VIXEE an Innovative Communication Infrastructure for Virtual Institutions

Virtual Institutions (VIs) have proven to be adequate to engineer applications where participants can be humans and software agents. VIs combine Electronic Institutions (EIs) and 3D Virtual Worlds. Electronic Institutions are used to establish the regulations that structure interactions and support software agent participation, while Virtual Worlds facilitate human participation. In this paper we propose Virtual Institution eXEcution Environment (VIXEE) as an innovative communication infrastructure for VIs. Main features of the infrastructure are i) the causal connection between Virtual Worlds and Electronic Institutions, ii) the automatic generation and update of the VIs' 3D visualization and iii) the simultaneous participation of users from different virtual world platforms. We illustrate the use of VIXEE system in a simple eAuction house example.

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