

<Cocoon Day="2003-Nov-18" />



# The Cocoon Portal

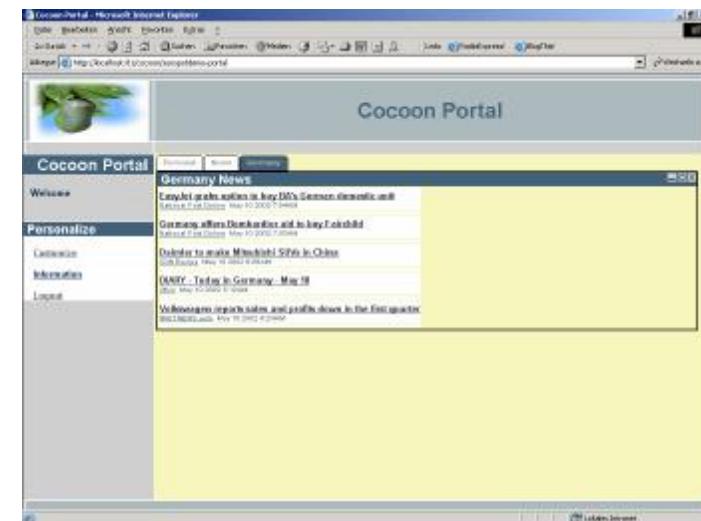
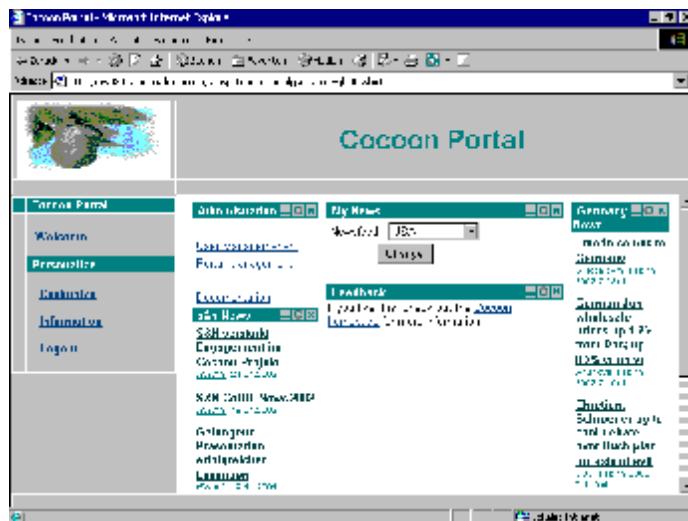
Matthew Langham

Leiter  
Competence Center Open Source  
S&N AG



## Agenda

- ◆ **Portal Basics**
- ◆ **Cocoon Introduction**
- ◆ **Opening the Portal**
- ◆ **The Future**



## What is a Portal?

- ◆ Web Based Application
  - ◆ Personalization
  - ◆ Individualization
  - ◆ Content Aggregation
    - ◆ Using Portlets
  - ◆ Single Sign On

## What is a Portal?

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Cocoon Portal Engine. The title bar says "cocoon The Cocoon Portal". The main content area has a dark blue header with the "cocoon Portal" logo. Below the header is a navigation menu with tabs: Main, News, Weblogs, and Cocoon. The "Main" tab is selected. A sub-menu titled "Introduction" is open, showing the following content:

**The Cocoon Portal**

This is a demo of the Cocoon Portal Engine.

The Cocoon portal page you currently view displays some so called *Coplets* (= Cocoon Portlets). Each coplet displays a select content.

For more information [visit the Cocoon Homepage](#).

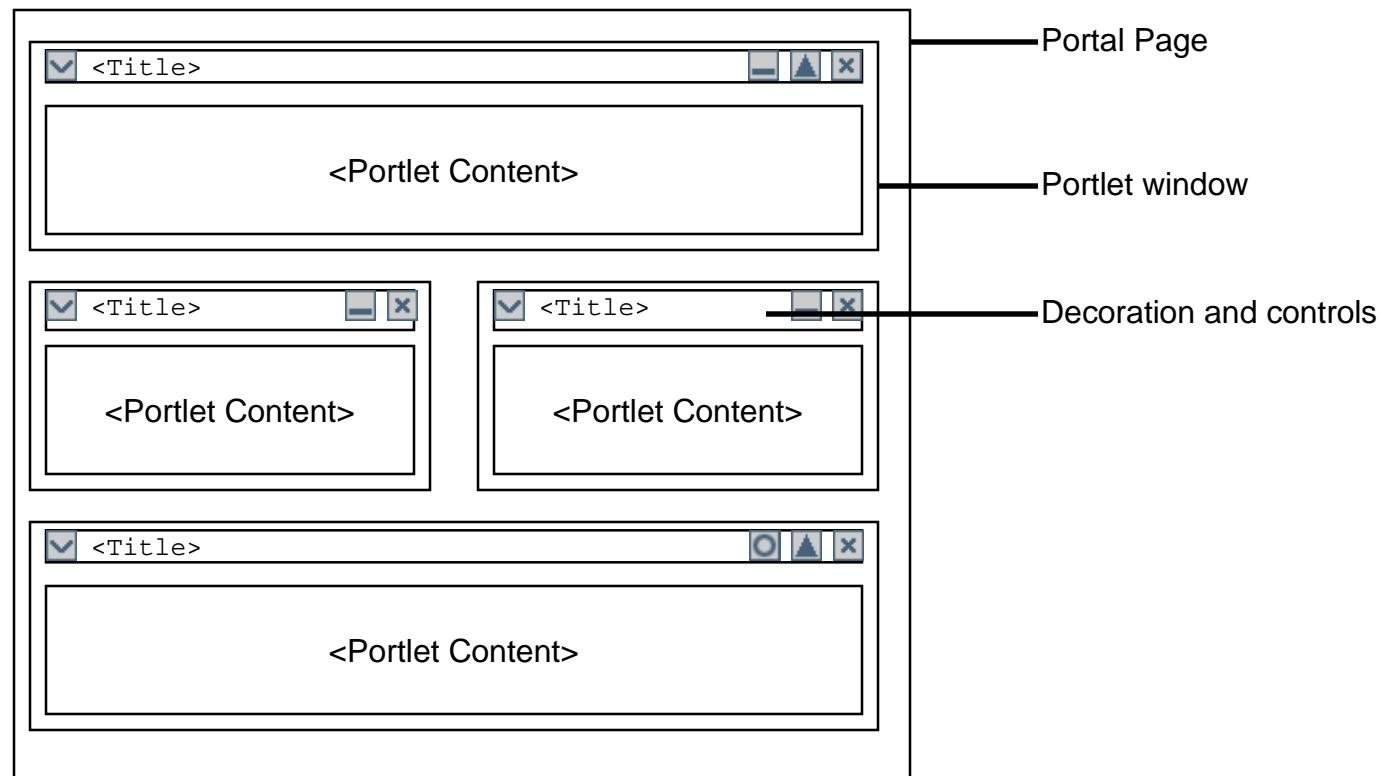
Below this, there are three separate windows labeled "Left Demo", "Right Demo", and "Portal Bottom Demo", each containing a "Coplet".

- Left Demo:** Title: **Flexible Layout**. Content: You are absolutely free in defining the portal layout. You can combine the usual layout elements, like rows and columns, in any order and even can nest them. By this you can create coplets, like the sample above and below, that span more than one column etc. Even more complex elements, like tabs are possible.
- Right Demo:** Title: **Customization**. Content: The whole portal engine is built up by a set of (Avalon) components. You can customize (change/enhance) every aspect of the portal by using a different component for the same task.
- Portal Bottom Demo:** Title: **Further Information**. Content: For further information have a look at the Cocoon documentation and at the other portal demos available using the tab above.

## What is a Portlet?

- ◆ Web Component
  - ◆ Generates (dynamic) Content
    - ◆ News
    - ◆ Links
    - ◆ Complete Web Application
    - ◆ ...
  - ◆ Managed by a Portlet Container

# A Portal Page Sample



# The Cocoon Portal

## Introduction



## History of the Cocoon Portal

- ◆ Started in September 2000
  - ◆ Commercial product developed by S&N
  - ◆ Based on Cocoon
  - ◆ Additional components and project specific additions
  - ◆ CMS, Tools, documentation, trainings
- ◆ Completed in mid 2001
  - ◆ sunRise and sunSpot
  - ◆ Used in various projects
- ◆ Donated to the Cocoon project in February 2002
  - ◆ Used around the world
- ◆ Started new Portal Engine in the end of 2002
  - ◆ The usual advantages

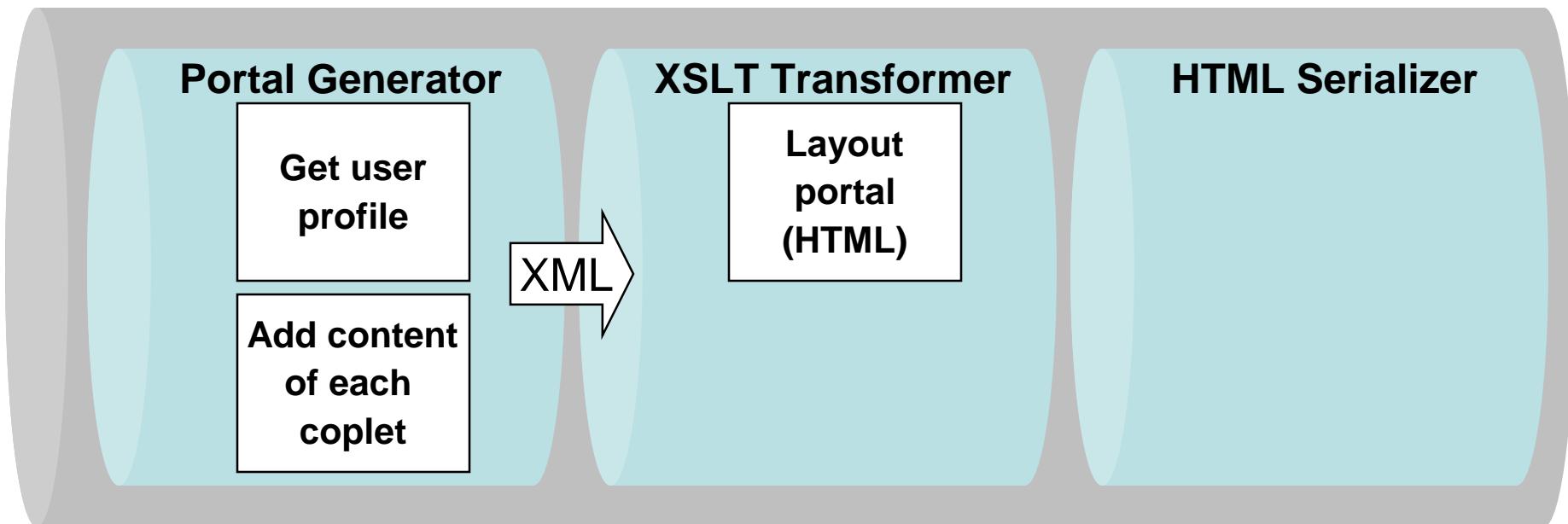
## Common Requirements...

- ◆ Integration of different data sources
  - ◆ Static sources (HTML, XML, Office Documents...)
  - ◆ Dynamic sources (CMS, Archives...)
  - ◆ Databases (SQL DB, XML DB, LDAP...)
  - ◆ Complex Applications
- ◆ Single Sign-On
- ◆ Personalization
- ◆ Individualization
- ◆ Multi Channel
  - ◆ PCs (HTML, XML)
  - ◆ Mobile, Organizer (WML)
  - ◆ Documents (PDF, Office Documents)
  - ◆ Email
  - ◆ Applications

## ...fulfilled by Cocoon

- ◆ Advantages of the pipeline concept
  - ◆ Different Generators for retrieving data
  - ◆ Different Transformers for manipulating/augmenting data
  - ◆ Stylesheet Transformation
    - ◆ for various output formats
    - ◆ for customized pages
- ◆ Logic
  - ◆ Format Detection
  - ◆ Page Flow
  - ◆ Actions

# Portal Pipeline



# Generating the Portal View

- ◆ Getting the Profile
  - ◆ Layout
  - ◆ User preferences
- ◆ Rendering the View
  - ◆ Drawing the layout
- ◆ Aggregating Content
  - ◆ Include content of selected coplets

# Defining The Portal Layout

- ◆ Hierarchical Tree of
  - ◆ Composite Layout Objects
    - ◆ Row, Column
    - ◆ Tab
    - ◆ ...
  - ◆ Single Layout Objects
    - ◆ Coplet Window
    - ◆ Frame
    - ◆ Link
    - ◆ ...
  - ◆ Deep nesting possible!

# Defining The Portal Layout

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**The Cocoon Portal**

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For more information [visit the Cocoon Homepage](#).

Below this, there are two side-by-side demo windows:

**Left Demo**: **Flexible Layout**

You are absolutely free in defining the portal layout. You can combine the usual layout elements, like rows and columns, in any order and even can nest them.

By this you can create coplets, like the sample above and below, that span more than one column etc.

Even more complex elements, like tabs are possible.

**Right Demo**: **Customization**

The whole portal engine is built up by a set of (Avalon) components. You can customize (change/enhance) every aspect of the portal by using a different component for the same task.

At the bottom, there is a panel titled "Portal Bottom Demo" containing the following text:

**Further Information**

For further information have a look at the Cocoon documentation and at the other portal demos available using the tab above.

# Defining The Portal Layout

Row

Coplet Window

Column

Coplet Window

Coplet Window

Coplet Window

# Defining The Portal Layout

```
<composite-layout name="row">
  <item>
    <coplet-layout name="coplet">
      <coplet-instance-data>First</coplet-instance-data>
    </coplet-layout>
  </item>
  <item>
    <composite-layout name="column">
      <item>
        <coplet-layout name="coplet">
          <coplet-instance-data>Left</coplet-instance-data>
        </coplet-layout>
      </item>
      <item>
        <coplet-layout name="coplet">
          <coplet-instance-data>Right</coplet-instance-data>
        </coplet-layout>
      </item>
    </composite-layout>
  </item>
  <item>
    <coplet-layout name="coplet">
      <coplet-instance-data>Bottom</coplet-instance-data>
    </coplet-layout>
  </item>
</composite-layout>
```

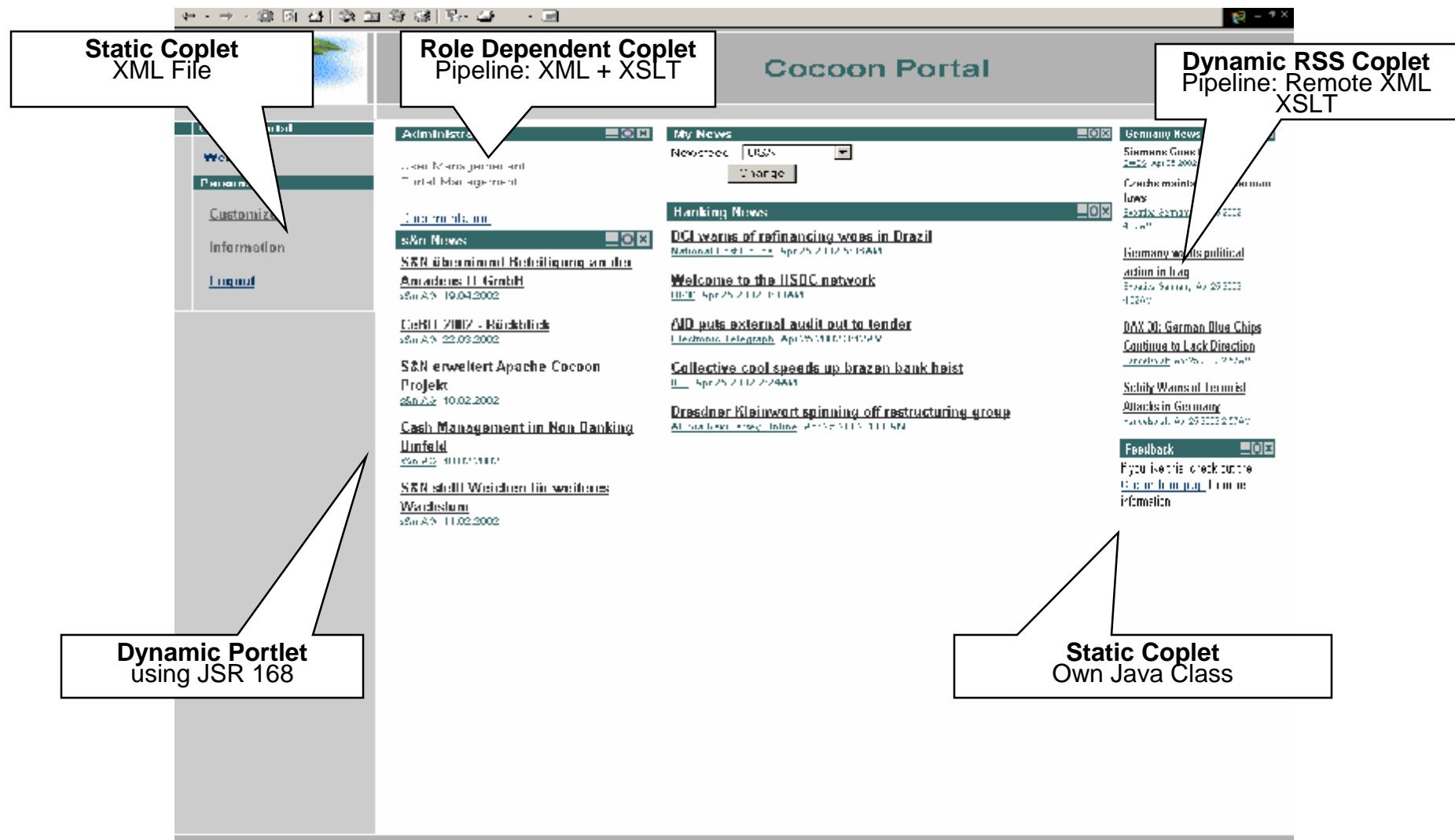
# Rendering The Portal Layout

- ◆ Configured renderer for each layout
  - ◆ XML, HTML, WML, ...
- ◆ Renderers traverse the tree
- ◆ Placeholder for each coplet

```
<table>
  <tr><td>
    <coplet-layout name="coplet">
      <coplet-instance-data>First</coplet-instance-data>
    </coplet-layout>
  </td></tr>
  ...
</table>
```

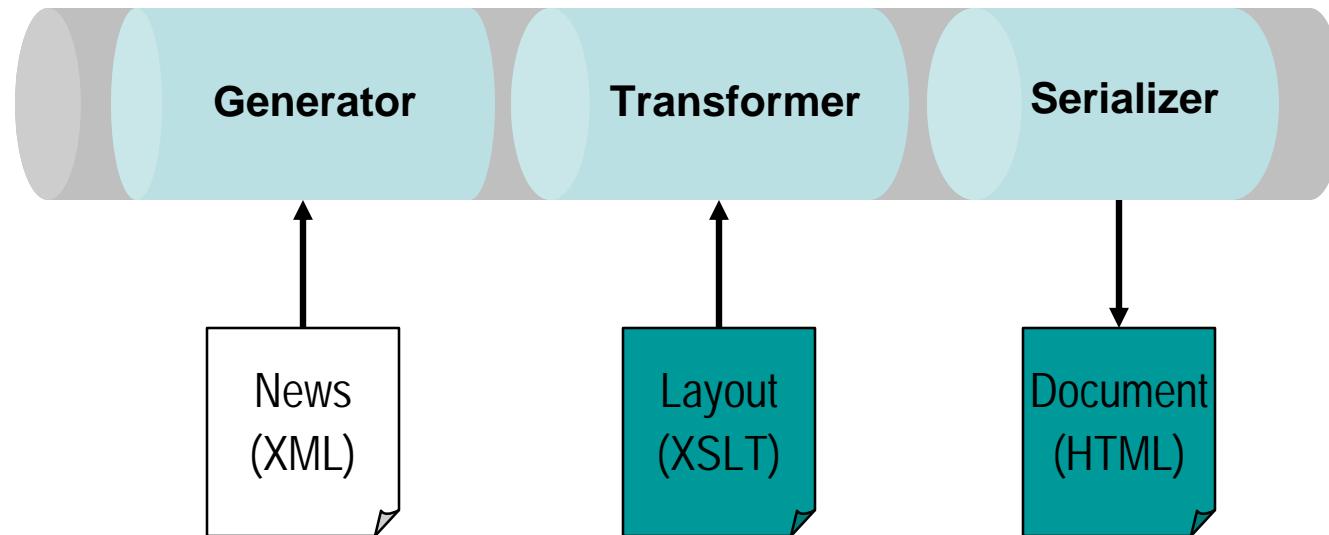
# Getting Content from Coplets

- ◆ Different types of coplets
  - ◆ Static
  - ◆ URI based
  - ◆ Pipeline based
  - ◆ JSR 168 portlets (coming real soon now J )
  - ◆ Custom



## Coplet Sample

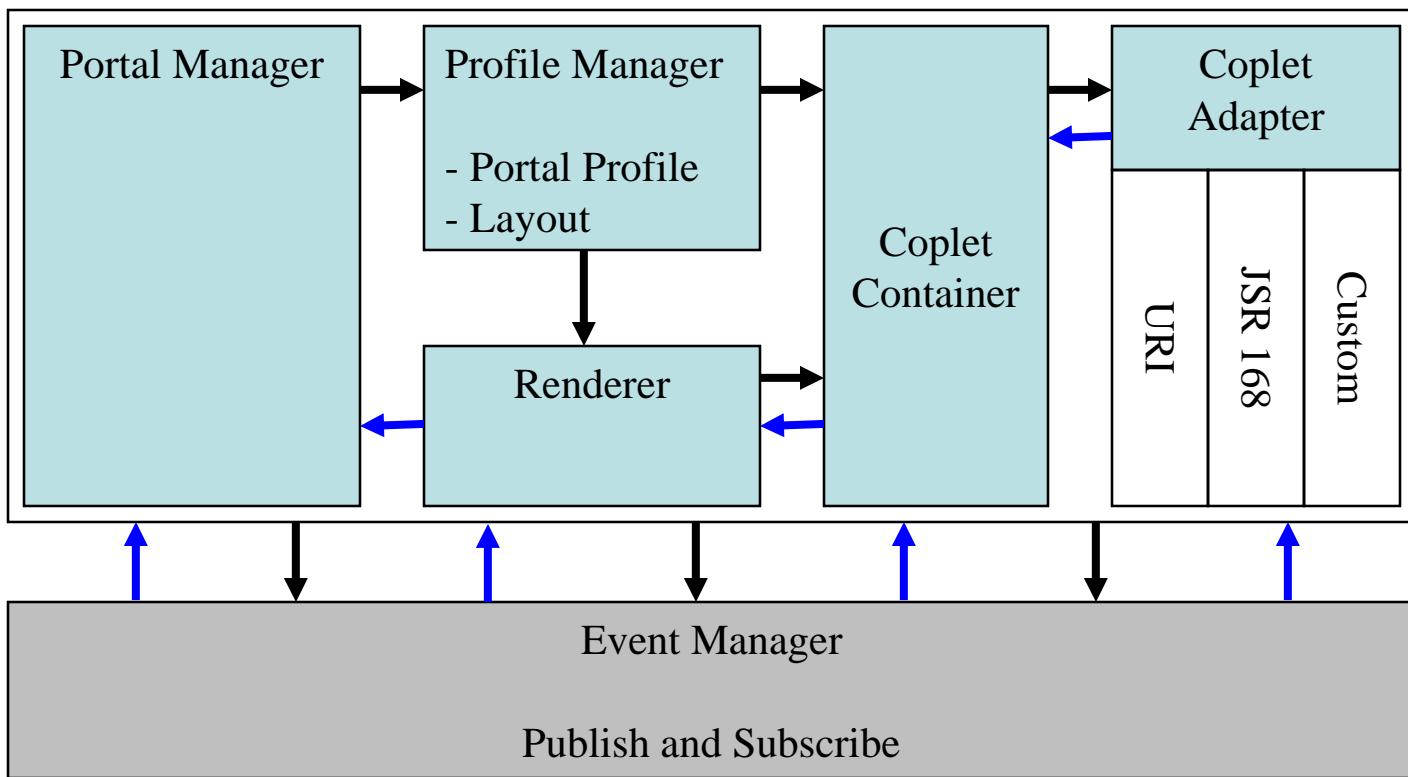
- ◆ Reads news from RSS feed
  - ◆ Example: <http://radio.weblogs.com/0107211/rss.xml>
- ◆ Transforms news to HTML
- ◆ Uses a simple Cocoon pipeline



## Cocoon Portal

- ◆ Definition and configuration in XML
  - ◆ Layout (ordering) separated from content
  - ◆ Using existing types
  - ◆ Requires no Java coding
- ◆ Predefined coplet types
  - ◆ Simple usage of Cocoon for delivering content
  - ◆ Requires no Java coding

# The Bigger Picture



## The Bigger Picture

- ◆ The Cocoon Portal is
  - ◆ Assembled of several (Avalon) components
  - ◆ Change of behaviour through
    - ◆ Change of (XML) configuration
    - ◆ Exchanging/Extending components
  - ◆ Highly extensible
  - ◆ Pluggable

## The Bigger Picture - Example

- ◆ The Profile Manager
  - ◆ Delivers the portal layout
  - ◆ Delivers the profile
  - ◆ Delivers preferences
  - ◆ Manages (persists) all of the above

## The Bigger Picture - Example

- ◆ Static Profiles
  - ◆ Reads static XML files
- ◆ Profiles per User
  - ◆ Authentication Framework in Cocoon
    - ◆ Authentication of Users
    - ◆ Protection of Documents (Pipelines)
    - ◆ Flexible Integration of (existing) User Databases
  - ◆ One persistent profile for each user
    - ◆ XML documents
    - ◆ Flexible storing anywhere
  - ◆ Profile Hierarchy
    - ◆ Role based
- ◆ Your own Profile Manager

## Portal Features

- ◆ Everything is configurable
  - ◆ Available coplets
  - ◆ Features of a coplet
  - ◆ Layout information
  - ◆ User rights
- ◆ Flexible Presentation
  - ◆ Stylesheets for multi-channel
  - ◆ Coplets can be channel-dependent
- ◆ Parallel Processing

# The Cocoon Portal

Real World Examples



# Portal Example at BASF

**Elastogran**



Suche

**BASF Gruppe**

**Important Links On Web**

**Link 1** hier erscheint der beschreibende Text zum Link

**Link 2** hier erscheint der beschreibende Text zum Link

**Link 3** hier erscheint der beschreibende Text zum Link

**Speisepläne**

Die Kantine empfiehlt ...

**Europäische Standorte**

Anfahrtskizzen und Standortinformationen sind für folgende Werke verfügbar:

**Lemförde Schwarzheide Olching**

**Research News**

Weit hinten, hinter den Wortbergen, fern der Länder Vokalien und Konsonantien leben die Blindtexte. Abgeschieden wohnen Sie in Buchstabhausen an der Küste des Semantik, eines großen Sprachozeans. Ein kleines Bächlein namens Duden fließt durch ihren Ort und versorgt sie mit den nötigen Regelalien. Es ist ein paradiesmatisches Land, in dem einem... [mehr ...](#)

**Elastogran Latest News**

**Wissen über den Nachbarn auf den neuesten Stand gebracht**

16 Schwestern des Diakonissen-Mutterhauses Lemförde besuchten die benachbarte Elastogran. Sie nutzten die Einladung, um ihre Kenntnisse über das Unternehmen auf den neuesten Stand zu bringen. „Es tut gut zu wissen, was in der Nachbarschaft produziert wird und wie verantwortungsvoll die Mitarbeiter des Unternehmens mit den eingesetzten Stoffen und Verfahren umgehen“ ... [mehr ...](#)

**Menue 1**  
**Menue 2**  
**Menue 3**  
**Wochenplan**

**Kleinanzeigen Kiosk**

Hier finden Sie alles von A wie "Auto" bis Z wie "Zugtickets". Was noch alles dazwischen liegt, finden Sie einfach und schnell.

Aktuelle Angebote: 123 Stck.  
[mehr...](#)

# Portal Example at BASF

The screenshot displays the homepage of the BASF portal. At the top, there is a horizontal navigation bar with icons for telephone directory, laboratory glassware, a trophy, food, and an A-Z index. To the right, the Elastogran BASF Gruppe logo is visible.

**mainmenu**

- Standorte
- Organigramm
- Elastogran Internet
- BASF Polyurethane
- Infomaterial
- Gästebuch
- VISION 2010

Kontakt

**researchnews**

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[mehr ...](#)

**latestnews**

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[mehr ...](#)

**europeanlocations**

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[mehr...](#)

**Top**

# Integrating Applications at RZB

integrated applications

aggregated menu

The image displays two screenshots of the RZB Demo Portal. The top screenshot shows the main portal interface with the RZB logo and a banner for 'Raiffeisen Services Framework Dokumentation'. The bottom screenshot shows a detailed view of the RSF Documentation, listing 'Gesamtkonzept' and 'Basiservices' tables. Red arrows point from the text labels 'integrated applications' and 'aggregated menu' to specific parts of the interface.

Module	Type	Document html	Document doc
Spezifikation	Konzept	<a href="#">RSF Spezifikation.htm</a>	<a href="#">RSF Spezifikation.doc</a>
Gesamtdokument	technical Documentation	<a href="#">RSFGesamtdokument.htm</a>	<a href="#">RSFGesamtdokument.doc</a>

Name	tech. Doku	xsd	wsdl	Konfig. in
Autentication Service	<a href="#">MS Word HTML</a>	<a href="#">xsd</a>		<a href="#">rsfconfig.xml</a>
Authorisation Service	<a href="#">MS Word HTML</a>	<a href="#">xsd</a>		<a href="#">rsfconfig.xml</a>
Caching Service	<a href="#">MS Word HTML</a>	n/a		
Logging Service	<a href="#">MS Word HTML</a>	n/a		
Mailing Service	<a href="#">MS Word HTML</a>	<a href="#">xsd</a>		<a href="#">rsfconfig.xml</a>
Resource Service	<a href="#">MS Word HTML</a>	<a href="#">xsd</a>	<a href="#">xsd (config)</a>	<a href="#">rsfconfig.xml</a>
Storage Service				

## The Cocoon Portal

- ◆ Is tried and trusted
- ◆ All Cocoon features are usable
  - ◆ Pipelines
  - ◆ Flow
  - ◆ Form handling
- ◆ Usable without Java knowledge
- ◆ Will soon extends the JSR 168
- ◆ Benefits from new concepts/features
  - ◆ In Cocoon (e.g. blocks)
  - ◆ And in the Portlet API

Thanks for your attention!

