# Information Systems (තොරතුරු පද්ධති) Lesson 01 (Introduction)



### **Objectives – Learning Outcomes**

The objectives of this section are to introduction about systems and to provide a high-level understanding of system concepts, types etc.

When you have followed this section you will:

- Understand what system is;
- Understand classification of systems;
- Understand different type of systems;



### **Outline**

- What is a system?
- Classification of systems
- What is an Information System?
- Characteristics of a System
- Different type of Systems



### What is a System?

- A system is a *group of* interacting, interrelated, *resources* forming a common goal
   –e12time33.pdf
- A purposeful collection of inter-related *components* working together to achieve some *common* objective.
- -lan Sommerville, Software Engineering, 9th Edition



### What is a System? Cont.

- ✓ A set of elements or components that interact
  to accomplish goals
- ✓ A combination of components working together

#### **Definition of a System**

 A collection of components that work together to realize some objective, forms a system



# System is Organized combination of

- 1. Hardware
- 2. Software
- 3. Communications Networks
- 4. Data
- 5. People

Application



### **Computer Hardware Technologies**

- Examples
  - Dell PowerEdge 2600 File Server
  - Apple iMac
  - Sony LCD Flat Panel Monitor
  - iPod
  - ID Automation USB Barcode Scanner
  - RFID Chip



### **Computer Software Technologies**

- Examples
  - Windows XP
  - Graphics Card Driver Software
  - PowerPoint
  - mySAP Customer Relationship Management
  - Peachtree Accounting
  - iTunes Software



### **Telecommunications Network Technologies**

- Examples
  - Ethernet
  - Netgear Wireless Router
  - Cable Modem
  - Cell Phone
  - WiFi, WiMax card
  - Bluetooth device



### Data Resource Management Technologies

- Examples
  - IBM DB2 8.2
  - Microsoft SQL Server 2000
  - Oracle Database 10g
  - MySQL
  - Data Mining Software



# People Technology ©

- People are the 5<sup>th</sup> component of an Information System
- Everyone forgets the importance of people in an information system
- Example: End User, Data Entry Person, Manager, Programmer, DB Administrator, Cashier, Secretary, Professor



# **Classification of Systems**

#### **Open System**

- An open system usually interacts with some entities in their environment
- An open system is a state of a system, in which a system continuously interacts with its environment

#### **Closed System**

- A closed system is a system in the state of being isolated from the environment
- It is often used to refer to a theoretical scenario where perfect closure is an assumption



### **Classification of Systems**

#### **Artificial System**

We can consider man-made (designed) systems as artificial systems

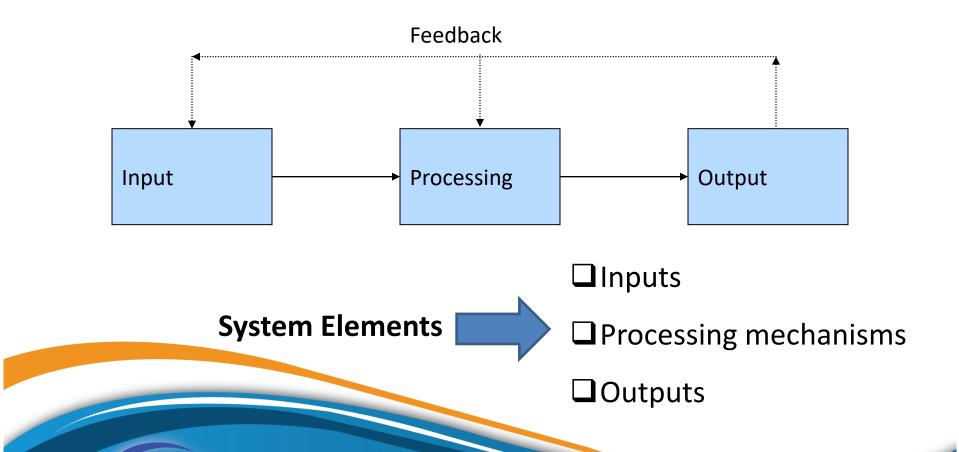
#### **Natural System**

- We can even consider living beings as natural systems
- Man-made systems normally have a certain purpose, objectives. They are "designed to work as a coherent entity".
   Natural systems may not have an apparent objective



# What is an Information System?

Schematic model of an information system



### What is an Information System? Cont.

#### Input

The activity of gathering and capturing data Whatever goes into the computer

#### Processing

Converting or transforming data into useful outputs

#### Output

Useful information, usually in the form of documents and/or reports

Anything that comes out of a computer



### What is an Information System? Cont.

#### Feedback

Output that is used to make changes to input or processing activities

#### Forecasting

A proactive approach to feedback

Ex:- Use for estimating future sales or inventory needs

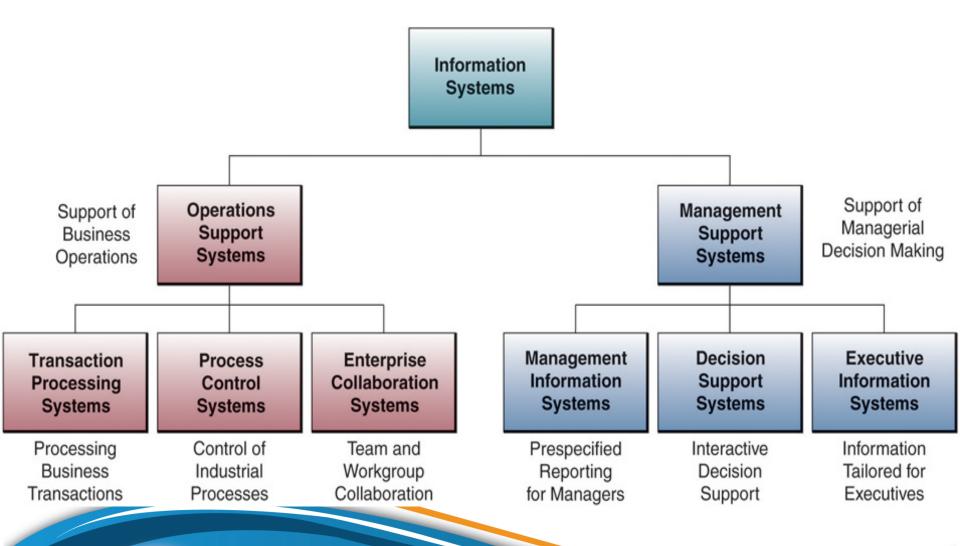


### **Characteristics of a System**

- A system has a boundary
- It is made up of different components
- It has a specific task or related tasks towards a particular function
- It has input and output and sub systems



# **Types of Information Systems**





### ☐ Transaction Processing Systems (TPS)

- An organized collection of people, procedures, software, databases, and devices used to record completed for business related exchanges
- Support operations; Updates Operational Databases
- Examples:
  - ATM Machine System Banking Transactions
  - Cash Register System Point of Sale Transactions
  - Payroll system



### ☐ Process Control Systems (PCS)

- Supports Operations (Operational)
- Monitor and Control Industrial/Manufacturing Process
- Examples:
  - Petroleum Refining
  - Power Generation
  - Automobile Manufacturing



### ☐ Enterprise Collaboration Systems (ECS)

- Supports Operations
- Teamwork, communication, and collaboration
- Examples:
  - E-mail
  - Chat
  - Video Conferencing
  - Calendaring
  - Journaling
  - Workflow
  - File Sharing



### ☐ Management Information Systems(MIS)

- Supports Management
- Analysis & Reporting
- Charts, Graphs, Summary Tools
- Examples:
  - Spreadsheet (Excel) One of the first and most basic
  - Oracle's Corporate Performance Management



### ☐ Decision Support Systems (DSS)

- Support Management
- What-if Analysis, Decision Modeling, Scenario Building, Highly interactive, ad hoc.
- Examples
  - Enterprise Decision Manager 2.0 Fair Isaac Corporation
  - AIMMS 3.6
- Most DSS's are custom developed for specific companies; very few out-of-the-box products



### ☐ Executive Information Systems (EIS)

- Supports high-level strategic management
- Provides critical info from other systems (MIS and DSS)
- Portal Concept: one place with links to all information
- EIS's integrate external information such as economic developments and news about related markets and competitors. Helps strategic decision making, not necessarily tactical
  - Tactical doing things the right way
  - Strategic doing the right things



### Type of Systems – More...

- Geographic Information Systems
- Knowledge Management Systems
- Content Management Systems
- Enterprise Resource Planning Systems
- Expert Systems
- Embedded Systems



### ☐ Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

- These help to control and present data accessed, stored or analyzed with respect to a particular geographical location
- According to technology this system contains mapping software, remote sensing, land surveying, Arial photography, mathematics, photogrammetry and geography
- With a GIS application you can open digital maps on your computer, create new spatial information to add to a map, create printed maps customized to your needs and perform spatial analysis



### ☐ Knowledge Management Systems (кмѕ)

- These perform the function of identifying the activities of different ranges use within an institution, creation, production, distribution and the application of their philosophies and practices for various needs
- While these philosophies and practices can be incorporated within a single individual or the activities of an institution, they help acquire knowledge

### ☐ Content Management Systems (CMS)

- A content management system (CMS) is a software application or set of related programs that are used to create and manage digital content
- CMSs are typically used for enterprise content management (ECM) and web content management (WCM)
- WCM facilitates collaborative authoring for websites (A person who is not familiar with web based technologies can use CMS to create, modify and delete contents in a web page) Ex- Joomla, Wordpress, Moodle



### ☐ Enterprise Resource Planning Systems

- This is a broad institutional system that helps control and coordinate all resources of an enterprise through a shared database
- ERP systems manage a broad set of activities in an organization
- ERP software applications can be used to manage product planning, parts purchasing, inventories, interacting with suppliers, providing customer service, and tracking orders
  - Ex: SAP, OPERA



### ☐ Expert Systems

- A computer application that performs a task that would otherwise be performed by a human expert
- Gives the computer the ability to make suggestions and to act like an expert in a particular field
- Artificial intelligent is employed for this purpose

#### **Examples:**

diagnose human illnesses, make financial forecasts, schedule routes for delivery vehicles



### ☐ Embedded Systems

- This is a system committed for a single or minute specific tasks
- This is a system that is embedded as part of a complete piece of equipment
- Examples: Navigation systems, network routers, switches, hubs, passenger environmental controls, anti-lock braking systems, air bag controls, GPS mapping, Dishwashers, microwave ovens, surveillance systems, robots

### Summery

In this section you have given an introduction about systems and provided a high-level understanding of system concepts.

Also this section covered system definitions, classifications, different types and characteristics of systems.



### References

- SOFTWARE ENGINEERING, Ninth Edition, Ian Sommerville

**Next Lesson >>>** 

Lesson 02: Systems Development Models and Methods

