

Information processing in retail industry using innovative information technologies: The Retail Information System (RIS)

Characteristics of essential IT components and conceptual system design especially taking into consideration the requirements of knowledge management and empirically proven experiences

by

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Abstract:

In the age of post-industrialisation companies of all economic sectors become aware of the need to crosslink data and information in order to achieve their utilisation to generate knowledge and as thus to increase the individual entrepreneurial efficiency and effectiveness. In parallel the intra-industrial division of work in combination with rising outsourcing of trading activities to specialised companies strengthens the strategic position of the economic sector of retailing. However retail companies can hardly re-engineer their long lasting designed and mostly fragmentarily integrated multi-application landscapes to an IT infrastructure which is conform to age of post-industrialisation typical requirements.

Against this background the present dissertation documents and analyses a RIS-called Web Service architecture based information system. This system is aiming to solve the above mentioned problems by providing mandatory, retail application independent integration and communication mechanisms as well as dedicated mechanisms for a centralised packaging of the different industry business applications on basis of a centrally administered pool of functionality.