

EuroPLoP 2007 Focus Group: Pattern Repositories

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Objective

How do you find a pattern?

- A. Flip through the patterns books on your shelf.
- B. Google.
- C. Don't bother and stick with what you know.
- D. *Search a pattern repository.*

In this focus group we will explore the issues in making a pattern repository work well. Some of questions for which we hope to get answers are how do you organize and search pattern repositories, how do you integrate them with your existing development process, and how do you create a community of users around a repository.

Patterns are a means for disseminating best design practices. When other developers reuse a pattern, they benefit from the experience of the pattern authors. However, with the growing number of patterns, it becomes harder and harder to find the right pattern for a given design problem. As one answer to this problem, several pattern collections have been captured in the form of repositories. In addition to links between patterns, these provide sophisticated search mechanisms, often built around a meta-model of the patterns and the pattern language, as well as sometimes a model of the application domain.

Our goal in this focus group is to bring together maintainers of pattern repositories, developers interested in using pattern repositories, authors of pattern languages, and others who are interested in how to organize pattern knowledge and make it more easily and widely accessible. We invite you to share your experiences and war stories.

Topics

- Indexing and searching pattern collections
- Markup languages for patterns and pattern languages
- User interfaces to pattern repositories
- Creating a community around a pattern repository
- Data mining the use of a pattern repository
- Pattern recommender systems
- Integrating pattern repositories with development processes

- Maintaining a pattern repository
- Modeling pattern languages and pattern sequences
- Success or failure stories
- Diffusion of pattern repositories in organizations
- Patterns for creating pattern repositories

Participation

Interested participants are requested to submit a short position paper (2-5 pages) on one of the topics above or related to weiss@sce.carleton.ca by June 15. You will then get access to the wiki of the focus group. This focus group will be interactive, and involve brainstorming exercises and discussion. Participants are expected to have read the position papers in advance. More information regarding the organization of the focus group and the submitted position papers will be posted on the wiki.

Example Pattern Repositories

- Portland Pattern Repository, <http://c2.com/ppr>
- PatternShare, <http://patternshare.org>
- Security Patterns Repository, <http://www.scrypt.net/~celer/securitypatterns>
- Requirements Engineering Pattern Repository (REPARE), <http://repare.desy.de/Repare/RepareController>
- Website Patterns, <http://www.iawiki.net/WebsitePatterns>
- Hypermedia Design Patterns Repository, <http://www.designpattern.lu.unisi.ch/index.htm>
- developerWorks Pattern Repository, <http://www-128.ibm.com/developerworks/rational/products/patternsolutions/assets.html>
- Designing Interfaces: Patterns for Effective Interaction Design, <http://designinginterfaces.com>
- Yahoo! Design Patterns Library, <http://developer.yahoo.com/ypatterns>