



SimLab™

SimLab™

Accelerator of business process innovation at HUT, Information Networks, and TML

- ▶ **SimLab™ Multidisciplinary Research Unit**
 - ▶ Research projects in innovation and learning
 - ▶ Business processes and business models
 - ▶ Inter-company processes, e-Business, e-Learning
 - ▶ Virtual learning space and methods of SimLab™
- ▶ **SimLab™ Business Process Fitness Centre**
 - ▶ Company projects for process development and training
- ▶ **Staff: prof. Riitta Smeds, 14 full time researchers**



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Research objectives

- ▶ Dual objectives:
 - ▶ Practical objective: to support the development of **companies** towards **competitive processes, strategies and business models**
 - ▶ Scientific objective: develop and accumulate **New knowledge about collaborative innovation and learning** in the emerging e-business networks



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Current projects

- ▶ **R&D Net**
 - ▶ Networked R&D process innovations in Telecommunications
- ▶ **Helmi**
 - ▶ Holistic e-Learning and Business Models
- ▶ **Espoo e-services**
- ▶ **Brocom subproject**
 - ▶ Business analyses and scenarios in telecommunications
- ▶ **Funding from**
 - ▶ Academy of Finland
 - ▶ TEKES
 - ▶ Companies and public organizations



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International collaboration

- ▶ IFIP WG 5.7 Integrated Manufacturing
 - ▶ IFIP WG 5.7 Special Interest Group on Experimental Interactive Learning
- ▶ Continuous Innovation Network CINET
- ▶ Learningspace
- ▶ Interlearn
- ▶ ...



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Research method and approach

- ▶ Participative SimLab™ business process simulations as development intervention for
 - ▶ selected e-business projects
 - ▶ their value chains and business models
- ▶ Constructive research approach
 - ▶ **Action research** in the case projects
 - ▶ **Comparative** case research
 - ▶ **Longitudinal** follow-up studies
 - ▶ **Surveys**
- ▶ Multidisciplinary research
 - ▶ Business process networks, Management science, Computer science, Education, Social Psychology
- ▶ Theory building empirical research (rather than theory testing)



The SimLab™ Business Process Simulation



- ▶ Analysis and mapping of the process
- ▶ Structured and directed process discussion with case project examples
- ▶ Visualization
- ▶ Participation: whole personnel involved
- ▶ From tacit to explicit knowledge
- ▶ Knowledge sharing and creation



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Examples of research topics in SimLab projects

- ▶ Process learning in inter-company R&D
- ▶ Management of e-process innovations
- ▶ Business models in telecommunications
- ▶ Multi-level customer relationships in e-service provisioning in public and private organizations
- ▶ Development towards e-Learning culture in educational institutions
- ▶ Changing roles of the teachers/facilitators in e-Learning
- ▶ ...



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Typical publications

- ▶ Papers in Conference Proceedings
 - ▶ e.g CINET 2002 Continuous Innovation in Business Processes and Networks, (660 p.), editor: R. Smeds
- ▶ Journal articles in e.g. following journals
 - ▶ Knowledge and Process Management - The Journal of Corporate Transformation KPM
 - ▶ Production Planning and Control PPC
 - ▶ International Journal of Technology Management IJTM
 - ▶ Interated Manufacturing Systems IMS
 - ▶ ...
- ▶ HUT SimLab Publications
 - ▶ Dissertation series
 - ▶ Report series
 - ▶ Teaching material series
 - ▶ Working papers



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SimLab on the Web

<http://www.simlab.hut.fi>

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