

CHAPTER 1

ACCOUNTING INFORMATION SYSTEMS: AN OVERVIEW

SUGGESTED ANSWERS TO DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1.1 Discuss the concept of a system and the issues of goal conflict and goal congruence.

A system is a set of two or more components that are somehow interrelated and interact together to achieve a specific goal. A system usually consists of smaller components called subsystems. These subsystems have specific and defined functions, which interact with and support the larger system. The concept of systems is key to information technology and AIS. All systems, including the AIS, must work to achieve one or more organizational goals. Goal conflict results when a decision or action of a subsystem is inconsistent with another subsystem or the system (organization) as a whole. Goal congruence results when a subsystem achieves its goals while contributing to the organization's overall goal. Subsystems should maximize organizational goals.

1.2 Give an example of how an AIS can improve decision making, and describe the multistep activities involved in the process.

Decision making is a complex, multistep activity: identify the problem, collect and interpret information, evaluate ways to solve the problem, select a solution methodology, and implement the solution. An AIS can provide assistance in all phases of decision making. Reports can help to identify potential problems. Decision models and analytical tools can be provided to users. Query languages can gather relevant data to help make the decision. Various tools, such as graphical interfaces, can help the decision maker interpret decision model results, evaluate them, and choose among alternative courses of action. In addition, the AIS can provide feedback on the results of actions.

An AIS can help improve decision making in several ways:

- It can identify situations requiring management action. For example, a cost report with a large variance might stimulate management to investigate and, if necessary, take corrective action.
- It can reduce uncertainty and thereby provide a basis for choosing among alternative actions.
- It can store information about the results of previous decisions, which provides valuable feedback that can be used to improve future decisions. For example, if a company tries a particular marketing strategy and the information gathered indicates that it did not succeed, the company can use that information to select a different marketing strategy.
- It can provide accurate information in a timely manner. For example, Walmart has an enormous database that contains detailed information about sales transactions at each of its stores. It uses this information to optimize the amount of each product carried at each store.
- It can analyze sales data to discover items that are purchased together, and can use such information to improve the layout of merchandise or to encourage additional sales of related items. For example, Amazon uses its sales database to suggest additional books for customers to purchase.

Accounting Information Systems Romney Chapter 1

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For Kwok**

Accounting Information Systems Romney Chapter 1:

Accounting Information Systems Australasian Edition Marshall Romney, Paul Steinbart, Joseph Mula, Ray McNamara, Trevor Tonkin, 2012-10-24 At last the Australasian edition of Romney and Steinbart's respected AIS text Accounting Information Systems first Australasian edition offers the most up to date comprehensive and student friendly coverage of Accounting Information Systems in Australia New Zealand and Asia Accounting Information Systems has been extensively revised and updated to incorporate local laws standards and business practices The text has a new and flexible structure developed especially for Australasian AIS courses while also retaining the features that make the US edition easy to use. Concepts such as systems cycles controls auditing fraud and cybercrime ethics and the REA data model are brought to life by a wide variety of Australasian case studies and examples With a learning and teaching resource package second to none this is the perfect resource for one semester undergraduate and graduate courses in Accounting Information Systems

Accounting Information Systems Marshall B. Romney, Paul John Steinbart, 2003 This text aims to provide students with the knowledge they need to pursue successful careers in accounting It reflects how information technology is altering the nature of accounting and discusses how accountants can improve the design and function of accounting information systems

Accounting Info Systems Steinbart Romney, 1999-09

Accounting Information Systems Edward L. Summers, 1991

Hybrid Learning and Continuing Education Simon K.S. Cheung, Joseph Fong, Wilfred Fong, Fu Lee Wang, Lam-For Kwok, 2013-08-13 This book constitutes the refereed proceedings of the 6th International Conference on Hybrid Learning ICHL 2013 held in Toronto ON Canada in August 2013 The 35 papers presented in this volume were carefully reviewed and selected from numerous submissions The selected articles broadly cover topics on hybrid learning and continuing education including computer supported collaborative learning experiences in hybrid learning pedagogical and psychological issues e learning and mobile learning open education resources and open online courses and issues in hybrid learning and continuing education

Accounting ROMNEY, STEINBAR, Cushing, 1996-09

Systems Analysis and Design Methods Sri Mulyani, This book is prepared to answer the demands for the practical guidance of systems analysis and design methods The author hopes that after reading this book the reader can understand the concepts and techniques to analyze and design the systems In general there are 2 two main methods that most often used in system development structured and object oriented methods The book explains a significant paradigm difference between the two methods of analyzing and designing the systems The author expects the readers can distinguish that paradigm as well as analyze and design using both methods The book structure starts from the concept to technical The author uses the Unified Modeling Language UML which is widely used for documenting object oriented modeling The UML has proven its ability to document and model the systems on a large medium and small scale

Modeling and Designing Accounting Systems C. Janie Chang, Laura R. Ingraham, 2007 Get the database skills that are in demand More and more organizations are turning to database management systems to

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