Approaches to Business Process Management: An Overview and Systematization

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Abstract. Business Process Management (BPM) is a multidisciplinary domain that utilises strengths and advantages of management approaches, frameworks and tools for a company’s process improvement. However, meanwhile there is a variety of different approaches that can be attributed to the broader topic of research and application of BPM. Some suggestions are designed mainly to pragmatic considerations, e.g. by consulting companies, other approaches are primarily subject relevant research. This work discusses terms and management methods like Business Reengineering (BRE), Business Process Optimization (BPO) and Business Process Improvement (BPI), which do have a close link to BPM. An overview of available approaches to the management of business process has been developed. Therefore those techniques are described, structured and systematized, based on a set of defined criterias. A final evaluation of the approaches demonstrates their interconnection and demarcation. This paper shows that BPM, as a systematic concept, is a highly interdisciplinary approach for the management of organisations, which expresses itself through its holistic principle.

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