A Brief Overview of Semantic Web Deployment
## Table of Contents

A Brief Overview of Semantic Web Deployment ................................................................. 1

Semantic Web: Data integration at Web scale ................................................................. 2

Semantic Web Foundation: RDF and OWL ................................................................. 3

Community Involvement ....................................................................................... 4

Creating Semantic Data – Adobe’s XMP ................................................................. 5

Navigating the Semantic Web – Foafnaut ................................................................. 6

Semantic Web in the Client – Haystack ................................................................. 7

Haystack – Managing Photo collections ............................................................. 8

Haystack – Life Sciences Researcher's Desktop ................................................... 9

Semantic Web in the Enterprise – Sun's Swordfish ........................................... 10

Semantic Web and Content Management – Brandsoft ......................................... 11

Semantic Web and Searching – TAP .................................................................... 12

Scalable Storage – Tucana .................................................................................... 13

Semantic Web Calendars – Semaview's Sherpa ..................................................... 14

Semantic Web Engines – NetworkInference's Cerebra ....................................... 15

What this talk didn't cover .................................................................................. 16

General Lessons Learned from Deployment ...................................................... 17

Additional information ...................................................................................... 18
A Brief Overview of Semantic Web Deployment

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Slides are available at: http://www.w3.org/2004/Talks/1010-semweb-em/
Semantic Web: Data integration at Web scale

- W3C launched RDF as a data integration mechanism across applications and the Web – "Joining the Web"
- Web of data – provides common data representation framework to facilitate integrating multiple sources to draw new conclusions
- Increase the utility of information by connecting it to its definitions and to its context
Semantic Web Foundation: RDF and OWL

RDF Core and Web Ontology Working Groups

- Semantic Web foundation specifications are W3C Recommendations!
- Lots of hard work by the chairs, working groups participants and public resulting in broadscale implementation and deployment (press release and testimonials)
- Working Groups officially ended May 2004
- Current work underway in Data Access and Best Practices (different talk!)
Community Involvement

Semantic Web benefits from a broad participation from vendors, users, researchers and communities defining enabling technologies.

The following are a small sample of the growing set of Semantic Web tools, applications and projects that are crossing organizational, domain and geographical boundaries.
Creating Semantic Data – Adobe’s XMP

Adobe’s eXtensible Metadata Platform (XMP)

Cross product metadata toolkit

leverage RDF/XML to enable more effective management of digital resources

standardized means for supporting the creation, processing, and interchange of document metadata across publishing workflows

focus on reducing cost and makes for more effective management of digital resources

"10 Million Dublin Core records in RDF/XML by the end of the year" – Semantic Web Developers Day 2002

Navigating the Semantic Web – Foafnaut

Social networks – 'Friend of a Friend'

Distributed RDF/XML records describing people, who they know, projects they work on, etc.

Web interface for displaying complex data

Benefits of SVG, SMIL, RDF integration

Open source collaboration (credits)

Example of RDF network effect combining foaf and rdf image co–depiction

(online demonstration)
Semantic Web in the Client – Haystack

User configurable universal information client

Personalization of information management

Universal information client – benefits from universal model of information

RDF model represents everything – data, layout, preferences, etc.
Haystack – Managing Photo collections
Haystack – Life Sciences Researcher's Desktop

[Image of a digital dashboard showing a network of connections between various entities and activities. The dashboard includes sections for 'Scrapbook' and 'Active Tasks,' with tasks such as 'Ask Dave about financing,' 'Buy Mother's Day gift,' 'Call electric company,' 'Go grocery shopping,' and 'Reconfirm flight.' The main focus is on a network of relationships between entities labeled as 'Activation and function of cyclin T-Cdk9 (positive transcription elongation factor-b) in cardiac muscle-cell hypertrophy.' Other entities include 'Min Xie,' 'Antonio Giordano,' 'Michael D. Schneider,' 'Hidemasa Ch,' 'Lloyd H. Michael,' 'Francesco J. Demayo,' 'Motoki Sano,' and 'Maha.']
Desire to support effective management and distribution of corporate digital assets.

The Global Knowledge Engineering Group (GKE) in Sun Services division is leveraging W3C's Semantic Web technologies and standards (RDF)

focus on consist use of the Dublin Core Metadata Element Set and several localized terms (e.g. sun:product.)

facilitated by suite of tools and technologies based on Sun's One framework and Open Standards to effectively share RDF vocabularies / taxonomies across the organization
Semantic Web and Content Management – Brandsoft

focus on 'Enterprise Business Models'

Strategic models for controlling and publishing Web sites across extended enterprise operations

Models for content management, page publishing, access

Models represented in RDF

Common models allow for distributed maintenance across organization with coherent integrated result
TAP – designed to help enable the Semantic Web by providing some simple tools that make the web a giant distributed Database.

Local, independently managed knowledge bases can be aggregated

Can be recombined / tailored for different applications

TAP 'Semantic Search' – Demonstrates full-text integrated with structured information searching

Search for "Sting" – do you mean 'Sting' the movie? or 'Sting' as in injury from a bee?
Scalable Storage – **Tucana**

Focusing on using RDF for supporting Enterprise Information Integration (EII)

Develop tools to gather, store and analyze data from relational databases, portals, emails, documents

Commercial Tucana Knowledge Server along with Open Source solutions (e.g. **Kowari**) – "massively scalable, transaction-safe, purpose-built database for the storage and retrieval of metadata."
RDF representation of calendaring information

Publish and Merge personal (work, home, etc) events

Publish and Merge calendaring events of friends and colleagues
Semantic Web Engines – NetworkInference's Cerebra

commercial product focusing on efficient, scalable reasoning

spin–off of University of Manchester

enterprise–strength software platform that provides business logic inferencing and processing capabilities for developing dynamic policy–driven applications

supports OWL
What this talk didn't cover

but related to deployment ...

Interesting projects: e.g. Simile, SWAD–E

Complementary vocabularies / initiatives: RSS 1.0, FOAF, SKOS, CC, etc.

Enabling Semantic Web toolkits: e.g. HP's Jena, IBM's Semantiks, Sesame, Relands, etc.

Community adoption: e.g. Life Sciences, Creative Commons, etc.

Applications / Best Practices : Describing People / taxonomies, etc.

Specific lessons learned from specific applications

'Gaps' in facilitating integration: ontology construction, simple vs complex, Type'ing, value standardization, supportive vocabularies, etc.
General Lessons Learned from Deployment

RDF as a general information model is applicable to many uses (many of which we never even thought about)

Common data representation and architecture drives down (technical / social) costs

Facilitates serendipitous interoperability – breaking down the barriers of domain knowledge

When "Anyone can say anything about anything", who you trust is important

Beneficial to solving interoperability in Open (rather than Closed) systems

Closed systems are becoming more and more Open – addressing these issues now seems cost effective in long run

Common semantics, when appropriate, advances the integration of heterogeneous content.
Additional information

W3C World Wide Web Consortium
–http://www.w3.org/

W3C Semantic Web Activity
–http://www.w3.org/2001/sw/

Eric Miller, W3C Semantic Web Activity Lead
–http://www.w3.org/People/EM/