

1 *Entering the World of Event Processing*

Some people say that event processing is the next big thing; some people say that event processing is old hat and there is nothing really new in it. Both groups may be right to a certain extent. As with any field that is relatively new there is some fog around it: some of the fog stems from misconceptions, some from confusing messages by vendors and analysts, and some arises because of a lack of standards, a lack of agreement on terms, and a lack of understanding about some of the basic issues.

This chapter covers

- An explanation of what we mean by events, using examples from daily life
- Various examples of computerized event processing in use
- Different reasons for using event-driven computing systems
- The main concepts of the event-driven computing
- Business consideration in using dedicated event processing software
- The "Fast Flower" delivery use case that will accompany us throughout this book and will be demonstrated using various implementations in the book's website:
- A description of the Website content

Before we can clear the fog surrounding event processing, however, let's start with a look at its background and some examples of event processing in daily life.

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