

# Press Release #1: European research project SLA@SOI, led by SAP, has commenced.

## Services as tradable goods.

The European-funded research project SLA@SOI (Empowering the Service Economy with SLA-aware Infrastructures) will enable the flexible trading of IT services as economic goods.

With a kick-off meeting on June 24, 2008 hosted by SAP in Karlsruhe (Germany), a consortium of 13 leading industrial and academic partners officially launched a significant 36 month project to drive progress in Information Technology issues critical to the evolution of a service based economy.

The transformation of Europe's economy from product-oriented to service-oriented has come to a critical point. In all industries and domains, IT has become a key factor in the provision of services. However, actual service negotiation and provisioning still requires significant, often manual effort both for the providers and customers.

The vision of SLA@SOI is the ability to flexibly trade IT-based services as economic goods, i.e. under well defined and dependable conditions, with automated negotiation and self management, and with clearly associated costs. This will constitute a milestone for the ongoing transformation of the current Internet towards an Internet of Services.

The technical approach of SLA@SOI is to define a holistic view for specifying, negotiating and managing the conditions under which services are provided. So-called service level agreements (SLAs) will allow these conditions to be expressed at both business and IT levels. An integrated management approach within a service-oriented infrastructure (SOI) will allow for transparent management across all views and layers of a system. Industrial relevance will be assured by a range of highly complementary use cases including ERP hosting, Service Aggregation, Enterprise IT management, e-Government and Financial Grids.

SLA@SOI is a 3 year, €15.2M project funded by a €9.6M grant from the European Commission Framework 7 (FP7) Research Program.

The SLA@SOI consortium partners are: SAP AG, Engineering Ingegneria Informatica, Intel Corporation, Telefónica Investigación y Desarrollo, Universität Dortmund, FZI Research Centre for Information Technologies, Fondazione Bruno Kessler, Politecnico di Milano, City University, Queens University Belfast, XLAB, GPI and eTel.

**Grant agreement no.:**  
FP7-216556

**Start date:** 01/06/2008  
**End date:** 31/05/2011

**Project Coordinator:**  
Dr. Wolfgang Theilmann  
SAP Research  
[wolfgang.theilmann@sap.com](mailto:wolfgang.theilmann@sap.com)

**Website:**  
<http://www.sla-at-soi.eu>

### Project Partners

