

# **Title: What Is Policy? And, What Can It Be?**

## ***Abstract:***

Confusion abounds regarding what policy really is. Many products advertise policy-based management when they only offer customizable features and basic if-then processing. There are attempts to misclassify data and operations as "policy", just because information and methods are used IN a policy framework. All of this is problematic. It confuses customers, and introduces FUD (fear, uncertainty and doubt) into the industry (not to mention lack of interoperability). This keynote describes what policy is, and provides criteria for evaluating a product's claims to policy. The possibilities of deploying enterprise-wide, interoperable, policy-based frameworks are examined, as well as the barriers that must be overcome to achieve this. The goal is to understand "what policy can be", in order to direct and evolve the standards and technology.

## ***Bio:***

Andrea Westerinen is a Senior Architect and Manager of Information Modeling at Cisco Systems. She has worked in the computer industry for more than 20 years, the last ten years in the areas of enterprise, system, network, storage and policy based management. Andrea is an active participant in the Distributed Management Task Force (DMTF) and other standards organizations, such as the Storage Networking Industry Association (SNIA), The Open Group and the Global Grid Forum. She is Vice-President of Technology at the DMTF, and an expert on the Common Information Model (CIM) object schemas published by the DMTF. Andrea has co-authored a book on CIM, several papers on information modeling, as well as Internet-Drafts in the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) on policy. Before joining Cisco, Andrea was employed by Microsoft, Intel, IBM and NCR. She has a BS in Physics and Mathematics from Marquette University, and an MS in Computer Science from Nova University.