SIM

Delivering Business Value
Through IT Leadership

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Advanced Practices Council® Focuses on Cloud Computing and Energy Informatics
Cutting-edge research enables enterprise IT organizations to be at the forefront of innovation

SEATTLE — The Society for Information Management's (SIM) Advanced Practices Council (APC) is heading into SIM*posium* 09 with research focusing on cloud computing and Energy Informatics.

"We're just scratching the surface in terms of the possibilities surrounding cloud computing and Energy Informatics," says APC Program Director Madeline Weiss. "APC research allows members to explore these emerging issues in-depth and prepare their organizations to be at the forefront of adoption to drive business growth."

Cloud Computing

As various cloud types have emerged, providers have developed services for their internal use and allowed customers to utilize their excess capacity. This APC research is analyzing the major cloud providers and assessing their capabilities from a customer perspective. The researchers will conduct a pilot study to understand the actual usage of cloud attributes by companies and then connect these attributes to business value.

A second study focuses on integrating software as a service (SaaS) with enterprise legacy systems, creating a risk/reward analytical framework to help management assess whether possible SaaS solutions would be cost effective for their organizations.

Energy Informatics

The efficiency of many current energy consumption and distribution systems can be improved by using sensor networks to gather information about their use and applying the gathered information to optimize these systems. A specialist subfield, Energy Informatics, will emerge to focus on creating information systems-based solutions for energy supply/demand systems. The APC research found that CIOs will increasingly be given responsibility for finding solutions to reduce corporate energy consumption as the idea of Energy Informatics gains acceptance. This report provides a framework for addressing the role of the IS unit in reducing energy consumption.

This research was awarded first place in the SIM 2009 Paper Award competition by an independent panel comprised of representatives from academia and business.

2009 APC Reports

Cloud computing and Energy Informatics are just the two latest APC research projects to explore emerging IT issues in depth in order to help APC members to stay at the forefront of innovation and drive growth in their businesses. For instance, in 2009 APC members were provided additional pragmatic research on:

- Grooming the 2010 CIO
- IT Governance and Controls
- Enterprise Mash-ups
- Benefits and Risks of Open Source
- The Wiki in Your Company
- Information Lifecycle Management
- IT Metrics
- Driving Breakthrough Innovation

For more information about SIM and the APC, visit apc.simnet.org. For questions specific to the APC and topics listed above, contact Program Director Madeline Weiss at 301.229.8062.

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About APC
The Advanced Practices Council (APC) is an exclusive forum for senior IT executives who value directing and applying pragmatic research; exploring emerging IT issues in-depth; and hearing different, global perspectives of colleagues in other industries.

Founded in 1991 by Warren McFarlan of the Harvard Business School, the APC is widely known as the "must-attend" CIO forum. Grounded in thought leadership and member-directed research, and designed to stimulate strategic solutions for common business issues, APC is ideal for C-level executives who are looking to achieve superior business results.

About SIM
Established in 1968, the Society for Information Management (SIM) is the premier network for IT leaders comprised of more than 3,800 members including CIOs, senior IT executives, prominent academicians, and foremost consultants. SIM is a community of thought leaders who share experiences, apply rich intellectual capital, and who explore future IT direction. Through its 31 Chapters, SIM provides resources and programs inspired by IT leaders for IT leaders that enable CIOs to further develop their leadership capabilities and those of the emerging leaders in their organizations. SIM provides the collective voice to advocate policy and legislation on behalf of the IT profession.