

**MECHATRONICS BOOK SERIES**  
**SELECTED PAPERS FROM**  
**ICOM'01, ICOM'05 AND**  
**ICOM'08**

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## **The Power of Web Portals as a Gateway to Resources and Services for Industry**

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### **ABSTRACT**

A web portal is a mean to control the flow and publishing of information online. A portal is an Internet site, which combines information in one location. This term is used for any site that serves as an entry point for many people. Portals support user-level, group-level, and to some extent a mixture of the two. There is a need for content management of large volume of information so that it can be visualized in an easy way. Web portals help in facilitating the making, retrieval and editing of information in terms of electronic files with the enhancement in terms of text, images, audio, video and animations. Industry portals bring content to a central point often resulting in a community of visitors and also in commerce. These portals can be very useful to those in the industry, researchers, and investors. This paper presents a thorough analysis of the web portals with its types, system architecture and the use of portals in industry.

**KEYWORDS:** Web Portal, Content Management, Portal Structure, Document Management.

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

A web portal represents the flow and publishes information in a systematic way. It is an invaluable tool for implementing and maintaining accessibility on a website. It can be used to enable creation, editing and retrieval of data and information. Portal is used as a promotion term to describe a web site planned to be the first place people see when using the web. It offers e-mail, chat, forums and other service to attract people to use that site as their main point of entry to the web. In addition to this, portal offers a vast range of services and content that serves as a gateway to the Internet. Whenever a user connects to the web, portal acts as a opening to the vast resources on the internet. Web portal services often include a search engine/directory, email, maps, forums, chat, shopping, news and options for customization. These are only some of the most frequently offered services. Large portals comprise of dozens of services.

Portal is a web site designed to be a 'first port of call' when a user goes online such as Yahoo. Portals offer a combination of news and information, a search engine and/or a directory. Portals are search tools with additional services and facilities piled upon them to make them more attractive to Internet users [1]. Web portals have evolved significantly over the past few years to cover a broad range of capabilities, such as Content management System, Web content management, document management, records management etc. This technology enables companies to break content up into more granular and reusable components. Opportunities for information reuse exist throughout businesses. Advanced technologies facilitate components of those documents to be reused, giving structure to unstructured content [2]. With the growth of an organization, there arises a need for a method by which we can keep our employees updated with what is happening in the company, what changes have been done in the policies etc. The employees of the company should be well informed about our corporations' missions, goals, and