

SysML Information Days Report

In parallel with its quarterly Technical Committee meetings, the Object Management Group (OMG) in cooperation with INCOSE held a program called SysML Information Days in Santa Clara 8-10 Dec 2008. Here is my report on this activity based on my attendance. I attended the conference with two other Lockheed Martin employees who at that time were working in the same area that I was.

Agenda:

Monday, Dec 8 was an all-day tutorial on the "Introduction to SysML" with Sandy Friedenthal of Lockheed Martin as the instructor. I did not attend that portion since I had been through his tutorial before. However, this would have been an important part of the agenda for someone who was not familiar with the SysML basics and who was planning to attend the other two days. I did attend the Tuesday (Dec 9) and Wednesday (Dec 10) events.

Tuesday's agenda included a part-day tutorial, a briefing, opening remarks by the VP/Technical Director of the OMG, an Introduction, and a Keynote address. The tutorial was entitled "Bridging Systems and Software with SysML /UML"; it was presented by Matthew Hause of ARTISAN Software Tools. The briefing was entitled "Bridging System of Systems Modeling and Systems Modeling using UPDM/SysML" presented by Ron Williamson of Raytheon. The Introduction was given by Sandy Friedenthal. The Keynote address was entitled "Integrating Modeling with the Entire Product Lifecycle" and was given by Mark Sampson of Siemens. Mark's address was a multimedia event which covered issues about how fast technology is changing, how fast populations are changing around the world especially in India and China, how fast other countries are adopting the changes and propelling them into the future. It was both an eye-opening and entertaining experience.

Wednesday's agenda included a number of presentations from people (from government, industry and academia) who shared their project experiences using SysML. The presentations were as follows:

- Survey of Model Based Systems Engineering (MBSE) Methodologies (Jeff Estefan of JPL)
- Application of SysML to Navy Combat Systems (John Watson of Lockheed Martin)
- Deployment of SysML in Tool and Architectures: an Industry Perspective (Rick Steiner of Raytheon)
- Applications of SysML to Telescope Modeling (Robert Karban of European Southern Observatory)
- Executable UML/SysML (Ed Seidewitz of Model Driven Solutions)
- Integrating SysML with Simulation and Analysis (R. Peak, C. Paredis, L.McGinnis of Georgia Tech)
- Formalizing the SysML/AP223 Mapping (David Price of Eurostep)

Wednesday also included a panel discussion with many of the same people who had been presenters.

A link to SysML Information Days is available at www.omgsysml.org. The link takes you to a listing of downloadable copies of the tutorials and presentations.

Comment:

Overall, I found the program very meaningful and relevant to what I have been doing. I can't say that I understood everything that was presented, but it identified areas I need to explore further. It also identified what other industry players are doing. Above all, it identified the interest and commitment that is being made by industry and government organizations to adopt SysML as part of their systems engineering tools and processes.

Let me know if you have any questions.

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