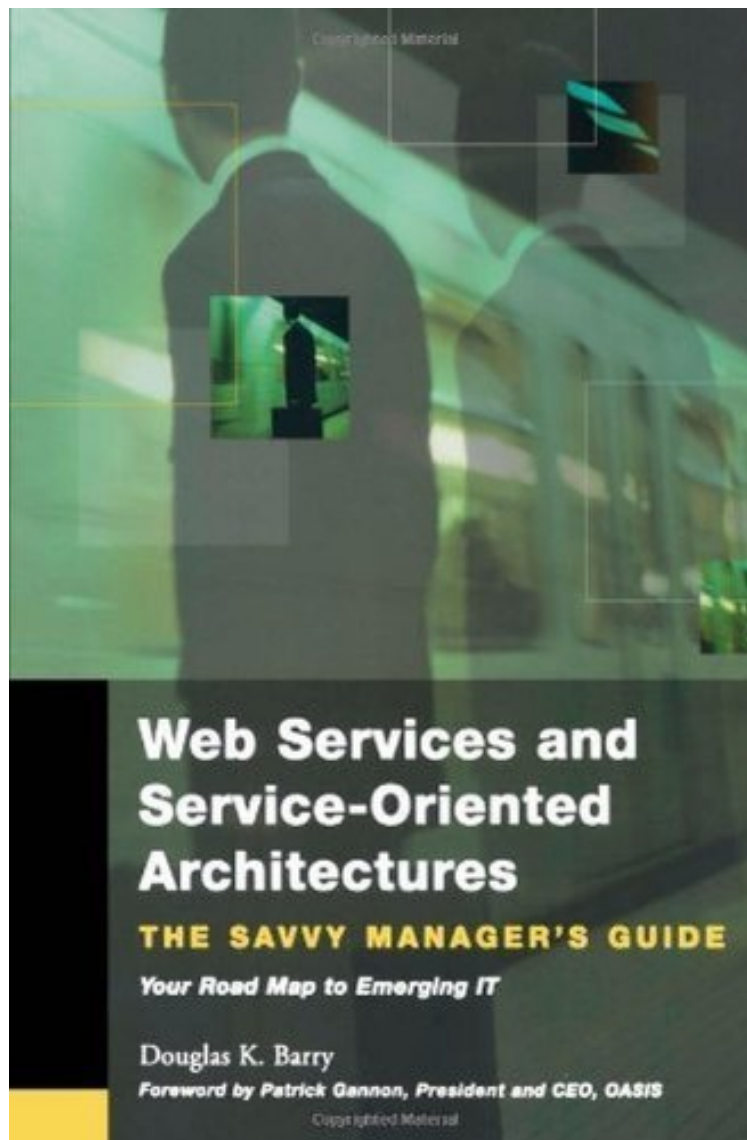


[Mobile library] Web Services, Service-Oriented Architectures, and Cloud Computing (The Savvy Manager's Guides)

Web Services, Service-Oriented Architectures, and Cloud Computing (The Savvy Manager's Guides)

Douglas K. Barry

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Douglas K. Barry : Web Services, Service-Oriented Architectures, and Cloud Computing (The Savvy Manager's Guides) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Web Services, Service-Oriented Architectures, and Cloud Computing (The Savvy Manager's Guides):

0 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Perfect Dosage of SOABy Orange PeelI found this book to be just

right. It explains the value of SOA and the basic architecture. It skirts the technical stuff, which is fine for this kind of book. I think it's great for a manager or a consultant pitching SOA. I give it 4 instead of 5 due to the overuse of force field analysis and the lack of a point in the later chapters. More than half of the book is extremely useful. It would get 5 if they chopped out the useless stuff and the excessive use of force field analysis. 9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Best overview book I've seen

By Nelson King There must be hundreds of books on Web services, most of them with chapters that read like alphabet soup (UDDI, SOAP, WSDL, etc.). I've read quite a few of these books and it's awfully easy to get lost in the details. Douglas Barry's *Web Services and Service-Oriented Architectures, The Savvy Manager's Guide*, does something else: it gives you a genuinely useful high-level view. Barry makes a very important distinction: Web services (the term we hear about so much) are connections. Services are what these connections deliver. What is important in the long run are not the connections (Web services) but the goods they will provide (services of many kinds). As Barry and many others see it, the future of software is in the services that will be used to plug information (data) and programming into service-oriented applications. Managing both the connections and the services will be a principal task of IT in the coming years, and it's Barry's contention that it can best be addressed by developing a service-oriented architecture. Much of the book is given over to discussing the nature of software architecture, what it means in the case of services, and how you would go about deciding what kind of architecture to use. This seems like esoteric stuff, but Barry does a very good job of removing excess jargon and inserting real-life analogies to clarify the topics. The author also uses his own experience and point of view to humanize what could be a mind-numbing onslaught of abstractions. I'm particularly happy that he discusses the difficulties of implementing Web services and a service-oriented architecture - a reality check that's sorely missing from many other books. Personally I might quibble with his assumption that the technical difficulties of Web services and particularly the problem of arriving at standards will shortly be resolved. But this is, ultimately, a matter of timing. That Web services are going to be important and probably pivotal for software is generally accepted. Barry does an excellent job of explaining what's involved, why it's important, and how to approach it - necessary background information for just about everybody involved in IT. Highly recommended

5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. No Perfect Answer

By Tim S From the start, I was happy to see that Barry wasn't one of those old school guys who tried something 10 years ago that didn't work, and had sworn off a similar endeavor forever as impossible. He's been there - he just has moved on, just as computing and software technologies have changed and made a lot of our past experiences less relevant today. Neither is this book a recipe for perfection requiring strict adherence. His regular admonition to build for flexibility and his willingness to point out the flaws in conventional beliefs is a welcome departure from most architectural guides. I particularly enjoyed the discussion on middle-tier architectures and data caching. As service-oriented architectures mature, it's highly unlikely they will succeed if all data access occurs in the enterprise tier. An SOA will encourage new applications and more sophisticated services, which will place even more stress on data access and responsiveness. Plus, the SOA infrastructure itself will require non-enterprise data for state management, diagnostics, object mapping and other functions that must be stored in the middle tier. This is a topic that cannot be avoided for an SOA that fulfills its long-term promise to the business. Barry's book is the only one I have found that deals with this reality in a straightforward, unemotional way. Given that most of the SOA failures are likely to occur in the planning and organization of the team or teams involved, I'm happy to see this kind of book now, when most companies are in the early stages. Let's let the standards firm up and the early implementations guide the "best practices" books which will no doubt come soon.

Web services are leading to the use of more packaged software either as an internal service or an external service available over the Internet. These services, which will be connected together to create the information technology systems of the future, will require less custom software in our organizations and more creativity in the connections between the services. This book begins with a high-level example of how an average person in an organization might interact with a service-oriented architecture. As the book progresses, more technical detail is added in a "peeling of the onion" approach. The leadership opportunities within these developing service-oriented architectures are also explained. At the end of the book there is a compendium or "pocket library" for software technology related to service-oriented architectures.

Only web services book to cover both data management and software engineering perspectives, excellent resource for ALL members of IT teams

Jargon free, highly illustrated, with introduction that anyone can read that then leads into increasing technical detail

Provides a set of leadership principles and suggested application for using this technology.