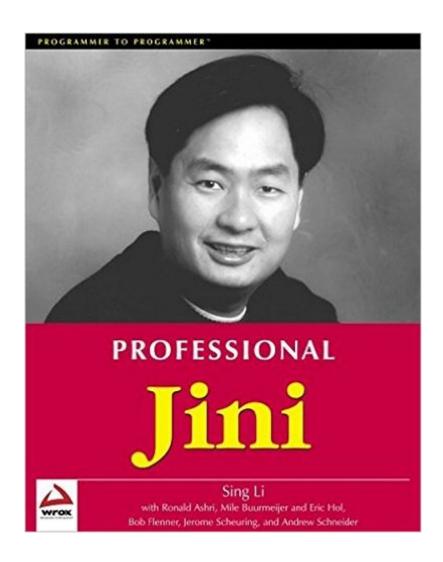
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Professional Jini (Programmer To Programmer)





Synopsis

Jini is a networking protocol from Sun that sits on top of Java. It allows devices to interact together without having to worry about drivers, different operating systems or complicated cabling. Devices connect to a network and offer services to other devices. A huge range of devices have the potential to be connected to networks using Jini; anything from computers and printers to televisions and air-conditioners. The idea is to allow devices to interact simply with each other, e.g. your repair-service network can connect directly to your broken refrigerator via the telephone to diagnose the fault. JavaSpaces is a related technology, built to show a practical application of Jini. A JavaSpace is a really simple interface which allows remote systems to collaborate via what is essentially a notice board. Java programs place objects, examine objects, or take objects away from this board. They can also ask to be notified when the object they're looking for appears on the board. As an example, a word-processor application could place a fax job on the notice board, which a fax application would find and perform as and when it was free. The two applications don't need to know anything about each other's location, only what objects they handle. Professional Jini Programming presents in one single volume everything that an advanced Java programmer will need to start designing and programming with Jini or JavaSpaces technology.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Unlike some other reference style books for Jini, this book seeks to support the development of Jini

applications by being firmly directed at programmers with an unashamedly practical approach. Not only does it provide adequate coverage of the key concepts and issues involved, but it leads the reader through the details of systems development through extensive and very specific code examples. In this way, devevlopers can review and understand Jini by example, and borrow from the structures presented. While the core of the book is firmly focussed on Jini technology (and the related JavaSpaces) together with the development utilities and tools that surround it, the complete picture is provided by two other sections that start and end the book. First, there is an extensive discussion of Java and related networking technologies. This is important in order to situate the discussion of Jini itself and understand its position in the broader computing field. In particular, RMI and CORBA are introduced at the start to provide a context, and to show how they complement Jini on the one hand, and can be used with it on the other. This is very good if your familiarity with these is limited. Second, the final section contains several application descriptions that show both the kind of applications that might be constructed with Jini, and how the power of Jini can be used in effective and novel ways. These chapters are written by people actually involved in Jini systems development, and describe real systems rather than toy educational examples. Specially interesting to me was the Paradigma agent framework, itself opening up an interesting set of possibilities for further development.

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