Dear readers

Welcome to the new issue of the eight volume of the Journal of Systems Integration. This issue, as usual, is dedicated to a wide range of topics related to the interesting and useful application of information systems and technologies.

The answer to the question of whether and when the information system is efficient and effective is being studied extensively by many authors. In the article “Information Systems Efficiency Model” written by Miloš Koch and Zuzana Chvátalová is outlined concept of the new method that should help managers evaluate their information systems – to determine whether they are efficient and purposeful for use in company processes.

Spectrum of the benefits of information technology, especially in the time of the expansion of the Internet, is very rich and varied. Increased access to Internet connectivity, mainly through mobile handsets, makes it even more compelling for business organizations, including those who advertise rental properties online, to invest more resources in online platforms that connect consumers to products and services they are looking for. Article “A System for Recommending Rental Properties,” written by Bernard Shibwabo Kasamani and Guy Nahimana presents an effort in that direction.

Mobile technology has enabled consumers to access bank services using mobile phone that is mobile banking, pay for products and administrations utilizing cell telephones that is mobile payments, and shop for goods facilitated by use of mobile phones. The Banking and financial industry has therefore witnessed a real revolution due to the fast growth of mobile technology. How it happens in Zimbabwe is analyzed in the article of Paul Mupfiga and Tafadzwa Padare: “The rise of mobile technology in the financial sectors in Zimbabwe.”

The advantages of ontologies are known and theoretically sound with regard to enterprise information systems. However, there is still ongoing research on integrating them into software systems and evaluating their impact on these systems Article “Integrating an ontology into a software system” written by Leila Zemmouchi-Ghomari, Abdessamed Réda Ghomari, Lamia Adjir and Lynda Belaala proposes a generic approach to the integration of an ontology into a software system.

Article “Study of the Readiness of Czech Companies to the Industry 4.0” written by Jakub Kopp and Josef Basl is a follow-up to articles dealing with very topical issues INDUSTRY 4.0. These articles, written by Josef Basl and Felicita Chromjakova, have been published in the Vol. 7. No.4 and Vol 8. No. 1 in this Journal. Main result of the questionnaire survey done in the Czech companies is such, that most companies do not consider Industry 4.0 as an important topic for today. It may be because these companies are poorly informed about the potential benefits and impacts of Industry 4.0 implementation.

I hope this issue will bring you many new interesting and useful findings again.

Please don’t hesitate to send me your opinions and suggestions.

Zdenek Molnar - Editor in Chief