List of Abbreviations

ADO: ActiveX Data Object
API: Application Programming Interface
BLOB: Binary Large Object
CDM: Common Data Model
CGI: Common Gateway Interface
COMCOL: Communication and Collaboration Layer
CORBA: Common Object Request Broker Architecture
DBA: Database Administrator
DBT: Data Browsing Tool
DC: Dublin Core
DCMI: Dublin Core Meta-data Initiative
DIMS: Distributed Information Management System
DLL: Dynamic Link Library
DTD: Data Type Definition
EC: Electronic Commerce
ER: Entity Relationship
EXP: Export Schema
FL: Federated Layer
FDBMS: Federated Database Management System
FRS: Federated Resources Specifications
FQP: Federated Query Processing
GF12S: Generic and Flexile Information Integration System
IDL: Interface Definition Language
IIS: Internet Information Server
IMP: Import Schema
INT: Integrated Schema
IPR: Intellectual Propriety Rights
JDBC: Java DataBase Connectivity
**LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

**LAL**: Local Adaptation Layer  
**LAN**: Local Area Network  
**LOC**: Local Schema  
**LRS**: Local Resources Specifications  
**MACS**: Material Analysis for Complex Surfaces  
**NFL**: Node Federation Layer  
**ODBC**: Open Database Connectivity  
**ODBMS**: Object Database Management Systems  
**ODL**: Object Definition Language  
**ODMG**: Object Database Management Group  
**OIF**: Object Interchange Format  
**OLAP**: On Line Analysis Processing  
**OLE-DB**: Object Linking and Embedding for Databases  
**OMT**: Object Modeling Technique  
**OQL**: Object Query Language  
**ORDBMS**: Object-Relational Database Management Systems  
**RDBMS**: Relational Database Management Systems  
**RMI**: Remote Method Invocation  
**SDDL**: Schema Definition and Derivation Language  
**SMT**: Schema Manipulation Tool  
**SQL**: Structured Query Language  
**SQL/CLI**: SQL Call-Level Interface  
**SQL/PSM**: SQL Persistent, Stored Modules  
**STEP**: Standard for the Exchange of Product Model Data  
**UML**: Unified Modeling Language  
**UDBA**: Universal DataBase Access Interface  
**VIMCO**: Virtual-laboratory Information Management for COoperation  
**ViSE**: Virtual Simulation and Exploration  
**VL**: Virtual Laboratory  
**VLAM-G**: Grid-based Virtual Laboratory Amsterdam  
**VL-e**: Virtual Laboratory for Experimental Science  
**XML**: eXtensible Markup Language  
**WAN**: Wide Area Network