A Web Framework for SMEs (Small and Medium Enterprises) using Loosely Coupled Web Services

Ardiansyah, Brian Timothy and Widodo Budiharto
School of Computer Science, Bina Nusantara University, Jakarta-Indonesia
Email: wbudiharto@binus.edu

Abstract—Indonesia has a lot of SMEs as well as significant employment. However, it is estimated SMEs only producing less than 40 percent of the GDP of Indonesia. This is because SMEs mainly in the fields of agriculture and handicraft industry has a low productivity of the total 53 million SMEs that exist, one of the only place due to lack of mastery of information technology and entrepreneurial skills. Partial developments of the SMEs do not have optimal results because they do not include the strengthening of Information Technology in business due to limited capacity. One reliable solution is to develop an integrated SME information portal based web services technologies, so that anyone can obtain product information and ordering that each SME can increase sales and transactions are SMEs. Loosely coupled web services is the latest web technologies which can provide information for anyone who wants to consume the methods for the portal, so the developers can access the methods and building web applications as needed. The results of this study are the exposure of the SME portal framework and web-based application services. The expected result is the creation of blueprints and application of SME portal framework based on Web Services is presented in this paper.

Index Terms—web services, SME, web portal

I. INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is ranked the sixth largest among developing countries and the fifth fastest growth among the G20 countries in 2010, Indonesia can no doubt is one of the fastest growing economies in the world.

Indonesia has a huge Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)and very much to absorb labor. However, it is estimated SMEs only producing less than 40 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Indonesia (Bisnis Indonesia, August 9, 2003) and increased only slightly to 53 percent of GDP in 2009. This is because SMEs, especially micro and agricultural sector (which a lot of employment), have very low productivity of the total SMEs reached 51.3 million, among a variety of factors, including low levels of mastery of technology and entrepreneurial skills among SMEs an issue raised at this time[1].

Partial development of SMEs has not much to give maximum results to increase the performance of SMEs, the wider economic development resulted in the level of competitiveness of Indonesia, other than that many SMEs do not apply in Information Technology in promoting their products. Based on the Peraturan Presiden No. 28 / 2008 about Indonesian policy of National industry, telematics as mainstay industry for the future should got serious attention in the implementation. So, application of IT for strengthening of SMEs is very important in this situation. According to Gilaninia et.al[9], some problems of small and medium enterprises for the adoption of ICT include:

1. SMEs don’t have expertise and knowledge and also lack of familiarity with technology, while for large businesses, this is not so. These costs include costs such as creation website, using e-commerce and costs associated with projects of electronic auctions, search engines and similar cases.

2. SMEs often have to accept market conditions and they are not in a situation like the big companies that form the market conditions (this issue is concerned follow and leader companies in the market). Moreover, instability (such as financial insecurity in SMEs) and potential risks in e-commerce, many SMEs may be inclined to risk aversion and the choice of conservative policies and in fact they adopt policy of "wait and observed” in acceptance of digital technology.

3. Small and medium companies due to limitations such as low investment, lack of laboratories, capacity less for communicating with and external consultants is facing to experiment with more serious problems for testing new procedures of business. Although financial constraints are the most important limitations but factors such as less time, fewer resources also imposed to these enterprises. Using modern ICT technology is In fact new ways that SMEs will face a substantial risk. Accordingly, we can say that the use of ICT in enterprises depends on the size of the firm.

State of the art of this research is a solution to overcome these problems by develops a framework and implemented as portal based on loosely coupled Web Services. Web Services is the latest web technologies which can provide information for anyone who wants to consume the information provided, the access methods available on the web application. Thus, any developer

© 2014 ACADEMY PUBLISHER
doi:10.4304/jsw.9.4.829-833
(application developers) can access information and build web applications as they wish with ease. This portal is expected to Indonesian SMEs information center, so that anyone can obtain information such SMEs. The expected result is the creation of framework and application of SME Information Systems portal framework based on Web Services

II. WEB SERVICES TECHNOLOGY

A. Introduction

Web services technology is fairly new technology in the business area, and the ICT industry. For example, after buying something over the Internet, we may have wondered about the delivery status. Calling the delivery company consumes our time, and it's also not a value-added activity for the delivery company. To eliminate this scenario the delivery company needs to expose the delivery information without compromising its security.

Web services uses XML-based standard web protocols, so it does not depend on the platform and support interoperability. We can take advantage of an XML appliances to manage loose coupling by manage the content based routing, service virtualization and transport mapping. Though several types of web service registries are available for use, we identify the Universal Discovery, Description, and Integration (UDDI) directory as the general standard used as a registry of web services that are available for use in a particular network. Think of the UDDI as a sort of “yellow pages” of web services. If we wanted to find a web service in the enterprise, we would look in the UDDI. The UDDI would tell us where to find that service, and it would link you to the WSDL document so you could examine the web service and make sure it was the one you wanted.

Figure 1. XML Web Services infrastructures[2]

XML provides a standardized way but can be modified to describe the contents of the document, in itself, XML can be used to describe any database view, but in a way that standard. XML advantages:

1. Intelligence XML can handle a variety of levels (level) complexity.
2. Can adapt to create their own languages, such as Microsoft creating MSXML language.
3. Easy maintenance.
4. Simply put, XML is simpler.
5. Easily moveable (Portability), XML has the ease of movement (portability) the better.

Big IT company such as SAP recommends that in loosely coupled SOA-based environments, the services providing the required business functionality should be stateless. Stateless refers to the internal state of the service instance. After the service call, the internal temporary variables and objects are deleted. It does not relate to whether the service saves state in external systems. One example is stateless session beans in the Enterprise JavaBeans world. Stateful services by contrast typically lead to tightly coupled implementations that do not scale well [10].

Figure 2 is a model of integrated SMEs Portal Portal, where everyone can access and develop web application for Indonesian SMEs. There are many methods that can be consumed by the developer easily on this model such as insertUKM(), Login(), displaySME() and searchSME().

B. SOAP & WSDL

SOAP (Simple Object Access Protocol) is a standard for exchanging XML-based messages over computer networks or a path to a program that runs on an operating system (OS) to communicate with programs on the same or different OS using HTTP and XML as the mechanism to exchange data. SOAP clearly specify how to encode the XML file header HTTP and so the program on a computer can call a program on another computer and transmit information, and how the program is called to respond. SOAP is a lightweight protocol intended for exchanging information on the structure decentralized area, and distributed.

Web Services Description Language (WSDL) is XML-based language for describing the XML. WSDL describing the service provides a service request using different protocols and encoding. WSDL will facilitate communication between applications. WSDL will describe what will be done by the web service, how to find it and how to operate it [8]. SAP recommends implementing remote consumption of business
functionality using loosely coupled, asynchronous, stateless communication using web services. If you develop your own web services, SAP recommends that we use WS standards WSDL 1.1, keep XSD structures simple and publish services to the Services Registry.

The design of composite applications requires additional thought about their architecture. These applications are loosely coupled and typically use asynchronous communication. The services they invoke are stateless. Loose coupling is perhaps the most important design goal of the service-oriented architecture (SOA) philosophy. Loosely coupled systems minimize dependencies between service entities thus leading to more flexible solutions that have the ability to evolve seamlessly alongside ever-changing business requirements. By opposition, brittle connections in your services prevent component reuse. Benefits of loose coupling include flexibility and agility. A loosely coupled approach offers unparalleled flexibility for adaptations to changing landscapes. Since there are no assumptions about the landscape your application is running against, you can easily adapt the composite application as needed. This is especially important for ISVs and system integrators who develop applications once and install and configure them at diverse customer sites. The application itself stays untouched. [10]. We use Dotfuscator as a post-development recompilation system for .NET applications, it analyzes applications and makes them smaller, faster and harder to reverse-engineer [11].

III. PROPOSED FRAMEWORK

A loosely coupled system requires flexibility in terms of the network location and the protocol used by the target implementation. So, we use database server and web server with high connection networks infrastructure in our lab. We design the use case for the portal of SMEs. SMEs Owner have the ability such as register, obtain access, upload data and modify data as shown in figure 3:

On the use case Diagram SMEs owner, the first user should register to get the key that will be provided to the user, after getting the key SME owners can access some functions such as upload data, delete data, change personal data etc. We have developed database system that can handle data of SMEs and order from customer as shown in Figure 4.

Figure 4. Sequence diagram of the system
User should entry data to login form. After login, it will validate to server and server will check at database. If data exist, then the application will display main menu. On the main menu, user able to modify the data.
IV EXPERIMENTAL RESULT

We use Visual Studio 2010 and Sql Server 2008 for this system. The result of creating methods shown in figure 6. It displays all of the methods that can be consumed by all of developers.

![Figure 6. Methods that can be consumed by developers](image)

- The result of web application is shown in figure 7 and 8. It display the main page and information of the UKM using web services methods.

![Figure 7. Homepage of Web application](image)

![Figure 8. Result of searching action](image)

Figure 8 shows the result of searching form

We also experiment to access the web services, in Visual Studio 2010, Dotfuscator CE’s new official name is “Dotfuscator Software Services - Community Edition”. It has been renamed to emphasize its broader focus as a post-build tool in this release. Table 1 is the result of usage and performance of the web services using Dotfuscator that shows the expected result:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application 's Name</th>
<th>OS</th>
<th>Runs</th>
<th>Incomplete runs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SME Data</td>
<td>Win 7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day feature</th>
<th>Incomplete uses in session</th>
<th>Avg uses/session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/1/2013</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CONCLUSION

In this paper, we propose a web framework based SME web services. Web services technologies to collect data on SMEs in Indonesia and the owner is expected to advance the development of the SMEs and easy access to the presence of SMEs in Indonesia. Web services technologies used to collect data on SMEs in Indonesia and the owner is expected to advance the development of the SMEs and easy access to the presence of SMEs in Indonesia. Loosely coupled web services is able to provide facilities for SME owners to promote or distribute information in his possession and presence of SMEs makes it easy for investors or people with an interest and want to access and obtain information of Indonesian SMEs.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

This research funded by Binus University Grant for year 2012.
References


Widodo Budiharto is Senior IT Lecturer at Bina Nusantara University, Jakarta-Indonesia. He got PhD from Institute of Technology Surabaya (ITS). His research interest included computer vision and web technology.