is not architecture for a single implementation. Is a model for developing a range of Service Oriented Architectures and analysis/comparison thereof. Is a framework for understanding significant relationships among the entities in a SOA environment.

DISCUSSION POINT: should the word "elements" be used in place of "entities" above?

Is based on a small number of unifying concepts of all SOA's. A Reference Model is the best mechanism to define SOA.

1.1.