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Introduction

This publication presents the AISA research project; its starting points, organization, process, and results. 'AISA' is an acronym for the project's working title: 'Assessment of Information Systems Architectures'.

The project was a joint effort by Information Technology Research Institute (ITRI) at the University of Jyväskylä and six companies - IBM Finland, Elisa, Osuuspankkikeskus (OP Bank Group Central Cooperative), A-Ware, SOK (S Group) and Tieturi. The primary aim of the project was to scrutinize the area of the quality management of both enterprise and software architectures, especially from the viewpoint of evaluation and measurement.

The project was funded by the Finnish Funding Agency for Technology and Innovation (Tekes) and the participating companies.

This publication consists of the following parts:

- Executive Summary: Summary of the project themes and results both in English and in Finnish
- AISA Project: Description of the research project
- Enterprise and Software Architecture Work: Description of the essential aspects of the architecture work both on the enterprise and software architecture level
- Quality Management in Architecture Work: Introduction to the quality issues both in general and in the architecture work context
- Evaluating Architecture Work: Description of the needs, triggers and status of architecture work evaluation
- Evaluation Practices in Architecture Work: Description of the evaluation planning components and evaluation methods incuding an evaluation model for enterprise architecture
- Metrics and Criteria for Evaluating Architecture Work: Description of the metrics and criteria for evaluating various specific targets in architecture work
- Decision-Making and Risk Management in Architecture Work: Introduction to the decision-making and risk management issues in architecture work
- Case Studies: Descriptions of the case studies conducted in three companies participating in the project
- Results: An overview of the outcome of the project including published papers and other public reports
- Lessons Learned: Conclusions of the project and suggestions for further research
- Bibliography: A variety of references on enterprise architecture, software architecture, quality management and evaluation
- Page Index: Structure of this publication

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