

Product Development & Systems Engineering

Practice Exercises

Topic: Need Statement

Problem: Generate a need statement for your chosen system.

Pointers/Tips:

- Ensure it is high level and abstract. It should not describe physical solutions, only the gap in the current state of things without your system, and how there is a need for a system that can overcome the gap.
- Address the highest priority capabilities. What are the 'big things' your system should be able to do?
- Don't include unnecessary background information or try to answer 'why'.
- Understand that this forms a goal for the entire team to strive to achieve. This is the purpose of your system's existence.
- Here is a need statement for an ATM, assuming the ATM does not yet exist:

Banks only operate between 9am and 5pm on weekdays and from 9am to noon on weekends. This makes it difficult for people to access their money in their accounts quickly and during hours that are more convenient for them. There is a need for an automated teller machine that can provide cash, accept deposits and provide account balance at all hours from any location throughout the continental US.

Submit your need statement to support@learnse.com if you'd like me to check it & provide feedback.