From AgentLink II to AgentLink III

Co-ordinators:

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What was AgentLink II?

- Open Network for agent-based computing
- Funding ran Autumn 2000 - Summer 2003
- Built on existing activities from AgentLink (1998-2000)
- Intended to give European industry a head start in a crucial new area of IT.
What will be AgentLink III?

- Open Network for agent-based computing
- Funding to run Jan 2004 - Dec 2005
- Will build on prior activities of AgentLink and AgentLink II (1998-2003)
- Intended to give European industry a head start in a crucial new area of IT
- Currently in negotiation with the EC.
Key Differences from AgentLink II

- Greater focus on building industry awareness and adoption of agent technologies
- Structures and programs more flexible than for AgentLink II
- Greater infrastructure support
- Funding likely only for 2 years, from 1/1/04.
Medium Term Goals

- Achieve competitive advantage through increased adoption of agent technologies
- Improve standards, profile & industrial relevance of research in agents
- Promote research co-ordination, commercial adoption and student integration
- Become the leading European forum for issues, problems & solutions in agent research and development.
What will AgentLink III do?

• Industrial awareness
  – Promoting awareness and adoption in Euro industry

• Standards collaboration
  – Working with relevant standards bodies

• Research action
  – Excellence & relevance of Euro research

• Student integration
  – Fostering agent skills

• Annual Technical Forum
  – Dynamic, focused interactions via Technical Forum Groups

• Information infrastructure
  – Facilitating AgentLink work and research co-ordination.
Industrial Awareness

• Aims to:
  – Promote commercial awareness & takeup of agents
  – Foster new collaborations in promising areas of agent technology
  – Facilitate take-up through published case studies.

• Activities:
  – Industrial meetings, database of case studies, promotion.
Standardisation Activity

• Aims to:
  – Contribute to relevant standards bodies (eg FIPA, W3C, GGF)
  – Disseminate standards initiatives to agent community
  – Focus European research on standards-related issues.

• Activities:
  – Collaboration with standards bodies, information dissemination.
Research Action

• Aims to:
  – Promote academic awareness & interest in agent research
  – Foster industrially-relevant agent research
  – Promote new collaborations for technology transfer
  – Promote collaborations with other parts of CS and with other academic disciplines.

• Activities:
  – Research repositories, newsletter, workshop support.
Student Integration

• Aims:
  – Foster agent-related R&D skills
  – Integrate early-stage agent researchers into the community
  – Disseminate agent-related courses, reports, syllabuses, etc.

• Activities:
  – Summer schools
  – Development & dissemination of course material.
Technical Forum

• Aims:
  – Facilitate development of communities around specific areas of agent R&D
  – Respond dynamically to fast-changing developments in markets and technologies
  – Establish links with related areas within Computer Science and with other disciplines (eg Economics Biology, Political Science).

• Activities:
  – Annual Technical Forum
  – Technical Forum Groups (similar to SIGs)
Agent Technology Roadmap

- A report on current status and future of agent technologies, over the next 10 years
- An assessment of European agent R&D strengths and weaknesses
- Completed January 2003, based on input and comment from across the community
- To be updated during AgentLink III.
Information Infrastructure

• Aims:
  – Provide a communication & management infrastructure for AgentLink

• Activities:
  – Dedicated WWW site (www.AgentLink.org)
  – Regular published newsletter
  – Mailing lists
  – Repository of agent papers, reports, etc
  – Repository of agent adoption case studies.
The Agent Portal
www.AgentLink.org
Web Resources

• Links to
  • Conferences
  • Sponsored Events
  • Resources
• Member profiles
• Agent publications
• Agent software
  – Educational software
• Agent jobfinder
• IST calls
• Improved projects database
• Inter-network activities
• Standards activities
To Find Out More…

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www.AgentLink.org
How many members?

- Eighty-three members at start of AgentLink II, August 2000.

- Approx. 180 “full” members (at close of AgentLink II)
Members by Country
Members by Type

- University: 100 (Jan-02), 95 (Jul-01)
- Industry: 40 (Jan-02), 35 (Jul-01)
- Research: 20 (Jan-02), 15 (Jul-01)

Legend:
- Jan-02
- Jul-01
Industrial Members

Tryllian
ThinkingOlem
broadcom
achmea
ITC irst
iccc
QinetiQ
labein
ægis/agentworks
agentlink
sonera
living systems
sharpened
input
computas
telefónica
intracom