

Information System Environment

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Abstract

Information system is a group of interrelated components working together toward a common goal by accepting inputs and producing outputs in an organized transformation process.

Key words: *Management Information System, MIS, Information System, IS, Electronic Enterprise, Information Technology, IT, Business Information Systems, Information System Environment.*

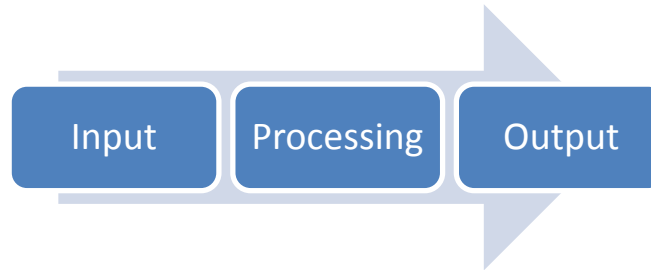
Methodology: Case study, System Analysis, Business Analysis, web search and books review.

Introduction

Information system encompasses the three basic interacting components or functions of a system.

Study structure

The three basic activities of an information system:



Input: involves capturing and assembling elements that enter the system to be processed. There are a variety of devices used to input like keyboard, scanner, microphone, and mouse. For example, raw materials, energy, data that must be secured and organized for processing.

Processing: involves the transformation processes that convert input into output. This process can be classification, calculation, merging, comparison and others. For example, data received about a purchase can be (1) added to a running total of sales results, (2) compared to a standard to determine eligibility for a sales discount, (3) sorted in numerical order based on product identification numbers, (4) classified into product categories (e.g., food and nonfood items), (5) summarized to provide a sales manager with information about various product categories, and finally (6) used to update sales records.

Output: involves transferring elements that have been produced by a transformation process to their ultimate destination. The goal of information systems is the production of appropriate information products for end users. Common information products include messages reports, forms, and graphic images, which may be provided by video displays, audio responses, paper products, and multimedia. The information provided by these products is routinely used as we work in organizations and live in society. For example, a sales manager may view a video display to check on the performance of a salesperson, accept a computer-produced voice message by telephone, and receive a printout of monthly sales results. The widely used output devices include video monitor, printers and speakers.

Two additional activities required in information system are storage and feedback.

Storage: is the information system activity in which data are retained in an organized manner for later use. For example, just as written text material gets organized into words, sentences, paragraphs, and documents, stored data are commonly organized into a variety of data elements and databases. This organization facilitates their later use in processing or retrieval as output when needed by users of a system.

Feedback: is output that is returned to appropriate members of the organization to help them evaluate or correct the input stage. For example, errors or problems might make it necessary to correct input data or change a process.

Conclusion: Information is not a goal in itself but to support organizations reach their goals. This means that you should find information that is of benefit for you.

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Transaction processing systems (TPS) collect and record the routine transactions of an organization. Examples of such systems are sales order entry, hotel reservations, payroll, employee record keeping, and shipping.