



# VENIS

*A lightweight platform to support interoperability among Large and Small Medium Enterprises.*

## VENIS in a nutshell

VENIS stands for "Virtual Enterprises by Networked Interoperability Services". It is a project co-financed by the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Commission.

It aims at bridging the gap of interoperability between Large and Small- Medium Enterprises, following the "Virtual Organisation" paradigm and leaving almost unchanged the already existing legacy procedures

and the current way of working.

VENIS implements the **VENIS Services for Enterprises Interoperability (VSI)**, a lightweight platform specifically focused towards the interoperability and collaboration between Large Enterprises, with rich IT ecosystems, and the Small Medium Enterprises (with special attention to Micro Enterprises) with poor or missing IT infrastructure.

## Why VENIS

VENIS VSI provides a full management of the Business Collaborations and a set of integrated services at the crossroad of three key needs of the joint business activities:

✓ **Information Sharing across the business partners**

VENIS provides a distributed and secure repository to share the information contained in the file systems, databases, ERPs, CRMs, and other legacy applications of the enterprises.

✓ **Data Exchange based on commonly used e-mails**

VENIS provides a set of lightweight web services for the smart integration of the information exchanged in joint works, based on legacy email systems and boosted by semantic annotations and search.

✓ **Business Processes supporting the joint work of the partners**

VENIS provides a distributed processes engine mechanism, able to link and execute the enterprises business processes, to assist the work in joint businesses and to create novel synergies in products supply chains.

All is powered by an extensive use of **Lightweight Semantics** to search data and support users interactions.

*Are you interested  
in innovative tools  
and processes to  
manage  
collaborative  
projects?*

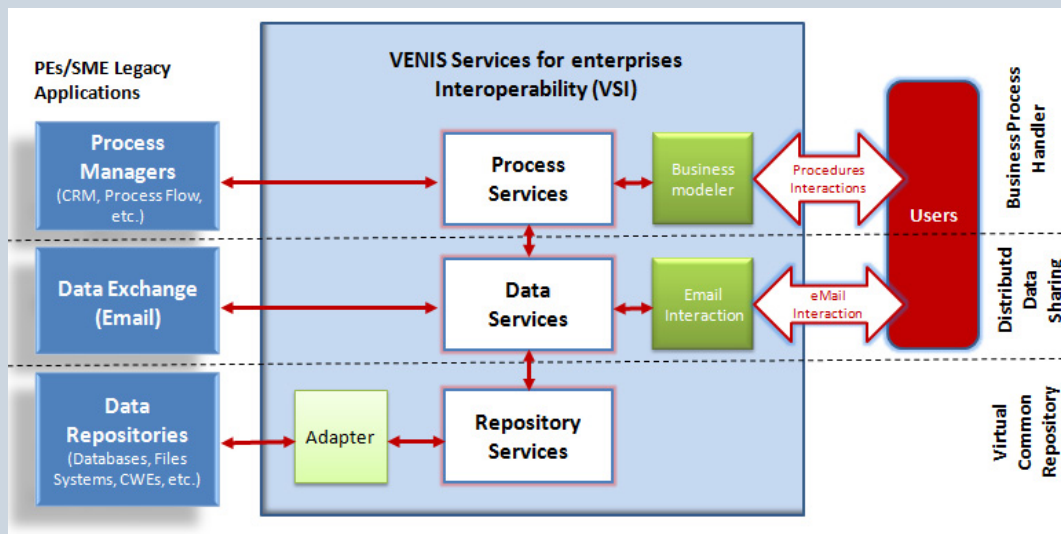


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## VENIS Services for Enterprise Interoperability Architecture – VSI



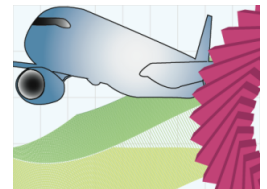
## Three applications of VENIS in the real world

### Product Development

This application case concerns the development process of a new product in the aerospace domain. In particular the application context refers to the management of an integrated CAD-CAE design process.

VENIS supports:

- The exchange of resources between SMEs and LE
- The creation of distributed working groups able to interact with business processes
- The Identification of standards and rules for common technological interface



### Software Supply Chain



This application case faces the supply chain aspects related to software development and maintenance. Flexible "Search and Manage" capabilities are needed to reach the expected level of collaboration in the distributed design & development of software and during the post-sales customer care.

VENIS supports:

- Smooth interaction among parties
- Easy management of the relations
- Transparent flow of information

### Supply Chain Collaboration

This application case is based on a scenario that takes place between Link technologies – a SME that provides goods and services – and the Bus Transport Organization of Thessaloniki (OASTH).

VENIS supports:

- The automation of processes
- The reduction for human intervention in quotation and order fulfillment between multiple enterprises



## VENIS latest papers and participation in events

- ❖ Paper on '**Support for collaboration between large and small & medium enterprises**' – presented at ACM Group conferences 2014 in November 2014.
- ❖ VENIS participated in the '**innovating innovation**' conference (20- 21 October 2014 - Rome). The project team gave a presentation and a demo/tutorial on VENIS approach to interoperability among Large and Small-Medium Enterprises.
- ❖ Paper on '**Approach for enterprise search and interoperability using lightweight semantic**' published in the 18th International Conference on Intelligent Engineering Systems (INES) July 2014.
- ❖ Fourth place for VENIS system and its **retrieval-based approach** at the Entity Recognition and Disambiguation (ERD) Challenge. One of the workshops of the SIGIR 2014 (July 6-11 2014).



'Innovating Innovation'  
Conference Rome October 2014

## VENIS VSI first release is now available

VENIS VSI first release is now available. To better understand its features here is an example of what you can do with VENIS VSI in a general Request for Quotation (RFQ) scenario. The RFQ scenario is the typical business process "Contacts-to-Order", where a provider (in our case, the Large Enterprise) needs to sub-contract a supplier (in our case, the SME).

- **Step 1 - The provider writes a Request for Quotation (RFQ)** - Here the VSI allows the LE to easily share the information needed for the writing of the RFQ keeping the current procedure, based on email exchanges of specifications for the suppliers and use of the Legacy Applications storage. During the writing procedure, the information related to the RFQ is automatically stored in the VENIS Collaboration repository.
- **Step 2 - The RFQ is sent to a list of potential suppliers** - Here the VSI provides full support to the business process needed for the RFQ distribution and quotes collection. The potential suppliers are extract by VSI semantic search, the shipment of the RFQ is automatically provided and the waiting of the quotes is fully implemented, without any user effort.
- **Step 3 - The quotes are received and evaluated** - Here the VSI implements embedded services such as reminders and secure transfer of the quotes from SME to LE, by using token technology; the remote SME processes, if any, are triggered by the LE process, thus allowing a full interoperability across different sized enterprises.
- **Step 4 - The best supplier is identified and is contracted** - Here the VSI helps by providing past contracts and experiences with the potential suppliers by semantic search. At the end of the business process, the entire information exchanged in the Contact-to-Order procedure is contained in the Collaboration repository, to be later used as a historical database.



You can view demo videos on the use of the VSI on our website.

### Contact information

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