Policy-Based Management: the Holy Grail

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Language Viewpoint

Policy 2004 (June 2004)
Morris’s Challenge

- Why are policy-based (management) systems rarely deployed in industry?

Why haven’t Policy Languages taken off?

If you had never seen one before, would you fly one?
Who will read, write, customise, apply, and generally need to understand policies?

- Policy Languages need to be accessible to Non-Computer Science Graduates

- Visual Representations, Wizards, Concepts that users understand
Real Systems …

- Many kinds of users, resources, actions, interactions, exceptions with large changing numbers of each …
- Critical operations => legacy technology & practices

> Policy Languages need to deployable-in-the-large and in-the-wild.

- Typing, Grouping, Distributed policy deployment
  Policy middleware
Other reasons …

- Lack of high-quality implementations:
  Translation, Analysis, Validation, Debugging
  Transactional updates, Concurrency-control

- Too many special-purpose policy languages

- No books on policy-languages or how to write policies
- …

Lack of any success stories with a POLICY label
The Future?

- I need to ponder that question 😊

Policy.NET 😊