Extensions for Smart Conference System

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Abstract

The goal of the project is to develop two extensions for Smart Conference System. These extensions are web client and integration with instant messaging (IM) service.

Smart Conference System (SCS) is software system to assist conference processes. The system serves as the moderator of the section and solves the following tasks: controls the schedule of presentations, provides information about the conference participants and allows speaker to control projector from different types of devices, e.g. laptops, mobile phones, etc. The system includes several applications that interact with each other using software platform smart-m3. The basis of smart-m3 is ontology, which formally describes the interface to the specific application. This formal description makes it easy to add new applications into the system.

The first task is web client. At this moment the client application of SCS is implemented for mobile devices Nokia N810 and N900. To expand the list of supported mobile devices, we developed a web-based interface to the system. In this way, any device with a browser can operate with SCS. This interface has the following functions: to provide lists of participants and presentations, to allow participants to register and to specify information about their self, to let speaker operate the projector.

The second task is integration instant messaging service. At the conference, you may need to communicate with other participants, without interfering with the speaker. For this purpose you can use the services of instant messaging (IM) ICQ, MSN, Jabber. However, the direct use of existing IM solutions in the SCS has problems. Firstly, you need to add a list of participants in the contact list of the service. Secondly, the participant may have no account of existing services. To solve these problems it is proposed to use a local IM server. For this server it was developed plug-in that automatically creates the accounts of participants and list of contacts from the information provided by SCS over smart-m3. Therefore user can configure his IM client for usage of the local IM server and start communicating with other conference participants.

Index Terms: Smart space, Smart-M3, Ontology.