Federated Information Management for virtual enterprises

Garita Rodriguez, C.O.

Citation for published version (APA):
Acknowledgements

First of all, I would like to thank my promoter and co-promoter for giving me the opportunity to become a member of their group, and for all the confidence and support that I have received from them. Working with Hamideh I learned about many aspects of academic life ranging from writing publications in English, to carrying out high-level research. Without her dedication and daily supervision this thesis would not have reached this final stage in the shape that it presently has. From Bob I always received wise and prompt advice regarding the content and structure of this thesis, and all the steps that led to its defense. I am very grateful to both of you for all the work that we have done together during the last years.

In the same way, I want to thank all the members of my group with whom I shared many professional and recreational activities. In particular, Adam, Arjan, Ammar, Anne, Ersin, Yasemin, and Victor always helped me keep up with the good work, and really made my life in Amsterdam much more enjoyable. It was a pleasure for me to work with such a nice multi-cultural group of people.

I also want to express my appreciation to the members of the evaluation committee for the time that they dedicated to the promotion activities. I am sincerely grateful to Prof. Camarinha-Matos for his many constructive comments and the ad honorem advisory role that he played during the final writing process of this thesis.

I am also thankful to the partners of the PRODNET II project. Without their collaboration, the real-case application scenarios that supported an important part of this research would not have been so faithfully developed.

Furthermore, during the elaboration of this thesis I received the assistance of many colleagues and friends from the Faculty of Science. I cannot mention all the names, but people from the secretariat, the personnel office, the financial administration, the systems management group, the reception desk, and the library, were always very attentive and accessible to my requests. Moreover, they were usually very patient enduring my unending attempts to learn Dutch. In particular, Jacqueline and Virginie offered me a lot of help during the final stages of this thesis.

Similarly, I wish to thank the members of the ISIS and IAS groups for their spirit of comradery and good fellowship.

In addition, during my stay in Amsterdam I have had many housemates at several places and for different periods of time, who have one way or another contributed to the accomplishment of this work. Just to mention a few of them: Nikos, Joost, Gijs, Daniel, (another) Nikos, and the Plancius guys, I thank you all for your after-hours
company and for welcoming me into your families. For the very same reasons, I would like to heartily thank Frans at this point as well.

The football Saturdays with the Vondelpark Rangers also contributed indirectly to this work, mostly by raising the state of my mood.

I am deeply grateful to a group of old friends who have always comforted me from overseas despite the distance between us. Erick, Tati, Annie, Grethel, Milton, Geovanny, Pablo, Lili, and Leo, among others, I thank you for your true friendship and constant encouragement.

Likewise, I thank Nacho and Ismael for acting as the initial contact persons between me and UvA.

I also acknowledge the support of the Costa Rican Institute of Technology (ITCR) through the Scholarship Committee, which facilitated my leave to perform this research at UvA.

Finalmente, quiero agradecer a mis padres y hermanos por darme la fuerza y la motivación necesarias para iniciar y llevar a cabo este trabajo. Nunca hubiera podido alcanzar esta meta sin su apoyo, sus sacrificios, y su comprensión por todo el tiempo que no pude estar con ellos.

César Orlando Garita Rodríguez
Amsterdam, August 2001