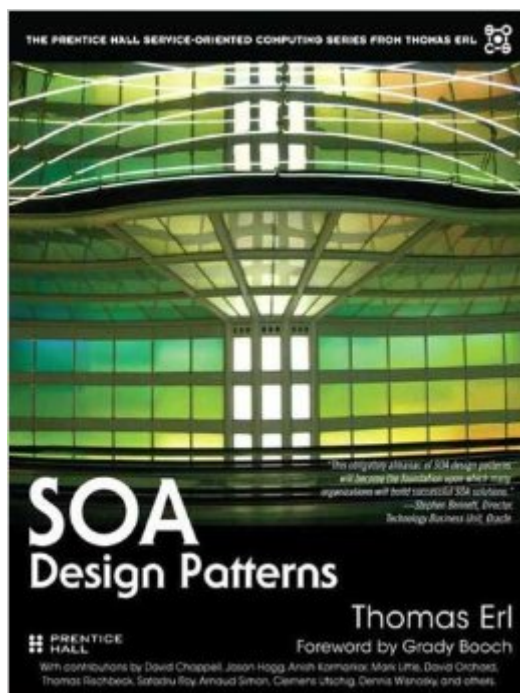# SOA Design Patterns (The Prentice Hall Service Technology Series From Thomas Erl)

Synopsis

In cooperation with experts and practitioners throughout the SOA community, best-selling author Thomas Erl brings together the de facto catalog of design patterns for SOA and service-orientation. More than three years in development and subjected to numerous industry reviews, the 85 patterns in this full-color book provide the most successful and proven design techniques to overcoming the most common and critical problems to achieving modern-day SOA. Through numerous examples, individually documented pattern profiles, and over 400 color illustrations, this book provides in-depth coverage of: â ¢Â Patterns for the design, implementation, and governance of service inventoriesâ "collections of services representing individual service portfolios that can be independently modeled, designed, and evolved. â ¢Â Â Patterns specific to service-level architecture which pertain to a wide range of design areas, including contract design, security, legacy encapsulation, reliability, scalability, and a variety of implementation and governance issues. â ¢Â Â Service composition patterns that address the many aspects associated with combining services into aggregate distributed solutions, including topics such as runtime messaging and message design, inter-service security controls, and transformation. â ¢Â Â Compound patterns (such as Enterprise Service Bus and Orchestration) and recommended pattern application sequences that establish foundational processes. The book begins by establishing SOA types that are referenced throughout the patterns and then form the basis of a final chapter that discusses the architectural impact of service-oriented computing in general. These chapters bookend the pattern catalog to provide a clear link between SOA design patterns, the strategic goals of service-oriented computing, different SOA types, and the service-orientation design paradigm. Â This book series is further supported by a series of resources sites, including soabooks.com, soaspecs.com, soapatterns.org, soamag.com, and soaposters.com.

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Customer Reviews

This text provides a wonderful and thorough explanation of base SOA principles. The core definitions are concrete, base references well chosen and contains many useful points for consideration. The key topics are covered in a logical structure and approached in logical order. This makes the text much more useful for building a foundation on SOA than its competitors.However, the text clearly overstates the issues. The use of non-illuminating case studies coupled with needlessly complex re-definition of key terminology makes this reference sheer overkill. This book provides a key example of taking simple concepts and turning them in on themselves to make them appear much more complex than they really are. I am unsure whether this is because of the author's desire to become the biblical reference that Distributed Systems: Principles and Paradigms is or if it is simply because the author wants to make the topic seem more intellectually difficult to grasp than it really is.I do not want to take away from the value of the content covered, but there are much more succinct and light-hearted publications that will lead you to the same base understanding. It is VERY wordy and over-stated, but it is worth having in your stack of SOA, Web Services, etc. etc. etc. reference stack. If for nothing else, than key citations and consideration points.Possibly the most value thing I got from this book was the ability to ask additional questions and put key things to consideration that would have otherwise been missed. Sometimes the most obvious things are taken for granted and hence overlooked -- this book touches on that wonderfully.

I think this book shares the same defect as the rest of the books in the SOA/Erl series: it's essentially an over-modeled collection of diagrams and abstractions with little real information,

wrapped in advertising for the Erl/SOA brand. The modeling reaches the point of absurdity when models are given to depict where you are in the process or pattern, and when diagrams are used in place of concise text. (I kid you not; there's one "pattern" where the text makes the vapidly obvious claim that large problems can be broken into smaller ones, and large solutions can be broken into smaller ones, then proceeds to model that claim with two large diagrams of large problems and large solutions being broken into smaller problems and smaller solutions, respectively.)Each pattern has lots of abstract claims and diagrams, and then is usually followed by a snippet of an XML configuration file with the one line that characterizes the "pattern" in bold. IOW, the whole pattern could have been reduced to one paragraph with an XML snippet. I don't have the book in front of me, but to give you an example of what I'm talking about, imagine a whole chapter on the "Services Security Pattern" with fifty pages of text and block diagrams talking at a high level about how security is important (including large diagrams that model concepts like [User] -> [Login] -> [Authentication], followed by an XML web service configuration file snippet that enables the use of WS-Basic.I get the impression that these books are just promotional material for the class that Erl & Co. are trying to get readers to pay for.

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