

ELECTRONIC DATA PROCESSING (EDP)

Need for EDP

Examples of EDP

- Effects of introducing computers in data processing systems
 - Stages of computerization

System flowchart



- data processing was possible a long time before the invention of the computer, e.g., using
 - *abacus* manual data processor
 - *old-fashioned cash registers* mechanical
- when an electronic device (computer) is used to process data, this is called electronic data processing (EDP)



- Advantages over other ways as computer operates
 - faster
 - more accurately
 - more reliably
 - more economically
- Characteristics of data processing tasks
- How computers can help

Characteristics of data processing tasks

- accurate records must always be maintained
- high speed processing is required
- large volumes of records are handled
- calculations are often routine & repetitious
- much of the work is very tedious, e.g., sorting & searching

How computers can help?

- accuracy
 - provided that instructions & data are correct
- speed
- consistency
 - same results can be produced with same data, instructions & process
- storage capacity
 - stored on various media
- automation
 - human work is not needed during the process

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Examples of EDP

- Payroll system
- Mailing list
- Stock control system
- Ticket buying (URBTIX) system
- Point-of-sale system
- Electronic fund transfer
 - easy pay system(EPS)

Effect of Introducing Computer Data Processing Systems

- Advantages
 - save time, save money
 - save staff for some routine work
 - better control over an organization
 - better knowledge & better reaction
 - better customer services



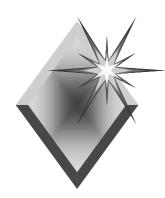
- Disadvantages
 - extra cost in employing specialists
 - staff may find this unacceptable due to the changing of working procedures
 - extra cost in equipment, office space & furniture

Criteria for Computerization

- What is the problem of in the existing system?
- Can the problem be solved using a computer
- It is cost-effective?
- Is the use of computers acceptable to the staff?

Stages of Computerization (8)

- preliminary study
- feasibility study
- system analysis
- systems design
- program design, coding & testing
- systems implementation
- systems maintenance
- systems evaluation

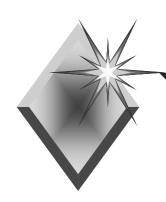


Preliminary study

 investigates & identifies the areas that need to be computerized

Feasibility study

 decide whether computerization is the best solution to the problem, the project needed to be process or not



Systems analysis

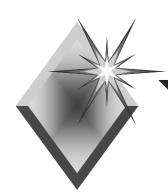
• the present system is analysed

- Systems design
 - the type of hardware & software
 - input & output format
 - storage method, file structure
 - processing specification & system
 flowcharts

Program design, coding & testing

done by programmers

- Systems Implementation
 - changeover from the existing system to the new one
 - staff training, installation of hardware & software
 - 4 common approaches of changeover: parallel, direct, phase, & pilot



• Systems maintenance

 the system is continually modified & maintained to meet the users' new requirements & fix the newly discovered bugs

- Systems evaluation
 - to determine whether it is meeting initial requirements

Systems Flowchart

- a diagram uses symbols & interconnecting lines to show the data flow & sequence of operations
- help systems analysts & analyse & design systems
- symbols: manual operation, merge, manual input, document/report, punch card, magnetic tape, magnetic tape, a magnetic disk, display, communication link & process box