

# Flexible execution and composition of services

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## Table of contents

1 ATHENA Service-Oriented Interoperability (SOI) Framework.....	2
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## **1. ATHENA Service-Oriented Interoperability (SOI) Framework**

According to W3C, a service-oriented architecture (SOA) specifies a set of components whose interfaces can be described, published, discovered and invoked over a network. SOA aims to promote software development in a way that leverages the construction of dynamic systems which can easily adapt to volatile environments and be easily maintained as well. The decoupling of system constituent parts enables the re-configuration of system components according to the end-user's needs and the system's environment. Furthermore, the use of widely accepted standards and protocols that are based on XML and operate above internet standards (HTTP, SMTP, etc) enhances interoperability. The [ATHENA Service-Oriented Interoperability \(SOI\) Framework](#) provides guidelines for developing and integrating software services in service-oriented architectures (SOAs) using Web services and agent technologies.