Real World “RDF” Applications: Panel

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Participants

- **Vipul Kashyap**, National Library of Medicine, USA
  - Applications of semantic web in the areas of medical and bio-informatics: use of ontologies/conceptual models for information integration and inter-ontology interoperation.

- **Ora Lassila**, Nokia Research, USA
  - Research Fellow at the Nokia Research Center and the Chief Scientist for Nokia Venture Partners. Editor of the RDF Model & Syntax specification. Elected member of the W3C Advisory Board.

- **Brian McBride**, HP Labs, UK
  - RDF and Semantic Web research

- **Pasqualino Assini**, NESSTAR Ltd, UK
  - Simplified infrastructure for building Semantic Web applications

- **Natasa Milic-Frayling**, Microsoft Research, UK
  - Integrated Systems - prototyping and evaluating advanced information management systems; previously – Director of R&D at Claritech

- **Yogi Arumainayagam**, Thomson Legal and Regulatory, USA
  - Director of R&D. Interests: large-scale publishing solutions, scalable semantic search and retrieval, metadata mining

- **Leon Shklar**, Information Architects, USA
  - CTO, Information Architects – commercial RDF product. Interests: practical applications of Semantic Web technologies.
RDF and Semantic Web

Focus of the panel
- RDF vs. Semantic Web – not a synonym any more (was it ever?)
- “Semantic Web” technologies
  - RDF (S), CC/PP, etc.
  - DAML, OIL, Description Logics
  - XML*
  - SOAP/WSDL/UDDI – Web Services
- Pragmatic approach
  - Real life applications today
    - What are the compromises?
    - What is (or is there) value proposition?
    - Problems and controversy
  - Chicken and egg problem
    - “Build it and they will come”
    - “Where is the need?”
Panel Composition

- Industry and scientific community
- Product of heated discussions at the “Real World RDF and Semantic Web Applications” workshop
- Common theme:
  – Interest in solving immediate problems
  – Interest in Semantic Web technologies
  – Difference of opinion on most subjects
- Main application areas
  – Semantic Search
  – Semantic Services and Service Composition
  – Knowledge Sharing and Annotation
  – Application and Information Integration
Questions

- Do we need a value proposition?
- Do we need RDF(S) or are XML* specifications enough?
- Anyone using RDF in the real world?
- More questions:
  - What is the killer app?
  - What is the killer tool?
  - What are the killers of the Semantic Web?
  - Any ideas?
Format

- For each panel member {
  try {
    Make an opening statement;
  } catch (interruption from another panel member) {
    Handle the interruption;
  }
}

- Open to the audience for questions and comments